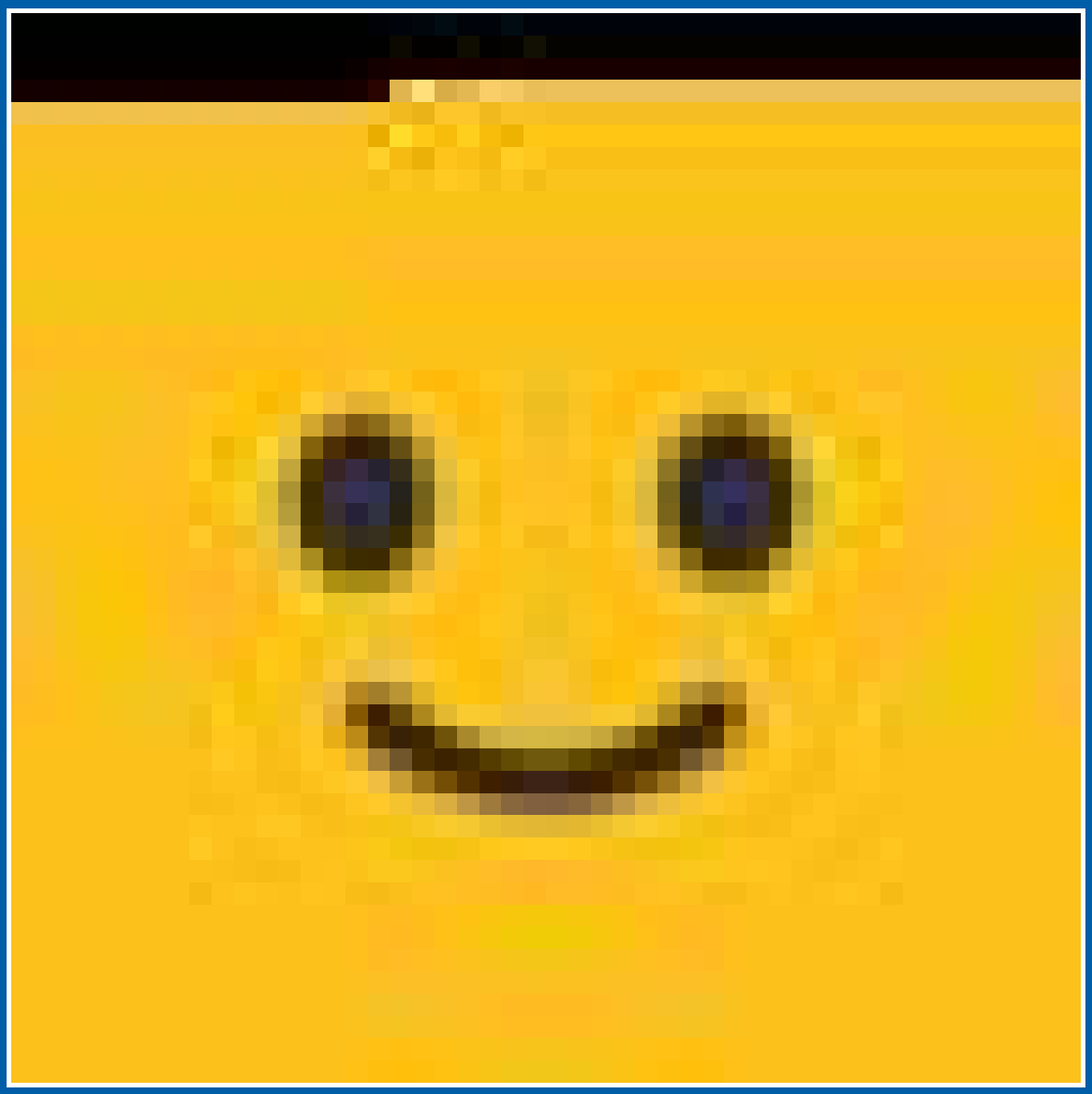
Guide and Standard Blog



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NEUTRALITY

Sunday, October 01, 2017

The scripture committee has a responsibility to remain neutral in the Guide and Standard struggle. To maintain a distance from the work and discussions surrounding this effort, we have created a separate blog from the Scriptures Project blog, rather than maintaining the original arrangement of all-in-one. We hope that this will become a fruitful endeavor and that we all learn to respectfully disagree and to become of one heart.

Comments

- mampfoundation — October 02, 2017

Thanks, this is great. You may want to copy over the content of the following post so that people know where to submit proposals:
http://scripturesproject.blogspot.com/2017/09/offering-g-proposals.html.

Ryan

- LynneMcKinley — October 02, 2017

The diversity in the original Snuffer Readers Group was remarkable. Everybody just jumped in with thoughts, proposals, criticisms, and constructive comments. There was outrage, arguing and verbal attacks. But there were also reconciliations and understanding, and moments of incredible light. We were this wild crazy family that talked together at the family reunion. But we beat each other up, the wounds are still fresh, and we are healing. Many are hanging back, afraid to say anything, afraid to get jumped on. Watching, waiting, hoping for something to happen but not wanting to stir things up again. What have we learned so far? To be kinder to each other. This forum is an incredible opportunity to engage again with equal voices, to speak the things we have all bottled up. The difference here, in contrast to the original SRG free for all is that we have sincerely covenanted with God to love and support each other. We truly are family. Let's get this right, finally. As this site stands, there are comment fields in each of the proposal camps, and sub fields within those. I for one work a full time job, have family obligations and a basic need for sleep. I just can't make it through dozens of proposal commentaries, blogs, groups, and Facebook messenger posts each day. I hope this site will become a central repository for comments about moving forward, but the only general category for comments seems to be "Neutrality". Can you folks add a general comments field? The clock is ticking. We all feel it. When the final talk/message goes out to the Christian gentiles in November a page turns. New chapter in the Book of Life. Man, I really love all you crazy,intelligent,spiritual,flawed,funky folks. Family.

- Unknown — October 02, 2017

I appreciate your comments about the SRG, Lynne. By the time I heard about it from my friends, there were usually groans about the bickering and bashing that the group was devolving into. That struck me as weird. It wasn't until we all engaged with the Guide & Standard project that I came to realize what an audacious proposition becoming of one heart and mind is in this telestial place. The more divisive the state of our collective hearts, the more I've felt the power of the Lord and his wisdom. That he'd bet on us for the sake of the fathers is utterly humbling. I resonate to your hope for us and our assignment.

- LynneMcKinley October 03, 2017

Is there any question that we have a dispute among us?

The folks with Enoch were right where we are now at some point. I wonder if they're watching us and laughing about all this, or if they're crying for us.

Jesus Christ is the Prototype. That Man has been through all of this, all of it, in His personal journey up Jacob's ladder. He was right smack dab in the middle of this kind of stuff at some point in his eternal career.

I really want to know what He suggests, as we try to move forward. I want to know His heart, His opinion, His suggestions, His advice. His part in this.

If nobody else will do it then I will.

I designate next Sunday, October 8, 2017 a day of drop everything else and fast from the internet voices and pray to sincerely know the Lord's preference for how we get ourselves out of this gridlock.

If we know His mind in the matter, we can be unified. I get it that a lot of people are sincerely afraid that they are failures at receiving answers to prayer. But our Lord is absolutely capable of revealing His will to us in spite of our cluttered capabilities.

One of the most touching, and telling moments in all of the St. George conference talks was when Paul Durham shared hearing the Lord say to him "It's OK to ask me how I feel".

Boom. There it was. Ephraim's great sin of self focus. Oh Lord, forgive us, we forgot to check on you. See how you're doing: what you need, what you want. How you're feeling about all this.....

Shouldn't that be our first priority - finding out how the Lord feels, and what He suggests, before we try One. More. Thing.?

- LynneMcKinley October 03, 2017

Remember this in "Answer and Covenant"? "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your DISPUTE to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part."

- AnthonyJDavis October 05, 2017

I'm a humble servant of Christ Jesus and pray that you will listen to the still small voice of the spiritI'll also pray for the group that we listen to the Lord and his direction in this new Dispensation of the Restoration Gospel that we choose Love always in all things!Your Brother In Christ Tony (Boise Believers

New Proposals

Thursday, October 05, 2017

A few new proposals have been added to the drop down bar. Feel free to take some time to become familiar with what others are proposing.

As a reminder:

For any who wish to have a G&S proposal posted, please be aware of and follow these steps:

- If you have a proposal you want posted for discussion, please send it to guideandstandard@gmail.com in Word form, not PDF. That will allow us to post it quickly and not have to spend an hour reformatting it. We will not change anything in the document.
- It will first be read by someone on the committee to ensure that it is in no way offensive or obscene. If it is not presented respectfully, it will be returned to the author for revision.
- Commenting is open on the blog, so anyone wishing to offer rebuttals can use the comments for such. We will not accept/post rebuttal documents.
- Please be quick and clear to report any abusive/inappropriate language in the comments. We are not currently moderating the comments and rely on those offering comments to be respectful. Any comments that are deemed necessary to be removed may result in the offending author being barred from posting comments in the future.

G&S Email Address

Friday, October 06, 2017

A new email address has been set up specifically for the Guide and Standard project, ESPECIALLY for submitting proposals. It is

guideandstandard@gmail.com

Explanations

Sunday, October 08, 2017

JEFF'S ASSIGNMENT
Some question still exists as to how Jeff Savage was assigned the *Governing Principles* task. Here are the details: In early January, when the two teams came together, Jeff proposed that section 20 be removed. The group agreed, and Denver explained to us all that a replacement was needed for D&C Section 20. The direction to have someone other than himself write the replacement had been given to him by the Lord. When explained, Chris Hamill immediately responded, "I think Jeff should do it. All those present agreed and Jeff then accepted the assignment.
FOLLOW THE PROPHET
Another question to be addressed is why the original *Governing Principles* (GP) were removed from the Preview Edition of the scriptures. Once the assignment was given to Jeff, he waited many weeks before feeling prompted to start writing. After finishing, the document was passed to the committee for review, where several edits and additions

were suggested. At the end, the document was unanimously accepted by the scripture committee. That document met the requirement given by the Lord. The assignment had been fulfilled. After the announcement of the scriptures project in St. George there arose a significant number of individuals (we were told 230 people), headed by a small contingent that insisted the GP could not be in the scriptures, both because they had not been through the submission process and because Jeff Savage was not an acceptable source for any sort of revelation from the Lord - it could only come through Denver. We were told that if the GP was left in the scriptures, this group would refuse to support the scriptures project. It was determined that what had been offered had apparently not been accepted, and that the GP would be added to the submission list.

Prior to the vote on the submissions, however, alternate versions of the GP were proposed, and rather than have a vote-off, Jeff proposed that a meeting - not unlike the constitutional convention - be held with representatives from each fellowship. As with the convention, the purpose was to decide which document to use as the base text to work from so that each fellowship could come to an agreement on the final product before it was put to a vote.

Had the GP been accepted as presented in St. George, the Lord's assignment would have been satisfied; we could have also voted to accept it after the June 10th meeting: "...you could have finished this work a long time ago." For various reasons, there were issues with the result of that meeting, so another was called, eventually resulting in the ongoing struggle now at hand.

WAS IT INSPIRATION? Everyone on the scripture committee believes that yes, the original document was inspired. Would we argue that every word was exact? No; even the Book of Mormon writers such as Nephi, Mormon and Moroni acknowledged weakness in writing. It is our understanding that, in general, revelation is given through ideas and concepts that we must wrestle through to glean meaning; the process of writing these ideas down on paper is difficult and constraining. What's more, we learn from the "Sayings" in *The Second Comforter,"* Revelation from heaven is also a revelation of yourself." This idea has many ramifications, one of which is that as we grow and develop, so does the depth and breadth of Heaven's communications to us. "More blessed, therefore, are ... those who will break down their pride and realize they know nothing until they know God. When they meet Him, He will 'reveal all things'...All else is vanity" (see blog post: "Living and Learning"). Jeff does not "know God," and makes no claim to have all things revealed to him (D&C 101:32). We all see through a glass darkly. As a body, the tendency is, upon receiving something from the Lord, to turn to judgment. In other words, we tend to "show off" our shiny new bauble of understanding by hanging it on our tree of knowledge, pointing the finger rather than refusing to become an accuser.

The *Prayer, Answer* and *Covenant* also revealed many truths to us that were unclear to us (as a body of believers) before, not least of which is the primacy of the Sermon on the Mount in guiding our behavior. Second, it is clear that the Lord desires that we learn to respectfully disagree and that we become of one heart even if we can't come to one mind. These two ideas suggest that our mutual agreement *may* be our collective decision to support the group, to be of one heart - that our faithfulness to each other may be stronger than the cords of death - despite the differences of opinion we each have. Finally, we believe "all things are done in the wisdom of Him who knoweth all things," and "all these things shall give [us] experience and be for [our] good." We believe that all that has happened has been in the Lord's mind all along; we trust that He has many purposes for the labor we are currently undertaking, and His words will not return to Him void (Isaiah 55:8-11).

91% IS NOT OK?

We have been asked how it is possible that decisions were made to include/exclude scriptures from the D&C with little more than 50% of the vote, yet a vote of 91% to adopt

the August 5th version of the *Guide and Standard* had not resulted in that document being added to the scriptures.

When the vote was taken following the August 5th drafting of the final *Guide and Standard*, there was evidently a wide scale expectation that common consent would carry. It was our expectation as well. But in the *Answer* we were given shortly before the 91% vote took place, the Lord changed the terms of what was required of our document. Questions were then raised after the vote about specific language of the *Answer*, which called into question both the document and our greater collective expectation that common consent was a sound basis for adopting it.
The decision was to take a step back and consider these things before acting. We had no deadline imposed upon us for completing this assignment, and He had told us (through Denver) that the *Guide and Standard* was not required for the covenant to take place in Boise, so why risk bringing something to the Lord if we were not yet confident it met His requirements?

This is not to say that the language of the *Answer* removes the 91% approved document from the table, or shuts down common consent as the basis for adoption. It simply means that it has been put on hold while efforts are made to sort out what the Lord really requires of us. For example, what is “mutual agreement?” Or what is meant by the Lord declaring “You are not excused from writing a statement of principles”? Perhaps mutual agreement means first agreeing to be governed as a body by common consent, before implementing it as the basis for adopting a document. Perhaps it means unanimity; perhaps something else. Perhaps “writing a statement of principles” can consist of no more than copying what other inspired souls have written, as Nephi did with Isaiah…perhaps not. There is discussion everywhere, but currently no consensus. If we do not agree on what is required by the Lord, how can we be confident that we’ve met the requirements? Does the document, and a supermajority vote, fully meet the requirements as found in the *Answer*? We don’t have the answers, and that’s kind of the point. We can wait to take this particular action until we properly understand what we are doing.

When the body, or perhaps a body, can come to agree on the terms the Lord has set, and then fulfills those terms in adopting a statement of principles, we can gladly present the chosen Statement to the Lord for approval, and publish it in the scriptures if approval is received. We fully expect Him to answer.

Comments

- RobAdolpho October 09, 2017

I am grateful to the most recent development, moving towards the parameters set by the answer to the covenant, that all of us who have taken the covenant came to not only mutually agree, but to do so with conviction. I will not judge another's revelation, not even Jeff's. Some may find that contradictory, as I have been accused for Jeff-hating. It isn't true. I respect his revelation, but the first meeting was not mutual to me, and the last wasn't mutual to me. I was tasked to represent my fellowship, and that is precisely what I have done.

You stated that the original was accepted by the Lord, and that was never communicated. Perhaps you thought it ought to be assumed by printing it in the draft, but it wasn't communicated at all.

I had no issue with another person with revelation, let alone Jeff Savage. However, when the task was given, I too was instructed to work and write, and Jeff dangled it, and then yanked it back at the last minute. Then he dangled it again, and then yanked it again at the next meeting. And then he dangled it, and yanked it from those in the last meeting.

The problem with Jeff never occurred with my prior to St George. The problem with Jeff has been how he has done things since St George. And it seems, from the answer to the covenant that there has been more detail added to accomplish this task.

I have adopted the idea that when I find difficulty with another, I hunker down and wait for more light. During the time of hunkering, I don't expect to push my opinion, just hold. I don't expect to fight to convince my opinion either, just hold. I won't force my idea on another, just hold. If I interact with anyone, I will seem to understand them thoroughly, and give them opportunity for them to understand me thoroughly. I hunker down, until more light is added.

The answer to the covenant added more light. The last meeting at Steve VanLeer's I felt grateful as light was added specifically towards completing this task. I like that direction, rather than continuing the dangling and yanking.

Rob and Q Adolpho

- gregnorton October 10, 2017

I know that Karen Strong and others have given voice to what transpired during that meeting at Steve VanLeer's, however, would you be willing to describe what was learned at that meeting?

- HuhWhatda October 11, 2017

Greg Norton,

The added light at the meeting was that we already have something mutually agreeable, and that is the covenant. It's contents ought to offer a way forward based on something we already all have covenanted to, therefore all have in common, or mutually agreement. If I were to summarize what I understand.

But, I'm not the sharpest tool in the shed. As the emails go back and forth again, I suffer because of my reading comprehension and the rate at which things are written. So, I too expect to be surprised when things turn out.

Hope that helps?

Rob Adolpho

- KenJensen October 17, 2017

This is Michelle Jensen here:

I respectfully disagree with the scripture committee and all others who believe that the Lord changed his requirements for the Statement of Principles in the "Answer." The only thing that the Lord asked us to change is our hearts.

We did not change our hearts but went on in the exact same way as before. We will not get down beside our brother, Jeff, and admit to the Lord that we do not have enough understanding to judge our brother or his work, and with one heart offer our brother's work to the Lord for His acceptance and if there be faults to let us know.
Instead, we rise up above our brother, in the pride of our hearts, and we argue with Jeff and with each other saying we are sure that we know that Jeff has made false statements, or written in a manner unacceptable to the Lord -- as if we know all the Lord's ways and know the Lord's heart. We vainly assume we, collectively or individually, are better qualified to write things that will bless, benefit, and inform those ignorant of God's work underway. We look for another person to write the G&S that we feel has our confidence rather than trust the way the Lord chose a suitable writer. We KEEP relying on each other, even when we claim we are relying on God!! This new effort is just another way of relying on each other and our own reasoning rather than opening our hearts to the possibility that the Lord has already provided us with the principles he wanted included. We cannot know what God knows will bless, benefit, and inform others by applying our intellect and our reasoning to judge Jeff's work, because the Lord's ways our higher than our ways. He knows the end from the beginning. We see through a glass darkly.
What is so repugnant about presenting Jeff's original to the Lord and asking Him to accept it? Are we afraid the Lord will rebuke us for our ignorance concerning His will? Do we think the Lord will be angry at us for offering Jeff's work to Him acknowledging that we are ignorant of a better way to accomplish God's work except to offer the work of our brother who was given the assignment to write it and has faithfully tried to do that? Why do we insist on finding faults instead of humbly acknowledging our ignorance?
I am continually reminded of the statement, "The Lord has often sealed up the heavens because of covetousness in the church." (Something like that, I am not looking it up right now.)

Michelle Jensen

- AnthonyJDavis October 24, 2017

I'm not sure why 91% wasn't enough as well I mean we as Latter-Day Saints have accepted things that were a lot less cut&dried that this...I hope that honestly we can come with the Broken Heart and Contrite Spirit that the Lord and Jeff,Denver and all of our Sacred Brothers and Sisters who have put themselves out there to do this work (Tirelessly I might add❣)May the Lord Bless us with the wording to use to Make us and the Heavenly Parents happy I know that the words will come and Ego and Pride will be cast aside for the Greatest thing that has transpired since Joseph was taken from us on the dark day when the Restoration was put to sleep with the Greatest..Prophet Since our Saviour had walked theI know that Denver and the other trusted servants of the Lord have been set apart for another Marvelous work and a Wonder to turn us back to the truest Gospel of Christ Jesus..And bring the scattered Remnant together one last time❣Your Brother in Christian Love,Tony

- MuhammadShafaqat April 09, 2018

Visit for IT info to manage all type of projects.

- AlexandraDaddario April 09, 2018

Every sort of things should be evaluated and this is the reason the study things are always my best decision. In this http://www.fellowshippersonalstatement.com/medical-fellowship-personal-statement-services/pulmonary-fellowship-personal-statement/ website we learn writing ability, I find a review of the notes.

- MuhammadShafaqat April 11, 2018

Visit for computer tips to manage all type of projects.

HOPE

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

There are many camps with many perspectives on the Guide and Standard assignment from the Lord. On October 7th, a group of 27 individuals, holding mostly different perspectives, came together to listen to a message the host of the gathering had prepared. Their response to the message is described by them as a tender mercy from the Lord, as the Spirit instructed their hearts and minds. Individual differences vanished, errors were exposed, and forgiveness was found.

Due to the message shared, a unified idea for a POTENTIAL path forward with regard to the *Guide and Standard* began to emerge. This idea is not attempting to judge or disregard any other efforts or proposals underway, or to stifle progress on a front that anyone feels is important. Because it appears that the competing perspectives of those who were in attendance were able to agree, it seems reasonable to assume that perhaps everyone's concerns can be satisfied.
It may take a few weeks to accomplish the first step and bring the complete proposal forward to the assembly of believers. The details are currently being worked through by those involved and the desire is to get it into the open as soon as is reasonably possible.

A synopsis of what was understood and how it came about will be presented shortly. The group involved has also indicated that, though they uncovered this resolution, there will be the opportunity for everyone who wishes to contribute. They are not controlling the process nor writing a final *Guide and Standard*.

Comments

- DKay October 12, 2017

Another round? Who were the 27 and who was the host?

- JohnPPratt October 16, 2017

I believe this proposal is wonderful and has the best chance of being mutually approved by all because it will be written from the very words the Lord has given us. It has my full support if it sticks to the task of replacing D&C 20.

SYNOPSIS

Thursday, October 12, 2017

The synopsis of the reasoning used to help unite the opposing parties, which was mentioned in yesterday's HOPE post, can be found in the PAGES box to the right under UNITED PROPOSAL.

HOPE - Update

Friday, October 27, 2017

It has been a few weeks since we posted our joint paper concerning our meeting on October 7. We realize it has been perhaps too quiet since then. We would like to let you know where things stand and how things have moved (and are moving) forward. As well, we want to try to help every person among us understand our objectives and How we hope to move forward what the Lord has asked, with our hands, (all of us), in our Lord's hand together to accomplish this simple thing He has asked of us.

The servant of the Lord spoke in Dallas on Oct. 19, we feel the Lord provided some instruction and valuable guidance for anyone seriously interested in the GS "Statement," through the things spoken to the Christian community in that talk.

In a nutshell I summarized my own thoughts about what I personally felt from the talk in my own recounting as follows:

From my own reflections:

Yesterday in Dallas the servant of the Lord delivered the second of two talks intended for Christian audiences. The talk discussed the earliest Christian worshippers and their mode of worship toward the end of the apostolic ministries and shortly after the deaths of the apostles who had personally been taught by Christ.

The earliest Christians were extremely diverse in their various approaches to the ways in which they understood, applied, and conducted, "Christian" worship. Some factions followed, and were inspired and informed by Peter. Some adhered more to Paul's way and interpretation of the Lord's gospel. John influenced other groups in His own particular interpretation and application of the Lord's gospel. Thomas began and influenced congregations in India and Central Asia. The same is true of each of the apostles and the fellowships they influenced in their individual ministries in the many geographies they went to bringing their individual perceptions and beliefs about the Lord's gospel to many varied people, cultures, and religious affiliations. They all were extremely different and diverse. There was no central authority or common belief system among, or between them. Each congregation or fellowship worshipped according to the gospel of Christ as understood, interpreted, and taught by the apostolic minister who came to them. These diverse communities, or fellowships, had only two elements that were common among most of them.

The only common elements among most of these extremely diverse congregations and fellowships according to the servant, were two things. First, they all believed and practiced the pure and simple Doctrine of Christ. Second, they believed and practiced the law of Christ. Those two elements of common Christian belief and practice among

individual fellowships and congregations across a vast geography was the only cohesion they all had among them. And that was good.

There was no central authority or governing rules or law other than The Doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ. And, according to the servant of the Lord that was “enough.” Do those words carry a certain wring to them? “That was enough.” The Lord in the Answer and Covenant said, “Apply what I have given you and it will be enough.” (Answer and Covenant Page 6 paragraph 3) If one carefully considers the words read to us that covenant day in Boise, one comes to realize, the words and suggestions of the Lord to us in the covenant, all relate directly or indirectly to the Doctrine of Christ and to the Law of Christ. If our requested statement to the Lord of “principles to Guide us” included only aspects of the covenant language pertaining to The Doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ as contained in the sermon on the mount and the sermon at the Temple, and ordinances He has instituted in this new dispensation, “it would be enough.” According to the Lord our God, “I have given you...principles to guide you...apply what I have given you and it will be enough.”

The servant suggested during His talk in Dallas, those two common elements, the Doctrine of Christ, and the law of Christ, (as taught in the sermon on the mount, and the sermon at the Temple in Bountiful) between diverse and far spread congregations and fellowships “was, (is?) enough.” End quote of my writing

The servant previously said:

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. (Isa. 2:2-3.)

This can happen in our day. Or not. One day, some few will be guided by the Lord to accomplish it. But the choice of allowing it to happen is left to us. The journey begins by living the way Christ taught in the Sermon on the Mount and the Sermon at Bountiful. (All or nothing-7 conclusion Denver Snuffer)

This seems to be further clarification from the Lord of the principles He has given us, “to guide you”, and that we have already all mutually agreed to in the covenant language as pointed out in our joint statement from the October 7th meeting where the Spirit of the Lord instructed us all.

With all the additional light which has come forth in just the past two weeks, I am happy to report that one group of people who have been inspired and informed by what was taught on October 7 th as well as Denver’s talk in Dallas on October 19 th, has finalized their *Proposal on How to Move Forward* using a system of casting lots to form a body of 7 individuals from among the people to draft the Guide and Standard/Statement of Principles. It has been posted on this website for your review and vote of approval to forge ahead. They have reached out to many people from many different fellowships on all sides of this issue spending hours and hours of time in conversation to understand and address their concerns….suing for peace. I urge you to consider carefully what they are proposing and step forward with your help and support if you feel so inclined.

At the same time, there continue to be other people who have been likewise inspired by these teachings and we both support and encourage all of them in their efforts as they feel called to the work of completing this assignment from the Lord.

We do not have predetermined ideas, or preferences as to whom the Lord will choose to write. We are determined to fully support, and assist, with faith, prayers, and confidence, whomever the Lord may choose. Our prayer is that those chosen will be the meek, the mild, the peaceful, and the humble among us.

We invite all to unite in our Lord and Redeemer to return to Him this simple “statement” of the guidelines He has already given us and that we have already mutually agreed to in the words He has given us.

Steve

Comments

- Jay — October 29, 2017

I'm trying to stay informed of what is taking place on this forum and the recent changes have taken me more than a minute to piece the historical chain together. In case trying to follow the moving target has been confusing to anyone else (as it has been for me), here is a description of what appears to have taken place.

"A Proposal on How to Move Forward" was submitted on 3 Oct 2017 which proposed implementing "A Committee for Obtaining the Voice of the People". The discussion thread for this proposal included comments that raised concerns over the implementation of a committee.

On Oct 7th a "United Proposal" was authored by Steve Vanleer that included language that united many of the most outspoken voices that have raised issues about our statement of principals.

On Oct 27th Steve Vanleer gave voice in support of a revision to the earlier "Proposal on How to Move Forward" that refers to a "body of 7" (in place of a committee) selected through a process of casting lots. This new version is titled "A Proposed Process For Developing A Statement of Principals" and took over the discussion thread of what was the "United Proposal". The earlier version, "Proposal on How to Move Forward" looks like it has been removed, along with it's discussion thread. Is that thread retrievable? It contains comments that may be helpful to understand concerns that were raised.

This diagram show the changes:
http://pumpkinglow.com/images/other/Proposals-Threads-v2.png

No offense is intended in making these observations.

In the future I suggest that for the sake of those of us who are trying to keep up with the discussion here, keeping the history intact is useful.

(Thank you for re-posting the "United Proposal")

Jay Ball

- LoriTaylor November 01, 2017

Thank you, Jay Ball, for attempting to organize the information. It is quite a tangled ball of word yarn to me. I appreciate you trying to make it somewhat less tangled and want you to know you are not alone in trying to stay informed. But it seems there is a lot of chatter elsewhere? I honestly have no idea what some people are talking about in the comments or how these meetings and such come about. Confused. I wonder how many others are out of the loop on things and what can be done to remedy that.

- Jay November 02, 2017

Thank you, Lori. There may be chatter elsewhere, but I wouldn't know where. Here are some thoughts I recorded the other morning:
https://youtu.be/rTWRB2rg6sA
(you may need to copy and paste this link to view it)

- LoriTaylor November 10, 2017

Jay, I neglected to respond sooner. I am sorry for that. I enjoyed hearing your thoughts via video. I especially liked the story about praying with your daughter. Very powerful ideas conveyed. I have liked your comments left elsewhere, too, as they feel balanced and centered. Thank you for offering the thoughts of your heart.

Introduction to Statement of Principles- Anonymous1

Friday, October 27, 2017

To all our wonderful Fellow Covenant Holders,

We are a small fellowship, unassociated with any other group or fellowship who has proposed or is proposing a possible Guide and Standard to this point. We have no desire to hinder or submarine anyone's proposal. We do not care who writes an acceptable proposal. We have voted in the past to sustain previous proposals.

We have no other desire than to submit to the Lord, in order to hopefully complete the assignment to bring to Him an acceptable Guide and Standard. We have exceeding great anxieties that we will all fail if we do not complete soon what the Lord has commanded us.

Our understanding is that if that happens we, as a people, will suffer the same fate as the early Saints. We will be rejected and lose the promises of the covenant. In our opinion that would be devastating beyond words.

We have been persuaded in our thinking, by the United Plan, that any guide and standard ought to be what Christ has given us, His words, because we believe what the Lord has declared concerning us all; "I desire to heal you from an awful state of blindness so that you may see clearly my will, to do it." (Answer and Covenant)

We also agree that the words of Christ have already been mutually agreed to by all covenant holders when we all stood together and said "YES".

When we sat down together during a fellowship meeting to follow this pattern of compiling what the Lord has given freely to all for the benefit of all, we found that in the last three years of our fellowshipping together the Lord's words in the following compilation had answered all of our questions about how we should proceed together. It was so refreshing to review again what He had said.

We discovered for ourselves that it truly was such a light and a joyous thing to compile

these words together. We were able to compile the following in one and a half hours. We rejoiced at God's mercy and His goodness in condescending to work among men again today.
Our intentions are for our identities to forever remain unknown, because we view all the words we propose for a Guide and Standard to be Christ's words which He has condescended in His mercy to give to us in our unworthy state for the benefit and the progression of all His children on the earth and therefore we have no ownership of them at all.
We witness that the author of all of the following words is Christ. We have found out for ourselves and not from another that His words are the most kind and wise words we in our group have ever read.
We love these words and that is why we, our group, covenanted in Boise to receive them as the words of Christ to govern ourselves.
We readily acknowledge that though these are not our words, our work of compiling these things is weak. We understand very well our exceeding limitations in creating any document and our lack of understanding. If we did not feel such strong anxiety for the situation we as a covenant group are all in we would never attempt to submit this or any other document for any type of consideration. Therefore, if this simple compilation were accepted to be presented to the Lord for His approval we would rely wholly and completely upon on His mercy and longsuffering to reveal what should be changed and corrected.
We love you all and pray God will bless every one of you with His greatest blessings. It is our most earnest desire that all of you will become precious to us and we will become precious to all of you.

Comments

- LynneMcKinley October 28, 2017

From my letter to a friend:

This statement of premise and principles is what we have been agonizing over writing, as a body of believers, for months: trying to agree on how to present and position this forward Gospel movement to those just hearing about it and coming into new fellowship.

This is a simple compilation of scriptures, and also quotes from Denver Snuffer whom we consider to be a teacher of truth and messenger from the Lord.

In reading it, you will have the clear, basic information you need to take to the Lord in prayer for your own confirmation of what is happening, and how you become a part of it.

As of today, October 28, 2017, this has not yet been "voted upon" by the general assembly, and is still in proposal status.

But in reading this, after nearly losing hope after all the jarrings and contentions among us regarding previous draft versions of a Guide and Standard, I have hope again.

This plain and simple compilation is the crucial core of the pure Gospel of Peace which can presented to any person upon this earth, in any circumstance, for them to have the opportunity to hear the voice, recognize truth, and act upon it. To me, it is breathtakingly beautiful and rings true to the Spirit of Christ which I have come to recognize and to trust.

I have no idea which fellowship got together and compiled it, and I don't care who is behind it, but I want to be in that fellowship.

Whether or not it is ultimately voted to be included in the Restoration Edition scriptures and canonized, I am myself presenting this compilation to those I love and entreat with all my heart to be baptised and saved in this eternal round.

Lynne McKinley

- Jay October 29, 2017

I love the statement that you have compiled. However, your motivation to rush this forward concerns me. Having "exceeding great anxieties that we will all fail if we do not complete soon", fearing "that we will suffer the same fate as the early Saints" and "be rejected and lose the promises of the covenant", and expressing that this "would be devastating beyond words", feels like fear based language.

I'm encouraged to see us working through this together and I trust it will happen without trying to force it. This quote from Denver's 6th talk on Zion comes to mind: "I want to remind you however, that throughout the scriptures, when it comes to the establishment of Zion, there is no such thing as 'hastening the work.' It can't be done in haste... D&C 63: 24: 'This is the will of the Lord your God concerning his saints, that they should assemble themselves together unto the land of Zion, not in haste, lest there should be confusion, which bringeth pestilence.' The instruction given in 1831 will apply when the Lord decides to gather again. Not in haste. Just as it did before, haste will bring pestilence to the land of gathering."

This wonderful statement that your fellowship has compiled I feel could be acceptable as our statement of principals, as with other recent proposals.

The beauty of the statement you have compiled is that it conforms to this plan by using only quotes from various sources. There is something in your statement that gives rise to an issue that I feel worth pointing out as it relates to further efforts being made to compose a united statement of principals. You have used quotes from sources outside of that which we have covenanted together to accept. Many of us agree with much of Denver's teachings, but when these fall outside of what we have covenanted to, it can leave open space for disagreement and possible confusion.

An example from your statement I suggest as a case in point. You have quoted the following from "Preserving the Restoration", pg. 521:

"Use wine. If you are opposed to alcohol or have a medical condition that prevents you from using wine, use red grape juice. Use the symbol of the blood of our Lord. Red wine is bitter for a reason."

This language differs from Denver's original words used from the transcript of the talk itself:

"You can use wine. Or, if you are opposed to alcohol, alternatively if you have some medical condition that prevents you from using wine, then use grape juice. Not water. Use red grape juice. Use the symbol of the blood of our Lord. I can tell you that generally, red wine is bitter for a reason."

There are slight differences between Denver's words, "Use wine" (with no reference to water) in his book, and his words "You can use wine... Not water" from his talk, either of which that could be interpreted as contradicting revelation that states, "It matters not

what you shall eat or what you shall drink when you partake of the sacrament, if it so be that ye do it with an eye single to my Glory". (RE T&C 7:1)

Such criticism may seem like quibbling over minor points. I suggest that confining our words used in the Statement of Principals, to what the Lord has stated in the Answer & Covenant as well as the scriptures that we have covenanted to, will avoid such issues.

Jay and Kiyoko Ball

- Log November 02, 2017

I hereby publicly express my dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

- Jay November 03, 2017

Jared Livesey,

I have responded to your public dissent in the thread here:

http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/p/logs-guide-and-standard.html

New Proposals

Saturday, October 28, 2017

A few new proposals have been added:

1) A statement of principles - Anonymous1
2) Building Up Zion
3) Log's Guide and Standard

Comments

- Fred October 28, 2017

I like the "A Statement of principles - Anonymous" because the statements all come from the Lord. How can anyone disagree with that? It also covers all areas of concern. This is about what the Lord wants to give to the world. It is not about us or representing us. We should give His words to the world and not our own. This does that. Again, it is the Lord's word that covers all subject matter. It is not what we think but what the Lord wants…
Thank You Anonymous for your effort to combine this statement of principles through the Lord's word!!!

Update on Proposal Using Lots & Call for Vote

Wednesday, November 01, 2017

Many associated with the United Proposal (see *HOPE* & *HOPE - Update* posts) have given an update on a proposal containing more details on how we can move forward in manner open to anyone interested in participating and are proposing to hold a vote on even attempting the effort. The details can be found using the following links:

Proposal Summary

Proposal Update 11/01/17

Proposal on How to Move Forward Using Lots (Full Proposal)

Comments

- Log — November 02, 2017

I hereby express publicly my dissent from this proposal, both in process and in content.

Jared Livesey

- Jay — November 03, 2017

Jared Livesey,
I have responded to your public dissent in the thread here:
http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/p/logs-guide-and-standard.html

- Log — November 06, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 06, 2017

I have written a response and explanation here.

- sara — November 08, 2017

It is perhaps too late, but I like this proposal from an anonymous source: "Well, if we trust the casting of lots, then we can just number all the various proposals, including the number 0 which will represent the Lord saying, 'none of these are worth shit; start over.' Then we put the numbers into a box, pray a lot, and pull out a number. Voila! We'd then save the 7 people a lot of headaches." If we trust casting lots as a way for the Lord to tell us His choice, then why can't we just do this - draw lots on all the proposals so far, with an option for the answer that none are OK, and we have to try again?

- RoyMoore — November 08, 2017

In September 1834 the Kirtland high council appointed a committee consisting of Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Sidney Rigdon, and Frederick G. Williams to publish a work "arrange[d from] the items of the doctrine of Jesus Christ." This committee was assigned to draw "from the bible, book of mormon, and the revelations which have been given to

the church up to this date." Seven lessons on theology and doctrine were produced from the scriptural teachings of Jesus Christ.

On 17 August 1835, a general assembly of the church met “for the purpose of Examining a book of commandments and covenants” that had been “compiled and written by” the publication committee. “This Committee having finished said Book according to the instructions given them,” the minutes read, “it was deemed necessary to call the general assembly of the Church to see whether the book be approved or not by the authoroties of the church, that it may, if approved, become a law unto the church, and a rule of faith and practice unto the same.”37
Though the assembly was convened “by the presidency of the Church,”38
JS and Frederick G. Williams, a member of the presidency, were in Michigan at the time of the assembly.39
The responsibility of presenting the book to the conference therefore fell to Oliver Cowdery, a member of both the presidency and the four-man publication committee.40
Sidney Rigdon, the other presidency member and committee member present, stood and “explained the manner by which they intended to obtain the voice of the assembly for or against said book.”41
Voting on the book proceeded by quorums and groups, with the leader of each group bearing witness of the truth of the volume before his group voted to accept it. After the voting by quorums, the entire church membership present, both male and female, voted to accept the book as “the doctrine and covenants of their faith.”

The Guide and Standard must follow the same pattern (by appointed committee). If Jared Livesey will allow the Lord to choose its members by lots, I will lovingly and with confidence nominate Jared Livesey as a candidate for said committee.

Name Change

Friday, November 03, 2017

The proposed statement called Building Up Zion is now called The Rock of Jesus Christ - A Statement of Our Principles.

A Vote is Requested

Friday, November 03, 2017

A process has been circulated widely among the main body of believers describing the use of the scripturally supported method of drawing lots to assemble a small, limited, and provisional body of individuals to compile a *Statement of Principles.* Those selected to serve will:
1. Collect all documents (cleared of names) that have been submitted by the main body to the Central Recorder for consideration and use them to help inform and inspire their efforts; 2. Set forth the Doctrine and Law of Christ as the standard of our faith; 3. Provide a brief statement of principles intended to bless, benefit, and inform our brothers and sisters who know nothing, as yet, of the Lord’s work underway, which will help to guide them in as they return to an original form of Christian worship in fellowships; 4. Confine the components of the document to the criteria set forth in the proposal using the Lord’s own words as contained in the Prayer and Answer, the scriptures and the words of an authorized servant in our day; 5. Strive to complete the assignment quickly with integrity, and in a cooperative, dispassionate, and humble manner, laying aside all personal bias for the good of the whole; 6. Disband once the assignment is complete.

A summary of this proposal can be found HERE and a full description/discussion of this proposal can be found HERE . Those submitting the proposal (Jim O'Rullian and James Fargo) have removed themselves from the pool of names and now request that we conduct a simple YES/NO vote to seek the permission of the main body of believers to move forward.
The vote will take place this coming Monday-Wednesday, Nov 6-8. A link to the vote will be posted on this blog by Monday morning.

Comments

- Log November 04, 2017

I renew my public dissent from this proposal in both content and process.

Jared Livesey

A Call to Come Forward to Support the Vote

Saturday, November 04, 2017

Someone wrote and asked some good questions about the use of lots to move ahead in the accomplishment of the "statement of principles" to the Lord. My reply is written below. To summarize, the whole thing really has little to do with lots per se, and everything to do with faith in our God.
This is my own writing. I do not represent any other in this. I did not seek approval from any to put this forth, even those who have labored diligently together to bring all of our joint effort to this point. This stuff may or may not be their personal feelings. Judge the truth of these things for yourself.
Response:
"There is another method that we haven't tried, so far as I know. That would be to use "lots" to choose from every male in the church. This method was used to fill Judas' vacancy in the original Twelve in Jerusalem. (Acts 1: 21-26.) The description there is ambiguous, but was intended to be random, unpredictable and not just a vote. It was a recognized way to choose someone. (See, e.g., 1 Ne. 3: 11.) It has been used to sort through the entire nation of Israel when all twelve tribes were assembled. Someone had stolen an idol, resulting in the withdrawal of the Lord's Spirit from them in battle. The result was defeat for Israel and the death of many men. They needed to find the one who committed the offense. So they had to choose from the entire gathering of all twelve tribes.
Beginning at the tribe level, they sorted through to find the right tribe (Judah). Then proceeded to sort through the tribe to locate the larger family involved (Zarhites). Then went through the family to find the individual involved (Achan). The whole thing is in the scriptures. (Joshua 7: 13-23.) Such a system was uncontrolled by man, done by lot, completely random, but produced the right person. Left to God, it obtained God's answer. Did with the sons of Lehi, and with the vacancy in the Twelve in the Book of Acts, too. There is no reason why such a system wouldn't generate the Lord's choice today..."
(Prophet, Seer, Revelator, May 21, 2010, Denver Snuffer)
Not every point is always, (ever) defined when it comes to faith. In addition, it's not meet that we should require specific Commandment and instruction in all things. There is no learning or faith in that. More often, we listen to the whisperings of the spirit, feel what it is the Lord would like, then move forward in faith, not knowing before hand what we might

encounter. If we are wrong, the Lord will often correct us, turn our head this way, or that way a little, and send us in a different direction. God has often shown He is respectful of our meager, even childlike efforts if they are accompanied by real faith. We can even come to Him with “our best guess” on the matter, confronting a real dilemma, with a fist full of little stones and He might work out a problem for us because He respects our faith and belief. I believe the Lord might have done the same thing for the brother of Jared if he had come with seven stones, or fifty. Didn’t matter the number, didn’t matter that it was stones, and not little pieces of wood, or balls of tightly spun lambs wool. It was his faith that allowed the Lord to do something for him. The Lord didn’t seem to view an arbitrary number (16) as a “stake” in any way. Nor did He seem to view stones as a “stake.” To answer your question, this all was most likely the brother of Jared’s “best guess” as to how to approach the Lord. It’s all about faith. Period. If we don’t have faith, we could choose seven, or ten, or twenty four, to write, and it would likely make no difference. Without faith, we could choose any method of our choice for choosing those who should write. We could use lots, a seer stone, a rod, a staff, a cup, a Liahona, flip a coin - best four out of seven, and it would very likely fail.

If we have faith, we can ask the Lord to show us His part through lots. And He will show us. The number chosen is really irrelevant. The faith is everything. He is able to show the seven He would most prefer to write, even if there are seventy who “feel called.” If He would show His part and reveal seven by our faith, wouldn’t that be enough? Do you imagine the brother of Jared afterward said, “damn!”, I could have brought 32 stones and had twice the light! Likely not. It was enough.

Shouldn’t we feel satisfied through our collective faith, that the seven are the Lord’s choice even if the seven may not include many who felt “called.” In any event, nothing prevents every person who feels so inclined to submit their version of a statement that they have been directed by God to write under the system we have now put forth for a vote. God’s appointed seven will consider what every person has submitted. If someone is indeed called, and God intended by God’s perfect will, that he/she be the single author of the “statement”, then, just as in the case of the stolen idol, the single individual and their writing will be shown. If that is not God’s perfect will then the seven chosen will assemble the acceptable version to our God, He will accept it and the thing will be accomplished by faith. We will know we were wrong if, and only if, God rejects the final document, and our meager effort to approach Him with a fist full of gravel, so to speak.

The person asked, why can’t we just come together in a spontaneous manner like the scripture committee did, without having to appoint, or call, or choose, anyone? A great question. Perhaps that would have been the Lord’s own preferred way at one point in time. The problem was/is, us, and our hearts.

The difference between the scripture committee and the course that brought them to ultimate success in their joint effort on the one hand, and the effort we have been involved in for over eight months on the other hand, is that the scripture committee(s) came together in a primarily respectful, spontaneous, manner that worked harmoniously (for the most part) to complete what many felt they were called to do. Their effort pleased the Lord. He said so. Doesn’t matter what our individual perceptions or opinions are about how the scripture committee pulled off what they did. The Lord approved. That’s enough.

On the other hand, the statement of principles (GP) process, has been fraught from the beginning with contention, people rising up as Satan (accusers) against one another, and most all of the people acting in a manner more like enemies and opponents rather than the joint family of God who respect and love one another. The assignment can never be accomplished while the people’s hearts are not right. The Lord was very clear in telling us our hearts are not right. If the people’s hearts can get right, and there can be a harmonious mighty change among them, then the spirit of God can guide. It has been

mostly a faithless effort to this point and has instead been more like a great contentious competition among a people who should unite in their God and have faith in Him. His spirit cannot exist, or dwell, or stay, where contention is, at any level.
Those among us, (you) who agree, invite every person among us of the covenant to unite in the words of our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. We do not mention His name lightly. We wish only to consider and bow ourselves to His part alone. We wish only to bring honor, glory, and a respectful return in repentance to Him. We (I) wish, (and need to be,) the first to repent and turn to Him in faith and humility.
Please review "United Proposal:" https://drive. google.com/file/d/ 0Bwr81Qdl5PagZy1saFZmYll0cnM/ view
And Hope update: http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/10/hope- update.html
And the proposal to move forward from the foundation laid out in the prior two sites with your affirmative vote: http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/a-vote- is-requested.html
Unite with us all who see the path forward together in unity as God's people. Please vote affirmatively as indicated in the, "Vote is Requested" site above. Let us move forward together to complete this light thing. We do not want to be noticed, we do not wish to be recognized, we do not want, or desire, notoriety, or acclaim of any sort. We do not care, or have any preference, as to the specific author of the statement. We wish only to know the part of the Son of God and to glorify Him alone in what we do.
Please brothers and sisters of the covenant, Unite. Bring your writings - bring your work if you have been appointed or called, and allow God to show us His part as we seek Him in faith and humility. Let us join our faith and approach our King in humility and meekness - HE will show us His part. All glory to Him.

Comments

- Log — November 04, 2017

I renew my public dissent from this proposal in content and process.

- TwoCents — November 05, 2017

Im not sure who wrote this, but the united proposal isn't connected to the casting lot proposal. At the end of the meeting at Steve Van Leers, those who were there agreed only to use the Answer and Covenant to develop the GS-thats it. Then the next day Karen Strong, who didn't stay to the end of the meeting, told those at the prayer meeting, that we were using the Answer and Covenant, Scriptures and PTR, which caused the idea that we agreed to the night before, morph into utilizing the Answer and Covenant to write the GS and also utilizing the scriptures and PTR to support those principles. Those who signed their names to the United Proposal agreed to this only.

The central data group people, who were part of the united proposal came up with the lot idea. They proposed it to the supporters of the United Proposal, many of those people agreed but there were some of us who didn't. They decided to run with the lot idea, utilizing what they learned at the meeting at Steve VanLeer's. This to me (casting lots) is a completely different proposal. The United Proposal and Casting Lot proposals are two different things. Thanks Q

- JimORullian — November 05, 2017

Two Cents/Anonymous…..you are correct. The Proposal on how to Move Forward Using Lots is not representative of the entire group of people who gathered Steve Van

Leer's home on October 7th, although it has been inspired and informed by those teachings as well as Denver's talk in Dallas, TX. Steve has since been very supportive of this effort (drawing lots) as well as any others that have taken inspiration about using the mutually agreed to words and principles in the Answer and Covenant to compose the Statement of Principles. I believe he is doing his best to try teach as many people as he can about the message he shared with the group gathered in his home on Oct. 7th, which I think is a good thing and worthy of our consideration.

Not quite sure what you meant by "central data group people" but we had originally proposed that a committee of people be put together by drawing lots to both handle the GS in the short term and then provide a trusted source of information going forward on things that require the voice of the people. The committee would be replaced annually so that all had a chance to serve. Personally, I still like the idea and would love to see something like that, but in an effort to implement several suggestions from others (including those from the 10/7/17 meeting), the proposal was revised to simply having the group of individuals selected by lot disband after the GS was completed. I hope that clarifies things a bit.

- TwoCents November 05, 2017

Jim, when you are addressing Anonymous are you addressing me too, its me Q. I signed my name at the bottom.

Are you saying Steve wrote this? Its seems to me who ever wrote this is merging the United Proposal and Casting lots together. That's not right, because they are two different things. One is a proposal in how to approach this project and the other is how to complete it. I agreed and signed my name to the approach, not to the process in which to complete the assignment.

In your response to me, it sounds like you are defending Steve, are you? If you are then Im not sure why. I agree that Steve is doing his best to try and teach as many people as he can about his message. I have considered his message and even signed my name to it (the approach).

I don't know what was said in your conversations with Steve, but somewhere along the way you two agreed to move in this direction. I have no problem with that. If you and Steve agreed to something that is between you and Steve and NOT you and the United Proposal. The confusion trickles in when Steve and the United Proposal are being used interchangeably, as if Steve is the voice of the United Proposal. May be Im wrong but I thought he said he was not leading the United Proposal.

I said central data group, because I couldn't remember the name of your original proposal. To me it sounded like a central source where information could be gathered, thus the name central data group. Thanks Q

- JimORullian November 05, 2017

Sorry Quintina….I did not realize you were the author of this last post. I assumed the "Thanks Q" was somebody thanking you for something. Ha….

There is nothing I wrote in the comment above intended to defend any one position or any one person. Just affirming what you stated that the current "Lots" proposal was not representative of the entire group who met at Steve's home on October 7th, but as stated, many have felt inspired and informed by the message that was shared and continued to work on the proposal.

I think Steve has been very gracious and willing to support any and all efforts, including this one, which have been informed by what he shared on 10/7/2017. He can speak for himself, but the only agreement I am aware of being made between Steve and those of us who have continued to work on this proposal is one of cooperation and support for what we are trying to accomplish. There are a number of other people present at that meeting who have likewise expressed support and helped us to finish up the proposal and get the message out while simultaneously continue to work on initiatives they have felt inspired to complete.

This is an “all-hands-on-deck” project and I think it is beautiful that people are willing to help lift and inspire others as they have felt called to the work.

- TwoCents November 05, 2017

This is not directed at Jim, unless of course you are the author of this. First of all, I would like to say that all the people I know who are in support of this proposal are very virtuous and I know there intent is to seek for peace and create equality. I am writing the following because I had a different understanding than you did on a few things and thought I would share them with you:

"Religion moves through two stages. In the first, God reveals Himself to man. This is called “restoration.” It restores man to communion with God as in the Garden of Eden. In the second, man attempts to worship God according to His latest visit. This stage is always characterized by scarcity and inadequacy. This is called “apostasy.” Apostasy always follows restoration." (Cutting Down the Tree of Life)

The lots experiment that Denver mentioned was addressing a system (LDS hierarchy) that relied on His latest visit. The latest visit being the New Testament time, during which they did use lots to decide who would replace Judas. The LDS system never did try the lot experiment, even though, they were worshipping God according to the New Testament time. These eleven men walked and talked with Christ, they received power and were connected to Heaven. They chose 2 individuals who they knew would be equal to the task, and they utilized the lots, by way of their Power to rely on God to reveal whose heart is right. The Liahona, and other devices have been given to man from God and they are taught how to utilize these tools. These tools worked based on their Power. When their hearts weren't right these tools didn’t work.

Lehi had a dream and in that dream his boys were commanded to go and obtain the plates. Laman and Lemuel murmured saying it was a hard thing and they started to get after Nephi, as if it was Nephi who required it. Nephi went willingly and desired to do what the Lord asked of him. They both were on different ends of the spectrum, one went begrudgingly and the other went desiring to do the Lords will. So I can see why they turned to lots (verse 11) to determine who would go and get the plates. Nephi mentions faithfulness right before they were going to give all their earthly substance away. He also mentions it again before being led by the spirit.

What I learned from Nephi is it takes faith to sacrifice all your earthy substance for His will and to be, "led by the Spirit not knowing beforehand the things which I should do."

I don’t recall Joseph Smith describing lots as a way to show faith in Lectures on Faith.

There is so little we know about the use of lots and how it was utilized. So, I wonder why you don’t follow what you do know. Why not just pick one person and let that person

write it and just agree to the final document that person comes up with?
Q

- Taylor November 06, 2017

I really wanted to find a way to support and be unified with this proposal. But I feel the plan to have Denver present it for the Lord's approval before any voting has taken place looks more like an attempt to circumvent and avoid the need to practice persuasion, and force unity because "the Lord has spoken through his authorized servant!" (Hypothetically).

If I were Denver, I'd decline that request. If I had Denver's ear, I'd ask him to please decline. I take very seriously the Lord's twice repeated prohibition on Denver participating. I'm sure others feel this doesn't cross that line, or that perhaps it's a gray area. I want to demonstrate that I trust the Lord's words, and proceed cautiously and safely -- not terribly unlike Denver's recommended definition of "the Lord's anointed" who we're supposed to refrain from "evil speaking" of that he advanced way back in 2nd Comforter. He recommended the broadest possible definition of that term. Similarly, I'm going to recommend the broadest possible definition of "participation" in drafting a GP/GS/whatever and say publicly that I don't want to be found asking him to touch it with a 10 foot pole.

- Karen November 06, 2017

Is this Taylor C. that did the prayer meeting with me? If so, I have written an answer, but it is way too long for a comment. I'd be happy to email it to you.

- Taylor November 06, 2017

Yep it's me. :) I'd love to hear from you!

- SethN November 06, 2017

Hey Q! I found this snippet about casting lots in Nephi's Isaiah:

"In choosing a replacement Apostle for the deceased and apostate Judas, the method employed by the surviving Apostles was to “cast lots.” It is written: “And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.” (Acts 1: 24–26.) The same method is used here by Apostles as had been used by the Lord’s crucifiers to divide up His clothing, as He was hanging on the cross in the last throes of dying.406 When we think of the Roman guards using it to divide Christ’s clothing, it becomes less inspired-looking and more homely. It looks more like expediency than revelation as a tool for choosing an Apostle. Yet, at the same time, this same process is built into the scriptures for the Church today, and is used in every disciplinary council to assign roles to the High Council.407 Without regard to feeling, emotion or desire, the lots are drawn and the assignments are made. These physical objects contain within them the Lord’s mind for organizing a council before whom the hearing takes place. From Nephi’s casting lots to decide who would go to address Laban,408 to choosing the scapegoat,409 to choosing an Apostle, to choosing roles in a disciplinary court, casting of lots has been the way people of faith have determined God’s will for millennia. Through it God “speaks.” But it requires faith to see it in that light. For these are ordinary, even commonplace ways of making a decision. Only through faith does it

acquire the “voice of God” in it. We are unique, and God’s ways of speaking to each of us is as unique as each of us. We do ourselves a great disservice when we attempt to fit ourselves into a singular, stereotypical persona seeking only a singular way for God to talk with and to us. We make ourselves into something we aren’t, in the search to find what cannot be found that way. If we demand only the extraordinary before we will recognize His voice, we run the risk of looking in the wrong way for Him. His voice is there. He speaks to all of us. But we can miss it if we are not attuned to listen. You may never be able to hear God speak to you in the way in which others hear Him. If you determine He must speak to you in a specific way, and not in any other way, you can go a lifetime without ever having a conversation with Him. He longs to speak with each of us. Within each of us there is something uniquely attuned to Him. How He reaches out to you may be as singular and unique as you are and you can be assured He is reaching out. In fact, God is rather noisy, if you will allow Him to be. We were never intended to live without a direct connection to Him. Instead, we should hear His voice, and in time discover He is our “friend.”410"

Time for a Vote

Monday, November 06, 2017

Here is the link to the voting survey.

Should We Take That Step Forward?

Comments

- Log — November 06, 2017

I hereby publicly dissent from this proposal, both in process and in content, and also have voted "no" on the survey.

Jared Livesey

For details, see here.

- LynneMcKinley — November 06, 2017

I have voted yes on the process of humbly and fairly discovering the content which would not only be acceptable to our Lord, but which would give Him joy for us to recognize.

- Donald — November 06, 2017

Who is collecting this vote? How do we communicate with them?

- KenJensen — November 06, 2017

Jim O'rullian jimorullian@gmail.com
Jameson Fargo jdfargo@gmail.com

There are 4 othercontributors: Matt Lohmeier, Angela O'rullian, Heidi Fargo, Kirk Strong....
And about 144 other who have publicly supported the proposal that can be found in the

blog posts on this site: most recently November 1st, November 3rd, November 4th, and November 6th.

- KenJensen November 06, 2017

Actually I think Donald is asking who is hosting the vote? Who put together the survey? The answer to that is the scripture committee, as per the request in the proposal and updates.

Author's Essay in Support of The Rock of Jesus Christ G&S effort

Tuesday, November 07, 2017

As used herein, “G&S” means “Guide and Standard,” referring to the statement of principles the Lord has in the covenant document commanded the covenant participants to write, and has also commanded the covenant participants to adopt by mutual agreement as a guide and standard. Also, “KJV” means the “King James Version of the Bible.” The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles is available at this link: https://drive.google. com/open?id= 1rOkIjQEJFJ4M0eOpqvu809DfPqJKt BDJ When the covenant participants mutually agree to a G&S, the covenant participants will thenceforth be required to follow the G&S by the covenant, thus any precepts or commandments in the G&S become part of the covenant obligations. Additionally, the G&S is to bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing of the Lord’s work now underway. The Lord’s work now underway is to restore his original faith to the Earth, and prepare a people who may be saved at his appearing and be able to dwell with him bodily in Zion. The Lord, in the covenant document, tells us how that is to be done: “All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know.” This is the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation (1 Nephi 13:36 ; LDS D&C 11:24 ; LDS D&C 39:6). Just as the Holy Ghost shows us all things we must know, the Holy Ghost also shows us all things we must do (2 Nephi 32:5). The Holy Ghost teaches us what we need to know and do to come into the presence of Jesus Christ and be saved. We know that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord (KJV Jeremiah 17:5; 2 Nephi 4:34 ; 2 Nephi 28:31). And all of us, including Denver Snuffer, are yet men. We are not the leaders, nor guides, of any man: that role is reserved for the Holy Ghost, whose guidance brings us to the Lord. Therefore, to bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing of the Lord’s work now underway, we need only give them sufficient instruction to obtain the Holy Ghost. That instruction is faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to guide us. That is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and is his rock. The gospel is where our obligation to teach ends. Going beyond the gospel in our teaching without being commanded is for us to usurp the role reserved for the Holy Ghost. This is why the church of God in Nephite times taught nothing but repentance and faith in God (Mosiah 25:22). The covenant instructs: “Teach your children to honor me.” “Seek to recover the lost sheep remnant of this land and of Israel and no longer forsake them. Bring them unto me and teach them of my ways, to walk in them.” “Cry peace. Proclaim my words. Invite those who will repent to be baptized and forgiven, and they shall obtain my Spirit to guide them.” It is to fulfill all these things that I have put forth the G&S proposal now entitled *The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles* , which consists of 3 Nephi 11:30-40 and KJV Luke 6:20-49, with two introductory sentences. Directives specific to the disciples are omitted. We teach our children to honor

the Lord when we teach our children to keep his law and commandments as contained in the Sermon. Because Israel is all who love the Lord and keep his commandments, and no one else (LDS D&C 29:12), we gather the lost sheep remnant and scattered Israel by proclaiming Christ's gospel, his rock and his salvation, and inviting those who believe to repent and be baptized that they may receive the Holy Ghost, which will tell them all things they should know and do. We cry peace when we teach his doctrine, his law, and his commandments, the keeping of which bring peace. 3 Nephi 11:30-40 is used instead of its Restoration Edition equivalent because The Rock of Jesus Christ is for outreach to the world as well as a teaching tool and reminder to us all of what really matters: the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is his rock and his salvation. The LDS edition of the Book of Mormon is commonly available for free, whereas Restoration Edition scriptures are not complete as of this writing. Despite differences in punctuation, the meaning is unchanged. Verse 30 cries peace. As times grow more troubled, the teaching that men should not be stirred up in anger one towards another anymore will seem more and more appealing to those who desire peace. Directives to the disciples concerning baptism and their own disputations are avoided. There is no unambiguous universal commandment to be baptized found within the pages of the Bible. The doctrine of Christ as found in the Book of Mormon supplies this universal requirement, along with the promise of the Father's record or testimony of the Son by fire and by the Holy Ghost. With respect to KJV Luke 6:20-49, the differences between the Restoration Edition and the KJV are not substantial. Using the KJV allows for a broader approach to Christians who are not from the Mormon traditions. Repentance consists of turning aside from the ways of the world and freely conforming one's behavior and thoughts to the law and commandments of Jesus Christ as contained in the Sermon on the Mount. Performing the deeds commanded in the Sermon are the fruits of repentance (see, for example, John's preaching in RE Luke 3:3-4). The law and the commandments contained in the Sermon are the ways of the Lord and the path that all men are to walk in or else abide without salvation. Perfecting our execution of his law and commandments brings us to be just like Jesus Christ, which constitutes salvation (KJV Luke 6:40 ; Lectures on Faith 7:8, 14). The Lukan Sermon is preferred over the Nephite and Matthean versions for the purpose of outreach to the world for four reasons.

- It's short. People generally don't like to read much anymore.
- It's available to anyone who has a Bible, and every translation of it that I have seen reads substantially the same. We can afford to be accepting of other translations.
- It contains most of the controversial commandments such as: give to every man that asks you, yield without a fight when sued, lend to all comers, don't ask for your possessions back from whoever takes them, &.
- It omits commandments specifically given to the disciples, such as "take ye no thought for the morrow" and "take no thought for your life."

If men will believe even as much as the Lukan Sermon and freely put it into practice, the rest will come. As the Lord says in the covenant document, "Do my works and you will know my doctrine; for you will uncover hidden mysteries by obedience to these things that can be uncovered in no other way. This is the way I will restore knowledge to my people." This is the place to start. The obligation to receive the Restoration Edition scriptures as a standard is upon us who have agreed to this obligation by covenant, and this obligation is not binding upon those who have not entered into the covenant. As we are trying to save men by our labors, we should be open to using the scriptures of the people we are talking to so we can give them one less thing to object to when presenting the rock of Jesus Christ that they may repent and be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost, which will then show them all that they must know and do. Men may repent and be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost and not enter into the covenant offered through

Denver Snuffer; that is between them and the Lord, whom they have taken for their guide. It is not for us to usurp the role of the Holy Ghost. *The Rock of Jesus Christ* features none of the language from the covenant offered through Denver Snuffer for reasons which include the following:

- The covenant offered through Denver Snuffer is not part of the gospel, or the doctrine, of Jesus Christ. Therefore this covenant is not necessary to receive the Holy Ghost, which teaches men all that they should know and do.
- There is no authority found nor commandment given within the covenant document for any to proselytize others into the covenant; therefore, attempts to proselytize into the covenant are not done by any authority or commandment within the covenant itself.
- To attempt to proselytize others into the covenant without commandment would be for us to usurp the role of the Holy Ghost.

Therefore, with respect to the G&S: Without a direct commandment by the Lord, I will not proselytize any man into the covenant offered through Denver Snuffer. I will preach the Lord and his gospel instead that men may believe, repent, be baptized, and receive the Holy Ghost which will teach them all that they should know and do. Without a direct commandment by the Lord, I will not hold Denver Snuffer up to the world as an inspired teacher to be relied upon and thus cause men to trust in him rather than the Holy Ghost and be cursed by the Lord, and bring their blood upon me. I will preach the Lord and his gospel instead that men may be cleansed and healed through repentance and faith in the name of Jesus, that I may be made clean from the blood and sins of this generation and my garments may be found spotless at the last day. Therefore, I omit the words and teachings of Denver Snuffer, and uphold the words of Jesus Christ, for he is the prophet which all must hear or else be cut off from among the people. Without a direct commandment by the Lord, I will not teach tithing, for we are not under the law of tithing, which was commanded of the LDS Church (LDS D&C 119). I will teach the Lord's commandments concerning the distribution of our substance as found in the Sermon on the Mount instead of seeming to give men an alternative to the commandments of the Lord, thus bringing their blood upon me. Without a direct commandment by the Lord, I will not say anything about how the fellowships are to govern themselves. I will instead preach the Lord and his gospel, that each member of each fellowship may govern themselves according to the Holy Ghost, which teaches them all that they should know and do. Without a direct commandment by the Lord, I will not speak of priesthood, ordination, rites, or ordinances, thus enabling pretenders who seek for power and authority, but I will instead preach the Lord and his gospel that men may, through their belief in his words and their repentance from all their sins and the exercise of exceeding faith, become the Lord's priests and be sent to minister and teach in spirit and in truth and in power, receiving their instructions directly from him instead of men. Because the G&S must be adopted by mutual agreement, each of us is individually responsible for whatever we agree to adopt as though we individually had both written it and sent it out to the world ourselves. The gospel of Jesus Christ as contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ, or its functional equivalent, is what I am willing both to follow and to send out to the world to bless, benefit, and inform them, under my own name. We are to be restoring the original faith of Christ, and preparing a people to survive the coming of the Lord in the glory of his Father, to dwell with him and the powers of heaven in Zion. Therefore let us preach to the world the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation, lest we commit the same errors as our fathers.

Comments

- MaryCella November 10, 2017

Log: I'm very serious here, truly, and in all sincerity... Maybe you should start your own church-type organization and people who think like you could join in fellowship around your common religious interpretations. You could bypass the the rest of us who actually like the writings of Denver Snuffer and believe him to be who he says he is - a teacher sent with a message from God.

- Log November 10, 2017

Mary,

Do you suppose I do not believe Denver, even after assenting to the covenant offered through him?

If the only conversation that can be had between me and you is you telling me "I disagree with you, therefore get out," how shall we ever come to mutual agreement?

Jared

- Log November 11, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 11, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Jay November 21, 2017

Jared, I appreciate your answers to questions about this essay that you give here: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

Last Call to Vote

Tuesday, November 07, 2017

Sisters and brothers of the covenant,

The Lord has been trying for the last many weeks to persuade us, His people, to rally around His words, His teachings, His covenant with us. A growing number of you, (hundreds now), have recognized His words and His instruction to us in the covenant. He said:

"I have given to you my doctrine, and have also revealed teachings, commandments, precepts, ***and principles to guide you*** and it is not meet that I command you in all things—reason together and ***apply what I have given you and it will be enough***." (Answer & Covenant Page 6 paragraph 3)
See United Proposal here: http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/p/blog-page.html
Hundreds have been persuaded by God's own voice of the truths He has both given, and shown us clearly now. He has given us "principles to guide you." He has said, if we will reason together and "apply what I have given you ... it will be enough." We All accepted these things and agreed when we stood together to be counted by "God and the angels,"

and said, “YES.”
We have already agreed to principles to guide us that He has given us. We agreed to that when we said yes to the covenant questions. Now, He has said, we are not excused from providing a “statement of principles” to be added to the guiding principles we have agreed to, which are the scriptures. (Answer and Covenant Page 8) This “statement” is to be structured bearing in mind primarily the needs of those who will later come to Christ knowing little of His doctrine and law who will need a “Statement” to guide them to Him, His doctrine, and His Law. What will be written must meet the simple needs of a fellowship of 70 in Uganda Africa, as well as a few gathered in Vietnam Nam, as well as every other family, and fellowship, around the whole earth.
Much has already been written by many. Many feel called to write. We invite All through our proposal
http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/update- on-proposal-using-lots-call-for.html
and
http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/a-call- to-come-forward-to-support-vote.html
to vote affirmatively here http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/time-for-vote.html to move forward our approach to the Lord and submit your writings to the Central recorder to be included in all that will be considered to comprise a “statement” to be delivered to the Lord.
If you feel inspired to write, or, if you feel moved to nominate one or two to write, you will have the opportunity to submit your name, or the name(s) of others to be among the group from which a smaller group will be appointed to write the document. The appointed group will be chosen by a method accepted by God in the past, (lots), to condense and assemble all that has been written and submitted by the people into a document using the criteria given in the covenant and according to the pure and simple doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ. Upon completion of a document, those chosen to write will present their summary Statement to the people for review and comments. Then, after revision by the writers, at their prayerful discretion, a final document will be presented to the people and to the Lord for His approval or for His further direction to us.
Please come forward and join your vote with those who see the path forward with faith in the Redeemer to accomplish this light thing in unity and in accordance with the Lord’s direction to us. We invite you to unite and move forward with us to complete this task, which, if our hearts were right, would have been finished long ago according to the Lord. Our attempt at unity, peace and harmony among us will be as important as the document we finally bring to the Lord.
The opportunity to vote to move forward and appoint editors/writers by lots and present a statement of principles to our God, is drawing to a close. We have until midnight on Wednesday Nov. 8 , to vote. Please come forward and vote affirmatively if you feel persuaded by what has been put forth.
Please go here and vote before Wednesday Nov. 8, 12:00 am :
http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/time-for- vote.html

Comments

- LoriTaylor November 08, 2017

Are individuals able to vote more than once, from more than one device? How is that abuse being guarded against? What happens if the voting is not unanimous? Has anyone addressed the concerns of Jared Livesey, who has shared his disagreement, via a new offering, with all of this? I feel like things and people are being pushed

around/forward without any discussion rooted in love and compassion and sincere fellowship. Do we all even like each other? Or is that of no consequence?

This feels forced and filled with anxiousness to just "get the job done." It feels like some are trying to "persuade" by manipulation of words-"hundreds now." I am concerned for the not hundreds.

- TwoCents November 08, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TwoCents November 08, 2017

Please remove my name from the United Proposal. Had I known you were going to use this proposal to further support this casting lots proposal I wouldn't have signed my name to it. Thank-you, Quintina Adolpho

- Jay November 08, 2017

Where unanimity is the objective, it's not those who vote in agreement that let us know we have achieved it, but those opposed. If there are none opposed, then we have achieved mutual agreement.

There are dissenting voices who we may view as strong headed and judge as hindering our progress who to me are still precious. If we are to be equal their voice needs to be heard and considered (in content of the statement of principals, as well as the process on how we proceed) with as much weight as we would give others.

- Karen November 08, 2017

Lori,

Jared has some WONDERFUL perspectives. I've read everything he has written on this topic. I am grateful that this process allows for his document to be thoroughly considered by the seven. I trust that if we unite in faith, fasting, prayer and genuine love toward all involved, that the seven will be inspired to write what GOD desires. It may be up to us to get in tune with what GOD desires, rather than our own desires. I'm saying that to myself, too...not pointing fingers. I truly believe many of us have personal preferences that may need to be subjugated to God's will, and if we look to our own hearts to evaluate if our humility is genuine, I believe God can work with all of us together on this.

He can reveal His will to these seven, I know it. Perhaps the seven will be moved upon to even take Jared's document and say, "This is it." I am willing to put my trust in His ability to speak to those that He chooses through this process. I have now studied it out enough that I can see that lots have been used in some of the most significant of scriptural decisions, and will yet be used in Zion. There's a chapter in Nephi's Isaiah that talks about lots manifesting God's will, too, in addition to a 2010 blog post. The scriptures are replete with this. I marvel that He inspired the authors, Jim and James, to invite all those who have felt "called" of God to include their documents (including Jared and many others I personally know and love). This allows everyone to follow through with whatever personal revelations they had, while allowing God's ability to choose through lot to bring peace among us.

I'm sorry if it feels forced to you. You may not be aware, but there really has been a lot of

discussion. The establishment of this site, to allow people to share their feelings, ideas and suggestions was created after a group supporting the August 5th document were denied permission to express their ideas anywhere publicly, followed by something I wrote not being able to be shared either. I personally, have encouraged anyone I know who has had a suggestion, paper, or proposal to post here; even ideas completely opposite of mine. Many of us have spent hours on the phone or emailing, trying to talk with anyone we could, to find out what their perspectives were, and to find out what concerns they had. I personally emailed almost every single fellowship on the locator to inform them of all of this as soon as it was written up. It took hours and hours. (I think I missed 2 or 3)

The authors of this proposal did everything they did out of consideration of as many perspectives as they could possibly accommodate. I personally have fellowshipped extensively with, and love and consider as family, some of those that are not on board with this. There is no way that we can all "know" every single person in this movement when they aren't all identifiable, nor in proximity. But I can tell you that love, and trying to put ourselves in every person's shoes has been a true effort and desire. But in the end, if everything has been attempted to persuade, love and work to get 100% agreement, but still 90% of the people say they want to go North, and 3% say South, 6% say East and 1% say West...what do you do?

What do you do if you talk and talk and talk (in love and trying to accommodate and understand) and then the 1% that originally said they wanted to go West, now says the want to go South West? I'm being real here. This is what we've been dealing with for nearing 8 months.

continued in next comment.....

- Karen November 08, 2017

....continued from above

We may seem like we are just trying to get the job done, but it never should have been this difficult to begin with. Why is it that the 1%, the 3% and the 6% described above never ask themselves the questions you posed to those supporting this proposal? Why don't they ask themselves if they could stop where they are and consider accommodating and adjusting to what the 90% were saying? Do we not realize that among that 90% are VERY MANY people who have done just that. They've stopped, listened and tried to figure out how to unite and make something work. Enough people were willing to do that (listen to others), that eventually 90% got on the same page unitedly, out of LOVE for others.

Why is it that the smaller group always points to the larger group and accuses them of abuse and manipulation? I am not attacking in saying that. I am asking a genuine question to consider.

Do people not think that the 90% represent many individuals, with personal ideas and preferences that have conscientiously made the choice to lay down their pride, preferences and opinions in order to unite as a whole and do as God has asked? Why is evil attributed to them, or lack of love? At some point, there is agency, and the 90% cannot compel everyone to agree.

This may seem forced, but that is precisely why there's a vote. The vote acquires permission from the body. The vote is the mechanism whereby, after having communicated for months and months on this "light thing," we begin to move forward on

something with the consent of the people. Nothing said that there must be a unanimous decision on "moving forward" with something to produce a document. No one is forced to participate, but even those who oppose, are still welcome to submit their name for the lot. We really want the Lord to be able to choose from the entire movement. Perhaps Jared will be chosen if he submits his name. That would be wonderful, wouldn't it?

Well, I hope this response was taken in the honest effort it was of mine to genuinely answer your concerns. I wish that I had known who you were during this process so I could have reached out to you. It was my honest attempt and desire to personally speak with everyone I could. I hope you will join in supporting the document if the final result is something your heart can possibly accept as being inspired of the Lord. I also hope you will consider submitting names of those you feel should be involved in the lot.

Thanks for taking the time to read.

Karen Strong

- LynneMcKinley November 09, 2017

Karen, speaking for myself, but likely also for many others, thankyou sincerely for your time and effort and the evident love in all that you have attempted in this. You are an example to me of walking the Zion heart talk. If we had been able to respond in kindness to each other throughout the process, as you have done here, we would be much further along than we are. Gratitude for the opportunity to move forward.

- MaryCella November 09, 2017

Amen to your words, Karen. I look forward to a heavenly approach to moving forward.

- LoriTaylor November 09, 2017

Thank you so much Karen for your thoughtful response. You are a writer after my own heart. :) I suppose I should share a little about myself...

My husband and I are not part of a fellowship at the moment, neither are we active online. Christ had me get off social media a while back, so I have really felt out of all the loops, unless something happens to get posted on a blog or website, which is an issue we have been pleased to see addressed in some way through this blog site. We are still active in our local ward and love our friends and neighbors there, which is where Christ wants our focus to be for the foreseeable future. And we are grateful. It has been and continues to be quite the journey for us personally.

As far as the Restoration Scriptures and the GS are concerned, we have sincerely tried to follow, be aware, and participate. We accepted Jeff Savage's work, not knowing him or anyone else, without being bothered that it had been included without discussions or acceptance. Then we went along with what others came up with the next two times despite the fact our personal voices were never heard or represented. Then we did due diligence in the votings over the summer, finding ourselves aligned with the "majority." Through every new step we have tried our best to follow the Spirit and felt a wonderful joy and peace, though there seemed to be an ever growing frustration from others.

Then after the covenant conference, I discovered the three blog posts about a potential

idea/solution for creating a GS, and anticipated there would be discussion and feedback. But what happened was action. I was taken aback, but, again, participated because I naively thought it was the best/only option. (I am referring to the ComeServe site.) I quickly witnessed the challenge of many becoming united and realized the effort was not going to flower and bloom as hoped.

to be continued...

- LoriTaylor November 09, 2017

Something has changed or happened since the conference. I don't know exactly what it is. My husband and I do not have "a dog in this fight," to use a cliche. We have always been willing to get our hearts right with Spirit, even when it meant we did not agree with someone or something. We did not find ourselves in a "minority" until now. I care not for my own ideas or opinions. There are people here much smarter, wiser, and more capable than I am. My concern is about how there is no foundation of understanding, kindness, compassion, meekness, humility, or even friendship under-girding this whole process. It feels like an "If you're not with us, you're against us" type of false dichotomy atmosphere. What will that mean for the future? If this is just a first task, how prepared are we truly for more challenges as a people?

I am focused upon those who maybe are feeling completely left out or ignored at this point. Are they not important? Are they the problem, or a sign of a problem? Is this whole process not important enough to pause? Are we not important enough to one another to pause? Is this how we love, serve, and guide within our families?

Christ did not give us a deadline. He only stated that once it is accomplished, put it in the scriptures, correct? Perhaps His timing has sufficient mercy and temperance that if we take a year or 20 years (:O) "it is enough." I could be wrong about that and this all needs to be done, done, done already.

And for the general record, my husband and I liked the idea of forming a temporary committee for this task. We liked the idea of casting lots and recognize it has been used in scripture with success. We questioned using seven, however, feeling nine or twelve would be better, including larger multiples. But that was not an option to discuss, apparently. We also felt it would be good to have an equal number of men and women, husbands and wives preferable but even numbers being the goal. So, if there are nine men, there would be nine women. Or, if seven is used, there are seven men and seven women.

See, we are not all that disagreeable as it may seem. I simply feel a need to be voice for those who might be feeling disenfranchised by this whole process. It does not feel okay or right to me given what this task is supposed to teach us. I apologize sincerely if it is felt I am a pain in everyone's arse. I do not mean to be, but also must express what my heart sees.

I will continue to pray for those who press forward. I genuinely care about each person, whether I have a name and face with it or not. May God continue to watch over us all, and may we be willing to learn His meekness, which is an overwhelming gift to experience.

- Karen November 09, 2017

Lori,

Thank you so much for sharing more about who you are and your feelings. I really appreciate. I think you and I are more in line with how we have been/thought through this whole thing than you may realize.

I, too, was happy and supportive of the original (our entire fellowship unitedly supported it). Like you, I didn't know Jeff Savage. I met him finally in Boise. I was supportive of the June document, too. I supported the August document, watched the entire event via live video and literally cheered when they unanimously voted for it.

Like you, I wanted to be a team player, so much so, that even though I was extremely disappointed that the August document never got taken to the Lord after having unanimous agreement by all the representatives that attended the August meeting; I still signed up to participate in the Come Serve effort. It was a few days after I signed up that my conscience got to me on two aspects of that, which I subsequently wrote about. Part of it was because I was feeling badly for all those who were then feeling baffled at what had happened to all the work on the previous efforts, and were feeling brushed under the rug.

Like you, one of the things I did not like was that we never got the actual agreement from the covenant body (a majority vote to proceed...not the adopt by mutual agreement portion...just the permission to proceed) with that effort. It seemed to move forward, even though at least half the body was still wondering why the previous documents never went to the Lord as expected. I voiced this concern after hearing that many others were feeling the same, but did not have a voice to express it. So I completely relate to everything you expressed about caring about people who feel "unheard" and "unappreciated." This current effort, actually stems from that very concern. That's why everyone is invited to participate, after first getting permission to proceed.

Like you, I don't have a dog in the fight either, I've been supportive until Come Serve, but then removed from public view the only "dog in the fight" I had after the October 7th meeting, in an effort to show my good faith desires to work with any and everyone to make this work.

This proposal was not my idea, but when I read it, I felt it to be inspired. It also united many people who had become at odds. For example, as stated, I had spoken against Come Serve. Those authors had every reason to feel anger toward me because of that. But look what has happened, this proposal united all of us. We found agreement. I was very hopeful that such bridging of differences could happen throughout the entire movement. We have found forgiveness for offenses, real or just perceived, and I believed such healing could take place among everyone if they would allow it.

continued next comment.....

- Karen November 09, 2017

....continued from above

As for the number chosen: I can see why you would feel 9, 12 or 24 may be better. There was discussion with many people. Interestingly, some people actually felt 7 was too many. Some felt 3 was more than sufficient, or 5 at the most, and that anything more than that was "too many cooks in the kitchen," so to speak. You may like to know that 9, 10 and 12 were also considered. To my knowledge it was never discussed having equal men and women, but I like that idea and can see why that has merit. Some told us they didn't like there to be any restrictions on male/female, age, or having taken the covenant, and felt we were limiting God with contrived parameters. Some like an even number, and others said they preferred odd because as the "selected" people

work through the process there may be moments where they need to break a dead-lock and could do it through vote amongst themselves on how to move forward on something. (And that came from talking to some who had received counsel from Denver in another setting where certain internal decisions, that weren't spelled out with specific instructions, were counseled to be made by majority vote). You can begin to see how complex it gets. Everyone having different ideas, each having pros and cons.

I could go with just about any number recommended. In the end; seven was chosen. I was liked that choice and felt no reason to push the matter with further debate since 7 is a beautiful number that specifically corresponds with CHRIST. It means "complete." It is the number of rungs on Jacob's ladder in our eternal progression to tread the same path He has. I felt it appropriate. To me it meant the Lord would be choosing a "complete" representation of HIS covenant body to do this work; all connected to Christ, the true vine. (BTW, this is why the talk by Denver on Christ was the 7th talk.) It's HIS number. And this is HIS work. I therefore, felt peace when that was the decided upon number. We're also asked to forgive 7 x 70. (completely and as often as required) I thought this also appropriate, as it is forgiveness of one another's weaknesses that we need most right now.

I so appreciate talking with you, Lori. I hope that everything I have said comes across in love and kindness. I am very weak. Very flawed. I have much to improve in my personality and much to still repent of. I sincerely seek to try to understand and love each person in this movement with their various strengths and weaknesses, too. I pray that you will forgive those of us who have advanced this proposal if it has offended your spirit in any way. I also hope that those who have found it "not their favorite", perhaps might be willing to consider the document that comes from the effort and have the same sort of mercy for the weakness in writing that may be evident in it; as the BofM authors asked for mercy to be given them for their weakness in writing. I hope we will all try to approach what is presented to us with as much mercy and grace as the Lord would like us to give if, and unite upon this if it is at all possible. I believe the seven will need all the united faith and prayers that we can all muster. I believe that if we will allow ourselves to fall on our knees in true prayer on their behalf, that the Lord will work miracles in each of our individual hearts in the process, and perhaps in 10 days we can have such a change in our own hearts that we have a document that truly bridges the divide.

Karen Strong

- LoriTaylor November 10, 2017

Oh, you did not have to take the time to respond, Karen. I appreciate your willingness and sacrifice in time to do so.

I do agree with all you said about the beauty and significance of the number seven, and am pleased to learn there was discussion about it. For whatever reason, I simply felt a different one would be better. But no matter.

There is so much I could say, yet the time for talking has come to an end and I would not dare impose upon anyone's time further. I wish you all well on this endeavor and simply pray that those who feel marginalized can find a measure of peace. One may feel like he/she has kicked a puppy at this point, and I pray others will try hard to understand that some matters of the heart are not so easily ignored, neither should they be. There are individuals who feel equally inspired by their opposing ideas. God bless, and thank you for your kind words. You have a beautiful heart.

- Karen November 10, 2017

Thank you, Lori. I appreciate you sharing and discussing kindly with me. I share your same prayer for those who have felt marginalized in any way over the last 8 months.

I also pray that a small miracle may happen with whomever the Lord chooses. I have this hope that perhaps He may even bring together seven who have not seen eye to eye up to this point,(including some of those who feel marginalized)... allowing someone from all the various perspectives we've had in the movement to work through this, with His spirit guiding them, and healing the group misunderstandings and wounds through the differing viewpoints working together to write a document agreeable to all. Wouldn't that be an amazing miracle! I can only hope, even though it may seem like a pipe dream to some. I'm pretty simple in my faith, I guess. LOL Anyway, thanks for allowing me to interact with you just this little bit. I enjoyed getting to know just a small part of you. I hope to be able to meet you someday. Karen

Voting Results and Next Steps

Thursday, November 09, 2017

Jim O'Rullian, James Fargo:
Thanks to all who have taken the time to let your voice be heard over the past few days concerning the lots proposal. The voting is now closed and the results are as follows:
Number (%) of initial visitors who have entered the covenant: 436/470 (92.8%) Number (%) of voters failing to cast votes: 39/470 (8.3%) Number (%) of votes from covenant holders: 436/437 (99.8%)
Number (%) of YES votes: 380/437 (87.0%) Number (%) of NO votes: 57/437 (13.0%)
For complete results, click here .
With a significant majority in support of the proposal to use lots to assemble a body of 7 to compile a Statement of Principles, we would like to proceed according to the proposed schedule and begin the process of name and document submission to the Central Recorder.
Please visit the Recorder's Clearinghouse website for complete information on the next steps in this process (information should appear shortly).

We would like to again express our gratitude for your permission to carry out the proposed process and take this opportunity to address an issue that was raised several times during the voting period…

QUESTION: Why will there be no vote by the main body BEFORE the Statement of Principles is presented to the Lord? What if I disagree with it?

First, the process we have proposed is very similar to what was accomplished with the RE scriptures that were submitted to the Lord for His revision and approval BEFORE we stood as a body of believers to sustain and adopt them as our standard works.

While laboring to recover the scriptures, the scripture committee:

- labored with materials they were provided.
- collected the voice of the people to help direct, inform, and inspire their work on

what to include or exclude.
- relied on the faith and trust of the main body of believers as they prepared their work for submission to the Lord with the expectation that He would revise/add/subtract anything that was necessary.
- following submission and acceptance from the Lord, the main body then stood to sustain and adopt the work.

The same pattern will be followed with the Statement of Principles: prepare, submit, sustain and then adopt.

Second, what we are now proposing is that we are coming together as a body of people with mutual agreement on two very basic things:

- The Doctrine of Christ
- The Law of Christ

Furthermore, because we have had such difficulty finding mutually agreeable words for describing the principles of fellowship (designed to guide, bless, and benefit those who are unfamiliar with this form of worship), we have asked that the body of 7 adhere to the criteria outlined in the United Proposal to complete this portion.

To be clear, we do not intend to take anything to the Lord that does not enjoy the support of the vast majority of believers. In other words, while there will always be some who are unhappy with this word or that, if there is something drastically wrong with the document that a large portion of believers cannot accept, then further revision would be necessary. What we do not want is endless debate, discussion, and contention over things that ought to be decided within individual fellowships as situations and circumstances dictate. Therefore, we anticipate that the Statement of Principles will be specific on the Doctrine and Law of Christ and broad/brief on the guide for fellowships. With this, we have every reason to expect that the Lord will indeed accept our submission and make any corrections that are necessary before adoption.

Finally, those of us who have worked on this proposal have a profound sense of respect, love, and understanding for those who have expressed opposition to it. They have valid arguments and solid reasons for why they feel as they do.

At this time, we humbly ask that all please join with their neighbors and friends who are in support of this process and consider submitting names and documents to the central recorder. Let's give this our best shot at success and see what the Lord has in store for us. We may fail, but then again, it is just possible that we may all be pleasantly surprised by the outcome. We realize that the drawing of lots is not the ONLY way to work together on a statement of principles, however, it appears to be a very peaceable way to proceed and has been used by the Lord throughout time. The idea to proceed in this manner was conceived in love and good intent by many people. Please pray for and be kind to those who will be called to serve the main body in this capacity; pray that they may find the temperament and the words necessary to complete the assignment in a way that we may all recognize and respect and rejoice over, guided by the Spirit of the Lord; that they will labor with the understanding that "how (we) proceed must be as noble as the cause (we) seek". It is our sincere and deepest wish that through the accomplishment of this task that bruised and wounded hearts may be healed and that we can love one another.

Again, please visit the Recorder's Clearinghouse website for complete information on the next steps in this process.

Comments

- Log — November 09, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 09, 2017

That the law of witnesses may be fulfilled, I publicly dissent from this proposal, both in method and in content. The reasons are explained here: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/authors-essay-in-support-of-rock-of.html

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor — November 09, 2017

Oh my. Well, I guess I will bow out of this process at this point as gracefully as possible since I now see that it was always the intention of others to move forward in a majority without doing the hard work of discussing, establishing bridges of understanding, and the like. My heart hurts for the disconnections that are so apparent. But I understand the desire to do something. I wish you all love and light on this journey. It is an amazing time to witness. May God continue to be willing to condescend to teach, help, and bless us all. Our God is so very Good.

- Robynn — November 10, 2017

Why bow out? Why not participate in the continued process? Instead of gathering up your toys and going home, why not continue to work within the choice of the masses have decreed?

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- Log — November 10, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 10, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 10, 2017

Mutual agreement is not majority rules. Rolling dice or drawing lots to see who shall prevail, thus avoiding the requirement of coming to mutual agreement which comes through wisdom and kindness and love unfeigned and pure knowledge and longsuffering and reasoning together, is not what the Lord commanded.

- LoriTaylor — November 10, 2017

Thank you for reaching out, Robynn. No, this feels the correct path for me at this point. I

wish you all well and do not doubt the sincerity and desire that moves everyone else onward. God bless.

- TwoCents November 10, 2017

Part 1
It seems, based on what others have told me and what has been written, that there are some who believe that I'm totally against lots. I want to make it clear, that I am not. I believe in such gifts and believe these gifts can come from God. I believe God can give man accoutrements to help them on their journey back to Him. The Blackfoot people have these types of gifts given to them. We have what we call the Holy Hand Games. At this ceremony, they gather as a people/society, and accoutrements are used by individuals to practice and show the power they have obtained on their individual journey studying and searching- making an individual connection to our Creator. The individual who puts this ceremony on, has done the work to get closer to our creator and when he or she feels like they have reached a certain point in their understanding they practice, using these gifts, what they learned, as a way to test their faith-their power. They continually practice until they feel sufficiently prepared to utilize the accoutrement amongst the people.

I haven't practiced with lots before and don't believe this is a gift that was given to me by our Creator. You may have been given this gift. I'm ok with that and I can respect that. Is it ok that I have a different understanding? I haven't been persuaded to believe that lots should be used for me. Some may think this is faithless, I don't. This whole GS experience has taught me: I don't need a man to call me to the work, I need God to call me. It is only through our Savior, Jesus Christ my salvation will occur; therefore, I only answer to Him and not man. I have to do what I'm being directed to do. If you feel directed to go in this direction, do that. You only answer to Him. This is our Creators work and He is doing the calling, not me and not you. God speaks to us in our understanding. Just like he did with Gideon.

As Denver stated in Preserving the Restoration chapter: "No corporate church organization, or man claiming authority should hijack your obedience to God. You are accountable to Him. You are accountable only to Him, and not to me or any other man. When Joseph wanted to know his state and standing before God, he asked God.55 It is to God alone that you must answer and it is to God you must be grateful. Only before Him must you be humble.

- TwoCents November 10, 2017

Part 2
You can believe that my husband and I are trying to be ambitious, evil, hard hearted, etc., because we disagree or have a different understanding or for whatever other reason there is, that's ok. We have only tried to share our understanding and perspective. If you felt like we were trying to force you, then I apologize that was never our intentions. Our intentions are not to stop your progression, I'm sorry if it came off as that. If you feel you need to move forward without us, then so be it. That would really suck, but I don't want others to feel like we have stopped the "majority" from moving forward because we have a different understanding or way of looking at things. (I really hate making a group apology because I don't believe it is sincere- but I don't exactly know who we offended, I have only heard the gossip: "somebody said something" or "this is what people are saying about you"-But I'm trying to be sincere).

My salvation will only come through our Savior Jesus Christ. It is Him I need to answer to. Some may say, "you acted poorly." I agree, we remnant people have weaknesses

just like the Gentile nation- we just may have different weaknesses than you.

Denver also stated: So ask yourself, what can remain pure? Even here, in this awful world, what can remain pure? There are three things that can remain absolutely unmolested and uncorrupted: the truth, which is fixed and cannot be touched by us. God's love, which is free and available to all. Neither the truth nor God's love requires effort on our part. The third thing that can remain pure here is our desires. That, however, requires effort. Nevertheless, it is possible that perfection can touch each of us, if we have the right desires. The fact is, however, we all have weaknesses, we all need rest, we all need food, and we all wear down. There are things that trouble each one of us. Even your desires are going to be better than you are. At least I hope they are.

I know some of the "minority" and to me they have good hearts. They may have weaknesses but don't we all. If the voice of the Lord told you to accept the original, August 5 etc., then stand firm and do that, but I ask that you respect my revelation. I ask you to be patient with me, as I may need more refining than you. I ask that you believe that I too can hear the voice of the Lord. He knows what each of us needs to be refined. Although, we may have different revelations I know He can unite us, if we are seeking to do what the Lord commands and not man. We can learn a lot from Christ's visitation to America- He is trying to do a great and marvelous work in our day.

Q Bearchief-Adolpho

- LynneMcKinley November 10, 2017

May God bless you dear Q and Rob, full to overflowing in your sacred mission, and in your movement towards unity with our Creator. May we sit down as friends, in a circle, with a view of The Temple in New Jerusalem as we laugh together after He has dried all tears.

- Jay November 11, 2017

Before Keith proceeds with drawing of lots tomorrow, is it fair for me to ask the following question be answered?

Can anyone show me in scripture any example where lots were used, where all parties involved were not in mutual agreement? Anywhere you see lots used it's always mutual, everyone agrees to the use of lots to solve the dispute. Otherwise, how can the process be trusted? The reason it works is because all parties agree that this method will settle the dispute. If any one party does not agree that the casting of lots will settle the dispute, then how can any other party expect the dispute is settled by casting the lot?

I believe the faith necessary for the process of casting lots to work requires mutual agreement between all parties involved.

Please understand, I am not trying to be critical of what has been proposed and agreed to by the majority. What if those who have voiced dissenting concerns honestly do not seek to offend?

In late September I was encouraged when Adrian Larsen and Jeff Savage spearheaded a path forward with the "comeserve" approach. I'm grateful that in the sincerity of their hearts they felt motivated to move forward with an idea and take some action where the rest of us were still sitting stagnate. Their actions were a catalyst to stir the body of

fellowships to action. Their actions were necessary and served a purpose in helping us move forward one more step toward unity. The result of their effort did not achieve the intended result. This does not mean it was a failure. Without it we would not have learned from the effort to bring us knowledge and wisdom we now possess through that effort.

I embraced with the same eagerness when Steve Vanleer encouraged us to support the Proposal on How to Move Forward Using Lots. I'm grateful that in the sincerity of their hearts those who labored in this effort felt motivated to move forward with an idea and take some action where the rest of us were still sitting stagnate. Their actions have been a catalyst to stir the body of fellowships to action. Their actions were necessary and serve a purpose in helping us move forward one more step toward unity.

The dissenting voices among us are not about pointing fingers, finding fault, and hindering our progress. They are indicating that despite our best efforts to move forward, there appears to be something amiss. Are we willing to pause and accept criticism and correction along the way? Can we pause the current process long enough to reason together and find common unity among ourselves before proceeding to impose a majority mindset upon a minority who are still precious to us?

- TheBishopsWife November 12, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TheBishopsWife November 12, 2017

Part 1: I am grateful for all of the efforts that have been put forth as a way to accomplish this task. I think it would be wonderful if everyone agreed to one way to accomplish this task before we moved forward, but with the constraints of distance and the communication of ideas and concepts being limited due to lack of face to face interaction, I am truly not sure how any single idea could achieve unanimity.

The definition of mutual agreement does not mean that everyone is happy about the proposal nor that they believe the proposal. It simply means that they are willing to live by the proposal or consent to it. For instance take a dating couple. The woman decides that she no longer loves the man and wants to break up, the man may still love her, he may not agree with her decision or believe in her choice or even understand why she feels the way she does, but he consents to allow her to break up with him. They mutually agree to end the relationship and it is ended even though they do not share the same understanding, nor are in agreement with the reason.

Nowhere in scripture can I find that there was unanimity before lots were cast. In the case of Lehi's sons it simply states that they consulted with one another then drew lots. It is entirely possible that they each had their own idea on how to accomplish the task and that a majority of them decided to cast lots to determine which one would carry out a plan. What if we do not agree with, or understand the use of lots, but we are willing to lay aside our own desires in order for the majority to be able to move forward with producing a document. In the case of the Restoration Scripture project many things that the committee implemented into the scriptures had barely a 51% consenting vote, yet they implemented those ideas anyway.

The covenant was extended and was not unanimously accepted even though Christ loves ALL of His children and desires that they all enter into His covenant. There were and still are people who did not understand it nor believe in it. Yet, the Lord still extended it; He did not wait for all of us to understand it, agree with it, or even desire it.

- TheBishopsWife November 12, 2017

Part 2: With so many ideas and proposals on how to accomplish the task of writing a statement of principles, with so many wounded hearts, with so many who do not trust others because of lies, manipulations or mistreatment throughout this process, I can see the good intent behind the proposal on lots. This proposal allows all of those who feel called to submit their names to the pool of nominees. This proposal allows all of those who have labored over creating/writing/compiling a document to submit their document for source material/consideration/guidance to the group who will write the document. This proposal reaches out to and asks all to be part of this process. I have heard people who are so excited because they had spent the past few days praying and asking the Lord who they should nominate. As names came to them they felt the love for each of these people. Not everyone accepted the nomination, but were touched that they had been thought of. I have heard several young couples state how they felt about being nominated. Previous to this proposal these young people had been feeling overlooked and unwanted, that they had no voice among the people. Now they feel wanted, involved and invested. A 21 year old young girl asked some people when they were going to start their fast so that the Lord's will is done when the lots are drawn. A 17 year old young man was going to vote no to the proposal because he is worried that dominating bullies will get chosen who will want to push their own agenda, but he decided to vote yes and to trust that God will choose those who can work together peaceably.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

Let this to be the time to heal; let this be the time to lay down our differences; let this be the time to love; let this be the time of peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons/daughters of God.

- Jay November 12, 2017

Part 1
I recived an answer to my question, to which I responded:

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my concerns. I hope you understand that it is never my intent to be argumentative. I appreciate your willingness for us to reason together.

I appreciate you addressing the question of unanimity where lots were employed in the scriptures. I don't know as I've tried to contemplate the philosophical back and forth of what it means to "mutually agree". In the context of my question I defined it as "everyone agrees to the use of lots to solve the dispute." I did not base my conclusion on scriptural examples, but on the logic that to my mind suggests, that in order for the process to work it stands to reason that all using the method would naturally agree that whatever the outcome of the casting of lots, all would agree to it. [Hence phrases like "The lot causeth contentions to cease" (Prov 18:18) and "the die is cast" (referring to casting of dice and meaning point of no return)]. In our situation, by this logic I suppose this means

that the 380 majority is what now constitutes the unity of those who are agreeing to the outcome of the casting of lots. However, if the purpose of casting the lot is to "put and end to strife", I don't understand how separating bodies into a majority and a minority (with only one of them employing the use of lots to resolve their dispute) fully serves this purpose. I know of no example where the extra step of a vote was employed to determine who would agree to the use of lots to settle a dispute, but it's possible we are not the first. (I apologize if this sounds wordy - I'm kinda thinking out loud as I compose this)

I'm not attacking what you have done in your efforts to move forward with this plan. I know it has involved many hours of prayerful discussion and I honor those efforts. I'm just trying to look at what we are learning through this process.

You brought up the opposing voices in the council in heaven and concluded that "there is going to be opposing voices, always". But is that to be the case in Zion where we are of one heart and one mind, dwelling in righteousness with no poor among us? What if the first step to get there requires learning what it means to be of one heart and one mind?

I'm reminded of this quote from Denver Snuffer, "Tolerance requires disagreement. Insisting on agreement is not tolerance, but it's opposite". Does tolerance have a place among a people united in Christ?

Apparently as we seek to become one people who "must equally walk truly in [Christ's] path" (A&C pg 3) and "come together by precept, reason and persuasion", we are told by Christ, "For you to unite I must admonish and instruct you". (ibid) Does this mean that there will still be disagreement among us? Can we disagree without disputations that cause anger? Is there a difference between the kind of opposition where we can disagree without disputations, and a kind of opposition that causes anger and contention? As it relates to a people seeking to become Zion, when you say "there is going to be opposing voices, always", does this refer to the the kind of opposition filled with anger and strife, or the kind of opposition that arises with the inevitable disagreements among those seeking to come together by precept, reason and persuasion?

- Jay November 12, 2017

Part 2
Is imposing an agenda in an effort to move forward "in haste" by a majority vote (presumably to meet a printing deadline), introducing a source of tension to what we are trying to achieve? You may argue that the proposal to move forward by lots is not imposing an agenda, and you may be right, but the point is that there are those who feel that it is. In the rush to gather a vote and move forward, has sufficient time been given to those who feel their voice is being ignored? What about time needed for those trying to evaluate and process what is going on?

Is the use of lots to form a committee the only way lots can be used to settle the dispute over selecting a G&S? If we want to use use lots to settle the matter of a G&S, why add the extra step of a vote?

Someone with a user name of "sara" posted what I thought was a simple way to use lots that does not involve using a committee in the comments of this thread: https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-on-proposal-using-lots-call-for.html#comment-form

Quintina, who has voiced dissent to the use of lots for creating a committee, has given a

suggestion using lots to select an individual to write it. Has that possibility been considered?

If given a chance, is it possible we could unite on using lots in some other way? How can that be done without using a majority/minority vote? Have we considered what that might look like? Can Christ admonish and instruct us on this?

Christ has told us "How you proceed must be as noble as the cause you seek." (A&C) How noble is way we have proceeded through the process of campaigning and voting for this proposal to use lots?

Lori Taylor observed in a comment, “It feels like some are trying to "persuade" by manipulation of words-"hundreds now." I am concerned for the not hundreds.”

Take note of the wording used in the vote. The second question of the vote reads: “I both support this process and agree with letting the group of seven produce a statement of principles, according to the given criteria, to be presented to the body of believers and to the Lord. (A NO vote would mean I do not support this process at this time, but reserve the right to accept the outcome of the process if I find it acceptable.)”

In other words, a NO vote is to support that even if I disagree with the process, I'm still voting to agree that the end justifies the means. It was because of this and other reasons I chose not to vote. To me this felt like subtle manipulation (even though I'm sure such motivation was unintentional).

I don't know the answers. But I know someone who does. How can we allow Him to admonish and instruct us as we move forward? He tells us in his Answer, "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part." I'm sure you have done this as you worked together in putting together your proposal to move forward using lots. Have we prayed together in humility and together meekly presented our disputes with the issues that are surfacing now?

The rushed nature and tight deadline that this "proposal to move forward using lots" imposes on us makes me question if we are acting too much "in haste".

Thank you for giving ear to my concerns.

God bless all of us as we seek to "come together by precept, reason and persuasion", is my prayer.

- James November 12, 2017

The form to submit a Statement of Principles as well as names for the drawing of lots remains open until 7pm MST tonight (Sunday, Nov. 12, 2017): https://centralrecorder.wufoo.com/forms/submitting-names-documents-for-the-lots-proposal/

- LoriTaylor November 12, 2017

My intention here is not to cause harm. I simply hope to encourage us all to think about what we are doing and why. Is there anyone who believes this task is more important to Christ (and us as a whole) than a single individual?

I am in need of understanding on some issues.

I have spent the last few days diligently reading, re-reading, praying, working through my frustrations and concerns to comprehend what my part is, what His part is, and basically what is going on.

1. Mutual agreement, as Christ used it in His Answer, simply means a majority controls? I feel like this is not even well-understood. It seems like sometimes it is used to say we don't have to agree on exact words, while others say we don't even need to agree at all. If you find yourself an outlier, yield and bend. But there is a warning that comes with this way of choosing in the Book of Mormon.

And what of the need for hearing contrary voices? I feel, and know within myself it is also true, that we struggle as a people to know how to engage in healthy debates and arguments. This is particularly true for those of us coming from an LDS background. The status quo is to not question, which shows doubts and contentions. Accept what the few say is to be. If the Constitution had to be composed today, would it be accomplished?

I took Christ to mean we all agree. 100%. And that is the way in which I am approaching this. I am willing to hear, listen, share, hear some more, listen some more, share some more, until we are all in agreement. Is this not what has been demonstrated in the Book of Mormon when a group of people speak with one voice? I want that, and hope everyone else does as well. I believe it is possible, for with Christ nothing is impossible.

2. From the Recorder's Clearinghouse, the criteria for those nominated:
* At least 18 years of age;
* (Re)baptized and baptism recorded with the Central Recorder;
* Entered into the recent covenant;
* Agree to perform your labor according to the criteria of composing the Statement of Principles using primarily the words of Christ directly or through an authorized servant (as described in the United Proposal).

Were there age restrictions placed on those who voted, i.e. only those who are 18 or older could vote? If not, then why are we placing an age restriction on those who can be nominated to create the statement? I would think an individual old enough to ponder, study, pray, and discern an answer about which way to vote is also capable of doing so as part of a group to create the statement. In fact, younger people might be far better at doing so because we old(er) peoples may struggle more to overcome our own ideas and opinions at times. In other words, they may lack the issue of pride and baggage of doubt that tends to come with age.

3. Central Recorder receives names.
Central Recorder draws names.
Central Recorder verifies worthiness/right to participate.
Central Recorder collects documents and disperses them out.

When did it happen that one person was asked to take this on? Who was involved in deciding this? This is beginning to be a re-current thing for me. I feel like there is a pre-committee to the committee, and only a few get to participate in even deciding who is on the pre-committee. A few (a minority!) get to decide some things, then a campaign is waged before a vote, and the losing side is encouraged to dutifully accept the outcome, because otherwise you are a disrupter/disputer/contention-causer? Sounds a lot like the American election process. Is this as good as it is going to get? This is all any of us can hope for? We won't be any different than the world? If we won't work for unity now, then when?

Is the book the Central Recorder is keeping supposed to be used for background checks? Is not this the same book being kept for the future temple? Is checking names

against it in keeping with its noble nature? I admit I am appalled by the idea.

Should not the nominations of two or three witnesses be sufficient for an individual's worthiness to participate?

to be cont'd

- LoriTaylor November 12, 2017

4. There is much I am seeing that reminds me of what I have seen and experienced as a woman in the LDS church—handbooks, standards, rules, regulations, and scripts for how to do everything. Perhaps some have had concerns the statement will devolve into such, and that is where so much angst has come from. But I cannot help but feel like since September, there are restrictions and rules in abundance. I think people are trying to allay concerns, protect the integrity of the process, and promote a sense of confidence in the process, but….it seems we need a statement for the statement before the statement. Hence why we all tire of talking/writing/reading. I am sorry to add to it all.

I also have concern that we are thinking a bit too highly of ourselves, calling ourselves the "covenant people" and such. There is nothing special about me that caused Christ to offer me this opportunity. He did it because of the Fathers, who have proven themselves worthy and full of faith in Christ. I am still in training, and grateful to be so. I don't ever want to elevate myself, even through the use of vain labels. In some ways the proposals sound filled with legal-speak to my ears. No offense intended.

5. Is it required by Christ to present the statement to Him for approval and acceptance before it is put in the scriptures? Who is going to do that? Denver? Or each of us, and then we accept unitedly? I did not understand involving Denver to be a requirement from His Answer, so if I missed it please help me understand why it is felt to be a necessary step. I am concerned doing it the way it is outlined runs the risk of making someone look/feel like they are against Christ if they never support it.

If it is understood Denver will be asked, I feel unwilling and cannot with a clear conscience and light-heart agree to ask Denver to present anything to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ that comes out of this process as it now stands. I am not even certain Denver is supposed to be "used." Are we so unsure of ourselves and our personal relationship with Christ that we have to "use" Denver? If we are feeling a desire to obtain further answers, why are we not asking Him now ourselves? It does appear we have great trust and faith in Denver and his relationship with Christ, but not so much for ourselves.

6. Is the timeline for publishing the scriptures project driving this process? Should that be? I have never felt or understood Christ required that, though I understand we would naturally want it so. But with more revelations to be forthcoming, perhaps there is room to suggest a statement can be added later? I imagine I am completely alone in that thinking, not to mention ignorant of the publishing process overall.

to be cont'd yet again (sorry!)

- LoriTaylor November 12, 2017

I am concerned by things that appear to show a general lack of faith and trust in one another. I am concerned that we do not have sufficient hope and faith in ourselves and each other to do what Christ asks. Do we not have faith in and trust one another to do what is right before Him?

I trust each of you and believe that we can do this, and that we do not need to settle with a majority or put in place redundancies and policies to ensure a statement of principles is created in a short time-frame. I believe we can come to a full agreement. I am willing to learn how.

I know my Saviour Jesus Christ is faithful. I know He is compassionate and full of grace and all truth. I have tasted of His love for me and for all others. I know He does not set up anyone to fail. I believe the words of Nephi: Christ the Lord does not give a commandment without also preparing a way in all things for it to be fulfilled. (And speaking of Nephi, the use of lots, according to his record, did not result in accomplishing the commandment to obtain the plates of brass. Nephi wound up doing it on his own because his brothers lacked the faith to proceed. I feel to learn something from that.)

I hope this is received in the spirit by which it is offered—love and faith. I care. Genuinely and sincerely. I don't want us to settle, not when it is Christ the Lord we worship and follow and seek. He is our God! I want to open my heart completely to Him, accept His correction as needed and learn from His great wisdom how to accomplish this wonderful task. My heart trembles to contemplate all I can learn through this experience underway. I am eager. He did not have to require this of us. But He can foresee what is going to be needed of the people who want to be called His, and Wisdom directed this to be required of us because we will learn, our hearts will grow, and we will know Him better. I am willing to do the hard work necessary to understand your individual hearts, and to learn from you—for I am in great need of being taught.

God bless,
Lori

- JimORullian November 12, 2017

Hi Lori. I have really appreciated listening to your perspective this past week. There is always more than one way to look at something and never any harm done in discussing all possibilities.

I doubt that I would have many good answers for you but I would just like to say that I have really felt the Lord's assistance as we have labored to bring the current proposal forward. It's certainly not perfect nor the only way it can be done, but it seems like a very practical approach to a common problem which does have extensive scriptural basis.

But perhaps more importantly, I really think the Lord is just pleased when we are all supportive and agreeable with one another regardless of what we are doing. He knows there are many ways to skin a cat, so to speak, and probably really doesn't care which way we do it so long as we do it peacefully. Sometimes things go our own way and sometimes they don't but I think the Lord pays close attention to how we behave on that second one.

Listening to the overall tone of the Lord's Answer really helped me to zero in on what I think He cares about the most with respect to his children….that being our love and respect for one another.

So maybe I am just being naïve and simplistic, but I really feel like the Lord has been pleased with our efforts of late because I have seen opposing viewpoints start to converge with kinder words being expressed. There is an order of magnitude better feelings of good will that seems to have permeated our discussions.

That being said, let’s all throw in together for a moment and see where this may go regardless of whether or not we have all the answers on the front end. Let’s learn by experience whether this method of cooperation has utility for us as a people going forward.

- BretNaylor November 12, 2017

I find it very ironic that the 91% vote was discarded because we didn't have 100%. Now we have an 87% vote for lots to choose the guide. Seems like we are going backwards. I would prefer a straight up vote to casting of lots. I am not signing out by posting this comment even though the button says "sign out". I am just sharing my concerns.

- HuhWhatda November 12, 2017

Lori,

I am writing to you to let you know that there are more who mirror a similar opinion as yourself against the process at hand. People see what they want to see, and hear what they want to hear. What Jim sees as converging is merely people being agreeable. I for one am not hear because I was agreeable. I'm hear because I heard the voice of the Lord spoken, not only by Denver, but in revelations expanded upon by others. I see the whole lots casting experience of Nephi as you do, as an expression of little faith, and not more faith. It was the voice of the Lord that led Nephi acting in faith to cut off the head of Laban. It's the Lord who will establish Zion, not Denver, and not a committee called by lots.

What I have learned is that in this new movement, people gang up to manage perceptions, like a campaign effort. The poles are obviously pointing a positive light on the casting of lots, and if someone knew nothing of the similar efforts that has happened with Jeff Savage's efforts, they might be fooled into thinking that the poles govern. That would be wrong. If this is Zion, Christ governs, and the poles are man's efforts to use a little authority as they suppose to exercise unrighteous dominion, convincing others to think as they do.

I would advise you not get caught in the trap, thinking that you will lose a covenant for not going with the masses. Knowing of Christ's correct attributes, perfections, and characteristics has helped you see that it was the voice of the Lord that produced the plates for Nephi, and not the casting of lots. To know that the path you are on is acceptable to God requires knowledge, ...not a best guess, like the proposal before us here. To them, it is a matter of how good they feel about less opposing words, asking us just to see where it will lead us, regardless of whether or not we have all the answers on the front end. It is a matter of doubt and uncertainty. And where doubt and uncertainty are, there faith cannot be.

Jim's invitation to learn by experience by cooperation doesn't inspire my faith. If cooperation was my method of exercising faith, I'd still be going to church, conforming to my bishop. To me, faith relies wholly upon knowing Christ, and that the path you are on is acceptable to Him.

I have found interest in a different direction, to keep working towards. It is where Joseph Smith left off, in the King Follet Discourse, from his last conference address. Rather than starting with a reformation of the restoration, the King Follet Discourse starts right out with the big picture: God was once like you, but was exalted and sits on thrones in yonder heavens. You must become Gods. Joseph left the saints with THAT. That's where he was headed, but the saints were darkened in their minds, and fell to pieces

like glass when taught something new that went against their traditions.

The effort might not get a popular vote, like the lots committee. But I hear the voice of the Lord in that effort for sure, so I'll turn my attention there, rather than participating in this effort.

- HuhWhatda November 12, 2017

I forgot to sign my name to that last comment to Lori.

Rob Adolpho

- TruthSeeker November 15, 2017

Rob has found the answer. Where Joseph was headed in the King Follet Discourse was the goal!!! We have lost sight of it. The blog below has questions that we in this movement have begun turning a blind eye to and things we just don't know anymore.

https://awakeandariseandgoforth.blogspot.com/2017/10/the-test-of-those-claiming-to-have.html

- TruthSeeker November 15, 2017

Is there anyone reading this that, years ago, upon awakening to your awful situation, didn't kneel in mighty prayer before the Lord and plead for forgiveness and covenant to serve Him all the days of your life? Is there anyone who hasn't already gone before the Lord and accepted all revelations & scripture He has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and all that He will yet reveal pertaining to the Kingdom of God just as Denver did to rend the veil?

Christ told Joseph their creeds were an abomination. Denver has talked about how the intent was to bring the gospel to the Israelite remnant. Instead they brought on the Campbellite movement and created a New Testament church, with a creed. And the Lord called them an abomination and they welcomed false spirits. The false spirits, and false priests created yet another abominable creed that made slaves of the souls of men. They were doing the same thing as we in this movement have done... and we think our attempts are going to be successful even though we've done NOTHING different. When the Gentiles don't receive Christ - they get more scripture under a covenant since that is all they are willing to receive.

We have become the Israelites. Can we see it? Since we won't ascend and meet the Lord face to face - we are being offered far less. Fellowships. Rules. Correlated scriptures. Temple fund. All as a substitute for the real thing. Denver already declared this almost exactly one year ago:

"In His mercy, God has made provisions for all people. He loves all mankind equally, has planned for allowing those good and believing people WHO WILL NOT QUALIFY IN THEIR OWN RIGHT to ascend the “mountain of the Lord” into His presence to receive it through MORE ORDINARY MEANS. God’s purposes cannot be defeated, even by man’s weakness. God has OTHER MEANS to qualify people to be His covenant family.

"The purpose of a temple (meaning an actual temple commissioned, ordered, blessed, accepted and visited with His presence) is to SUBSTITUTE for the temporary ascent of a mortal into God’s presence. A real temple becomes “Holy Ground” and the means for making available to faithful people in every state of belief and hope the opportunity to

receive, by authorized means, the same covenant, obligation, association, expectation and sealing through an authorized and binding arrangement in sacred space."
http://denversnuffer.com/2016/04/why-a-temple/

And so, like ancient Israelites, we have a people who set up a man to be their Moses and declare what we need and don't need in order to be saved, avoid pestilence, famine, and destruction. We develop rules. We build a temple instead of becoming a Temple. We vote on scriptures instead of fulfilling them. Choose God and God alone. Choose to be the temple instead of build one. Choose to fulfill scripture instead of vote on them. Choose to stand as a sentinel and wait upon the Lord and be not moved until He comes for you.

Developing a Statement of Principles by a Group Chosen by Lots

Monday, November 13, 2017

We believe the Lord's hand was evident in the drawing of lots last night and have every confidence that this group of 7 can succeed in developing a *Statement of Principles*. The baton has now been passed to the 7 who have begun their labor and we, including the Central Recorder, have no further involvement in developing the statement.
We wanted to clarify a miscommunication we had with the Central Recorder regarding the role of the alternates. The original proposal stated "8. …if they could not unanimously approve the document within two weeks , they would disband and allow the selected alternates to undertake the same process" (p3). Because the original proposal was what was voted upon, the plan to allow the 7 alternates an opportunity to fulfill the assignment should the original 7 not succeed will be followed. On the Recorder's Clearinghouse blog it was stated that if the 7 chosen did not succeed, they, as well as the alternates, would be redrawn (this has now been corrected). If selected individuals are unable to continue participation for any reason, additional alternates will be drawn accordingly.
We humbly petition the body of believers under covenant to unify in heart and mind to support those who have been chosen by lot to complete this assignment with their faith and prayers. In the *Answer*, the Lord has asked us: "And what is my Spirit? It is to love one another as I have loved you." And He also commanded us to "Be of one heart, and regard one another with charity." Let us continually strive to to do so.
James Fargo & Jim O'Rullian

Comments

- HuhWhatda November 18, 2017

There was already Jeff's effort, then a committee who rushed to finish, now a lots-committee with a two week deadline, with an alternate committee by the same lots to do the work if the original doesn't succeed, to finish within another two weeks, ...and already the confusion mounts up. Why would I unify to have this succeed? You seem to define the Lord's words in your own context. To you, being of one heart means "your heart," as it is your efforts being promoted here. Charity is also defined in the direction of your effort and none other efforts that oppose yours. You have used the Lord's words to guilt support for rushing and deadlining the work devolving upon us all, while usurping the right to govern the assignment, reducing the participants to seven people, chosen by lots, in the name of faith. And to add to the confusion, you have repeated multiple times

before that this is really only an experiment, to pitch something in unity, and let God correct our words, as if God needs us to simply say the right words.

My experience has taught me to hear His voice, placing the ownace on me to know His correct attributes, perfections, and characteristics. Abel's sacrifice was acceptable as he did as the Lord's voice commanded. Cain's wasn't because it wasn't the Lord's instructions. I respect the right and privilege for all to follow the voice of their master and do as they are guided. This may be revelation to you, so go for it.

When you begin to speak for everyone here, as if this is an effort of unity for all who have covenanted, and use the words from the covenant we have all taken, to support an effort that does not resonate to all but those in support of you, you are stepping out of bounds. Tell us how you feel, fine. But telling us how God feels, because that's what you feel God feels, ...now that's putting words into God's mouth.

I am just fine with people stating "this is what i'm Doing for such and such a reason." If it has any merit, i'll Get involved. If not, you shouldn't look down your noses because God animates me different than you. And we ought not speak as if somehow our ability to post something on the central media is equated to being authorized. Speak for yourself and your efforts rather than speaking for a voice of a group of people, thus excluding those who do not align.

I do not wish your failure, but I also do not have confidence of your effort's success. That's not to say that I pray that you fail. It's an expression that the voice of the Lord doesn't face me in that direction. I don't want to abandon you either, and want to respect your agency to choose your path. I ask that you not passively force on me action not directed from the voice of the Lord to me, by pitting the voice of numbers against the voice of my God. Don't abandon me and allow me to choose my path by allowing the words of Christ to animate me, rather than your interpretations of those words.

Mahalo,
Rob Adolpho

- LynneMcKinley November 18, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

A GUIDE AND STANDARD CHOSEN BY LOTS

Saturday, November 18, 2017

POSTED ON BEHALF OF THE 7 CHOSEN BY LOTS TO PRODUCE A GUIDE AND STANDARD

At the bottom of this entry you will find a link to read the "Preliminary Guide and Standard", along with an email address to send constructive feedback. There will also be a link present on the side of the page for easy access to the file. We would ask all to please read the post below before reading the preliminary Guide and Standard.

A Plea to Covenant People and Believers Everywhere
Dear brothers and sisters,
The Lord said: He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. (Matthew 10:39)

As the group of individuals chosen by lot, we want to be clear that we desire peace, with no recognition for the fruits of the hard work contributed by many. After our assignment is complete, we hope to assign the credit to the body as a whole, and not to any individual.

We wish we had not been tasked with this responsibility. We wish you could be in our place. We wish we could support and accept your efforts to compile exactly what would please you; that would be our preference, but we trust in the Lord to work with weak things. Many of you may have greater insight, input, skills, understanding, or inspiration. We have felt sincere heartache trying to please many, and mend some of the hurt the process has caused.

The Lord said: Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. (A&C)

Some in our group have participated in the other efforts and labors in producing a Guide and Standard dating back to the start. As a group we had already been willing to accept the documents presented previously, and willing to take those to the Lord. We would accept a document drafted by you as acceptable to present, but literally the lot fell to us to be in this difficult position. We will view you with charity as the Lord requests, please see it in your heart to do the same for us.

If you have been hurt, or find yourself rejecting how all of this came about, you are not alone. We are all marred from head to toe with how the world has treated us. No matter the reason for the hurt, come back and labor with us! The time is short and the Lord comes quickly, please come with charity for your brother, forgiveness in your heart, and let us work together. Let us meekly present a statement to the Lord so that He can give us His part. Please don't turn away in anger or frustration, but please, let us all labor together. If we lose ourselves for a brother or sister, we will find ourselves in Christ. Let us make our hearts right, making this, and future labors a light burden to bear as we lift with love, and refuse to accuse. We have completed our initial assignment. We were charged, through the drawing of lots proposal (see here and here) as well as the United Proposal , to use the words of the Lord and His authorized servant in our day in the creation of this product. This was our path forward. Our methodology was to review all of the documents already created (as well as the *Answer and Covenant*) to select the best scriptures and quotes that as accurately, clearly, and succinctly summarized a few of the principles spoken of in the *Answer and Covenant*. To those who wrote in their own words: we thank you for your beautiful language and hope the scriptures we chose most accurately reflect what you were saying. To see an "inside" look explaining our approach and methodology, here is a very brief video clip from our first call together. This starts immediately after the opening prayer. As a quick background, we had been discussing together via Slack what path to take going forward, and Jeff Reber had written to us all what I have summarized above. Video clip You can see that within minutes we were unanimously agreed on how to proceed. Our work was simply to use your work. You were the researchers, writers, compilers, editors. You spent months fasting, praying, meeting together, reasoning together. You wrote again, changed items, updated, and labored. All we have done is woven together everything you already did into a short document. Let all the credit go to you, and the glory to our God. Our names will not appear on the document, or even any hint of a reference to us, or "seven lots" or anything of the kind. We then spent three days and three nights beginning to end until this initial task was complete. Due to the time zones in which we live (from the west coast of the USA all the way to the United Kingdom), we were working 24 hours a day to completion. Our end goal was to create a product broad enough to teach simple principles and let the people govern themselves. We know there are many strong opinions out there and we want all to be free to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. We expect and desire the Lord to ultimately edit and change our work according to His will.

This is a living, breathing document, as greater light continues to be given we expect the document will be added upon. For now, we simply wanted to present a document mutually agreeable to us according to His commandment and for His consideration. What now commences is three days and three nights of your feedback. Every single sentence of our document is a quote. If you see errors or mistakes please tell us. We expect only small adjustments to the content as needed. Although there are seemingly endless scriptures and quotes that could be added, brevity is favored. The document itself can be read in less than twenty minutes. If you want to talk to us, we can be reached at thesevenlotsters@gmail.com

Please click here to view the Preliminary Guide and Standard
Please click here to download the PDF of the Preliminary Guide and Standard

As a side note, one of our original members, Doug Larson, began to suffer from a significant medical condition and voluntarily excused himself from participating further. This was a difficult decision for him, and he provided us his thoughts before leaving the group, to be replaced by Kirk Strong. We kept in touch with him throughout our time working, and publicly express our love for him and thank him for his contributions to us. We have shared with him, before anyone else, our completed work. He responded: "I have read it and it looks good. You have faithfully gone through and shown that each of the principles listed are indeed spoken by the Lord and His servants."
At the end of his correspondence, Doug says, "I stand with you seven. Let's see what the people think and then what the Lord has to say about it." We couldn't have said it any better.
Your friends,

Jack Hinkle, St. George, Utah Jason Carlson, Dallas, Texas John Webster, Cedar City, Utah Jeff Reber, Beaver Creek, Oregon Jonathan Dippold, Bury St. Edmunds, England Shalyce Woodard, Clinton, Utah Kirk Strong, Orem, Utah

Comments

- Log — November 18, 2017

I publicly dissent from this proposal. The reasons have been stated elsewhere.

Jared Livesey

- Log — November 18, 2017

For reference: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/authors-essay-in-support-of-rock-of.html

- LynneMcKinley — November 18, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Donald — November 18, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

November 18, 2017

- AdrianLarsen

This document is composed entirely of the Lord's words, rather than the words of men. I am in awe that such a document could be gathered from many sources and made to be coherent and helpful. I find no fault in this document, and rejoice in our Lord's words. I pray we will be His sheep, hear His rather obvious voice in this document, and accept it as our Guide and Standard.

- MaryCella November 19, 2017

This is wonderful!

- AngelaORullian November 19, 2017

I also add my approval to this document. I think these 7 individuals have brought together a beautiful representation of us all with the words they used of the scriptures, the Lord and His servants. I am happy to accept this as a guide and standard I am willing to live by.

- LoriTaylor November 19, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Stevevanleer November 19, 2017

With completion of the statement of principles for public comment, the unity and cohesion of the seven should provide a foundational example for all the people. We all know the Lord is pleased when we are able to unify and join our hearts and minds in unity around His words and teachings. Who among us who have already mutually agreed to the words of the covenant would not answer affirmatively regarding the document produced by the seven: “These are the words of Christ and He has condescended to give them to us.” Every word of the document is His word.

There are likely infinite ways to assemble, arrange, put forth, and present a statement of principles that include Christ’s words. The document produced by the seven chosen by lots is a magnificent example of one of those. I fully support the document that has been put forth by the seven. The document may have taken many different forms through the process of review and compilation. I accept the form it has taken. I believe it will be acceptable to the Lord if we can unitedly present it to Him now and ask Him humbly and contritely for His part.

I believe the powerful hand of our God has been evident many times as we have tried to unite our hearts and minds in an approach that required and in fact did include United faith in Him and His power. We have nothing whatever to be proud about, or to congratulate ourselves for. We have so very very far to go to become what our Lord needs us to be. However, we should have learned by this experience together that when we are able to unite with Christ our Redeemer at the center of our desires and efforts, signs follow that kind of faith in Him. He can only work for men according to their faith. He has worked. His hand has been evident. We should jointly acknowledge that. He is offended when we confess not His hand in all things.

There will be opposition during this period of public notice. We hope the seven will generously and kindly consider every point of opposition. If they feel jointly persuaded by any point presented, it should be included.

Unanimity would be wonderful. Unanimity is very unlikely. There is, and always will be,

opposition in “all things”. Perhaps unanimity could be possible after the Lord reveals His part? Even then, it has been shown in the past that some will reject the Lord’s own words from time to time. All are equally allowed to feel, express, and believe whatever they wish. Every point of view should be respected and allowed without retribution or ill feelings.

We continue to invite every person among us to unite with us to approach our God to know His part. Consider the words of Christ presented by the seven chosen by lots. We are commanded to live by every word of God and have covenated to do so. Our statement could have included every word. That is not what our God required of us. The statement put forth by the seven is a respectful, compilation of the words of Christ that can aid and direct every soul around the entire world to come unto Christ, receive Him, and begin to know His wishes for a covenant and Zion people.

I ask that as we proceed forward to complete what we have been asked, that all praise, and honor, and glory, be given to our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ. If there have been mistakes made, if we have not represented the Lord as He wishes, those fallicies and mistakes are of men. We are foolish and prone to error. We alone are responsible for errors. If we are His people, we should easily and naturally unite in Him. We should come to Him together with contrite hearts - He has said He will show us His part. That is what we need now.

- JuliusQVernon November 19, 2017

Jared, I understand your dissent. I prefer just DoC and sermon as well. This is a little Denver heavy to me. Having said that I can support this to attempt to find peace.

- AdrianLarsen November 19, 2017

Given that, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," (Matt 4:4) I don't believe it is plagiarism to quote His words and use them as our guide and standard. Is that not EXACTLY what we are supposed to do? Is that not the HIGHEST level of faithfulness to His word?

Or are the words of men somehow better than His words?

- Log November 19, 2017

I am merely making sure that the law of witnesses has been fulfilled: I dissent from this proposal. I have explained why.

Or, to put it another way, I have explained what I will and will not agree to as far as a G&S, and why.

You are still all invited to come and humble yourselves and reason together publicly and openly at a neutral forum established for this purpose:
http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

I do not know how long we have until the Lord rejects us and seeks another people because we will not keep his commandments as they are written, humble ourselves, regard each other as equals, and reason together.

But we have that long.

- LoriTaylor November 19, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 19, 2017

Hello Steve. Your comment brought out some concerns I have had about how those who disagree with this lots version may be viewed. I hope we are not thought of as opposition, as though we are working for the adversary in some way, or that we reject Christ's words, which could not be further from what is true. I hope I am misreading what you have shared. Please forgive me if I have.

But I wish to say that what is being witnessed are individuals who disagree, for various reasons. That's all. No one is denying Christ or His words. I hope we can each remember that as we strive to find a way to move forward.

The struggle is to accept others who have revelations and impressions from Christ about their part(s), and learn how to work together so all can perform their parts. It is not unlike a beautiful symphony with its many instruments or a choir of many harmonious voices. We each have something wonderful to contribute, and therefore I believe we can reach unanimity, or as I think of it: mutual agreement. I have great hope for this! I have been buoyed up today with thoughts that we are learning much through this process. I am grateful for Christ's impressions and the hope He has put into my heart, and for my heart that sees things as it does. I believe we are each receiving something from Him that is a valuable contribution to the overall task. I remain open to learning and hearing. God bless.

- Log November 19, 2017

The Lord is merciful. The “mutual agreement” condition means the majority cannot foist their G&S upon the minority. It requires unanimity or we don’t move. And you lack power to excommunicate dissenters, therefore you must, of necessity, humble yourselves to be equal with the minority, and reason together by persuasion, pure knowledge, long-suffering, meekness and love unfeigned. Because if you don’t, you won’t get unanimity, because we won’t be of one heart.

“I want the liberty of believing as I please, it feels so good not to be trammeled.”

You’ll find that if you adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the G&S, you are still free to preach and practice whatsoever you will in your fellowships. The stuff I won’t agree to in any G&S is yours to implement and teach if you wish. You simply cannot make me do it, and you can’t make me present it to the world. You personally get to take full responsibility for your individual teachings upon your own head.

I have no authority to lead men astray, therefore I won’t do it. On the other hand, I am able to teach the Lord’s gospel, his doctrine and his law and his commandments. Therefore, I will do that.

- Cherryann November 19, 2017

Log, have you read the proposed G&S from the lot group or did you decide outright that you will not sustain it no matter what it contains? I fail to understand what you are

opposed to that is written in that document. Every single sentence is a direct quote, footnoted back to Christ's direct words in the Answer and Covenant, the scriptures, through Joseph Smith and Denver. If you have taken the covenant, you have already agreed to EVERYTHING that is currently contained in that document. I fail to understand what exactly, in that document, you are adamantly opposed to. Again, the words contained therein are not "our individual teachings", but Christ's. How can Christ's words "lead men astray"?

- Unknown November 19, 2017

Thanks for your great efforts in this preliminary G&S. I have the following in word format but with the time crunch I am not sure the best way to submit it. Thus I do so as a comment here. Please reply with a better method if there is one.

Part 1: Here are several additional items that I think would be pertinent to this document, have given me hope, and that have been emphasized in this movement:

Priesthood:
“Priesthood should serve and not rule over any man” PTR Page ix.

The Restoration through Joseph Smith:
“Whether you belong to some denomination claiming Joseph as a founder, or you are a traditional Christian, the things restored through Joseph Smith came from God as a gift to all. Because of this, we all have the responsibility to remember and respect the inspired work of Joseph Smith.
“The restoration is God’s call to action and offer to renew His direct contact with mankind.” PTR Page vii
“[The Gospel of Jesus Christ] should free your soul, and reunite you with heaven itself.” PTR Page ix.
“[T]he entire restoration is nothing more than a modern affirmation of the New Testament promise found in James 1:5.” PTR Page x.
“Joseph equates redemption and repentance with our hearts and minds. The greatest obstacle to salvation is ignorance.” PTR Page 3.
“Joseph delivered only what Christ wanted. It is now up to us to choose to listen for the Master’s voice, or to dismiss them as only Joseph’s words. If we recognize the Master's voice then we received the message from Him.” PTR page 22.
“When we fail to heed Christ’s message, fail to recognize His voice, then the Lord’s anger is riled. His disappointment is palpable. When He communicates, using servants to deliver His message, we should be very careful not reject or ignore what He has to say.” PTR page 22.
“Joseph’s credential was that he possessed Christ’s words.” PTR page 24.

Jesus Christ, the prototype of the Saved Man:
“I proclaim: I, too, know Christ lives! I have seen Him. I know He is the universal Savior of all mankind, whether they know Him or not. Whether they accept Him or not, He died for them. He suffered for them. He atoned for your sins, if you will receive Him. He paid a price for mankind which was infinite in scope and has the ability to heal every wound, repair every failure, forgive every wrong, and overcome every shortcoming. Much of that He will do without regard to whether we accept or reject Him. But the fullness of the blessings available through the price He paid is provided only to those who accept and follow Him.” The Second Comforter: Conversing with the Lord Through the Veil page 409.
"Christ admonished us: 'Be of good cheer.'" PTR page 1.
"Any difficulty we will face, He already faced with greater difficulty. He won an eternal prize for each of us." PTR Page 1.
"It is ... possible to pass through the veil before death [which] ...may include here and

now. If it is not all to be comprehended ‘in this world,’ then we need to visit the world behind the veil." PTR page 2.
“[K]nowledge revealed by heaven is dynamic. Pondering provides deeper meaning.” PTR page 3.
“It is necessary to obtain the knowledge to be redeemed.” PTR Page 3.

- HuhWhatda November 20, 2017

Hey, if you want to get authority from Chris Hammil, Denver, lots, or a committee, ...you go right ahead. It don't matter to me where you have acquired your authority, or the statistical probability of getting authorized, or the symbolic quantity of people comprising the committee, or where they are geographically located. All that matters to me is that something is written that represents my mutual agreement. Something that I can wax confident in. This current effort from lots does not represent mutual agreement with me, nor do I think it kind to those who are not yet with us.

The video depicts the method of approach as "cut and paste" words of people with credibility like Denver, Joseph, or Christ, ...and then we submit it as our best unified guess, and see what God does in response. They all agreed that their own words would only cause problems. I think differently. It should only be written in our words, expressing our unity, and not quoting others. It ought to be an indicator of our faith. Cut and paste is not an expression of our faith, but writing it in our own words totally is.

Cutting and pasting words that already have credibility rely's on the faith of others in the absence of our own. Faith doesn't work like that. That method does not represent my understanding of God's correct attributes, perfections and characteristics, for this assignment. I have no confidence in this method of approach, like submitting a paper to get a teacher's response, so I can give the teacher what he's looking for. I do not know that this method's path is acceptable to God. And according to the video, neither did they. To them it is a matter of doubt and uncertainty.

Rob Adolpho

- Unknown November 20, 2017

Part 2: Here are several additional items that I think would be pertinent to this document, have given me hope, and that have been emphasized in this movement:
Personal Revelation:
“We should labor over the scriptures, pondering to hear the still, small voice.” PTR page 9.
“The pattern is to study scripture, ask God to help you understand, then listen to God’s answer. God would like to talk directly to you. The scriptures have a message from God for you. To be saved you must know God. God will speak to each of us about what is important in our lives. All things past, present, and future are continually before the Lord. God’s revelations have depth and layers beyond the human mind because they originate from a higher source. The most important thing to know is the Lord's will for you.” PTR page 10.
“If we want an answer, ask God, but we need to be prepared to act when the answer comes.” PTR page 10.
“Joseph restored a faith demanding we awake and arise. We must ask God to remove the scales that blind us. The blinding ‘scales,’ are a darkness, and an incorrect weight and measure. We have no reason to err, because we can ask God for the answer. If our judgment is not just, our dark scales will condemn us. Care is required to correctly distinguish between what is God’s and what is the devil’s.” PTR Page 12-13.
Power of Godliness (Seeking the face of Jesus Christ while in the flesh):

“Godliness means to be godly, or close to God.” PTR page 14.
“In the truest sense, to be close to God is to be in His presence.” PTR page 14.
“The Lord intends for us to return to Him; not in some future reunion following death, but here, in mortality. He wants us to 'know Him.'” PTR Page 14.
“This is to occur ‘while in the flesh.’ The Lord wants for us to have “godliness” with the power to be near Him.” PTR page 15.
“We should not dismiss this power of godliness. It is a very real part of the gospel. It is intended to be part of what we receive while here, not merely some distant hope for the afterlife.”
“The ‘power of godliness’ requires us to be confident to seek God’s presence.
“The Book of Mormon continually relates accounts of those with the power of godliness. It is all about the ascent back to the presence of God. Testimony after testimony, experience after experience shows that godliness is the Book Mormon message. The ascent to God is the fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ.” PTR page 19.
“Joseph Smith said, 'I advise all to go on to perfection and search deeper and deeper into the mysteries of godliness.' This is the Book of Mormon theme. Search deeper and find God.” PTR page 19.
Seek the Mysteries of God:
“'Ask that you may know the mysteries of God.' ...That is a commandment.” PTR page 20.
“The claim that we should stay away from the mysteries of God is false. Refusing to follow the command to ‘ask that you may know the mysteries of God’ denies the power of godliness and opposes the doctrine of salvation. It is anti-Christ.” PTR page 20.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Andy Boucher
tspathfinder@gmail.com

- Unknown November 20, 2017

Part 3: Here are several additional items that I think would be pertinent to this document, have given me hope, and that have been emphasized in this movement:
(The Foundation of) Zion:
“The foundation of Zion requires reestablishing a connection between living children and those fathers to whom God made promises.” PTR page 32.
“The fathers who are in heaven are the ones with whom we ... must form the link. Our salvation and the salvation of our kindred dead depend on it.” PTR page 32-33.
Family of God:
“Christ compared Himself to a 'true vine' to which we all must connect if we are going to bear fruit. Christ inspired prophecies about a coming servant. We should all be His servants. For any of His servants to produce 'fruit' they must connect to Him, 'the true vine.' Life comes from that connection. We are preserved by Christ, nourished through His word, and we pray in our sacrament prayers to always have His Spirit to be with us. The 'vine' and 'fruit' refer to the 'family of God.' The context is about becoming a 'son of God.' He intends to make many sons of God, to bring many sons unto glory. (In this and the preceding verse the language is in the masculine, 'sons.' However, there is never an exalted son without a wife, as will be discussed more fully later in this book. Therefore these passages should be read implicitly to say both 'sons' and 'daughters.') These promises lie at the foundation of the restoration promised in the last days.
“In [the] first interview the angel taught [Joseph] about restoring God’s holy family. God wants to have His family on the earth again.” PTR page 34.

Part 3: I have a few suggested modifications for consideration:
I believe that the title Baptism should say "Baptism/Rebaptism"

I believe that the quotation from RE Moroni 8:2 should not omit the words "yea, teach parents that they must repent and be baptized, and humble themselves as their little children, and they shall all be saved with their little children."

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Andy Boucher
tspathfinder@gmail.com

- Unknown November 20, 2017

The Comment above was submitted by Andy Boucher (tspathfinder@gmail.com)

- Log November 20, 2017

CherryAnn,

You may gain greater understanding if you read this:
http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/authors-essay-in-support-of-rock-of.html

You are mistaken as to what I agreed to when I assented to the covenant.

- Log November 20, 2017

As to how God's words can lead men astray:

Jacob 4:14 But behold, the Jews were a stiffnecked people; and they despised the words of plainness, and killed the prophets, and sought for things that they could not understand. Wherefore, because of their blindness, which blindness came by looking beyond the mark, they must needs fall; for God hath taken away his plainness from them, and delivered unto them many things which they cannot understand, because they desired it. And because they desired it God hath done it, that they may stumble.

To sin means, literally, to miss the mark. James tells us that sin is transgression of the law. Therefore, to miss the mark means to transgress the law. The Jews were blinded because they despised the commandments of the Lord, looked beyond his law, and sought for things they could not understand and God gave it to them so that they would stumble. Their stumbling led to their crucifying the Lord when he came to them.

If you don't know where others messed up, you may well find yourself travelling the path they travelled.

- JonSaunders November 20, 2017

This is wonderful! I am in 100% agreement with this guide and standard.

Tina Saunders

- NGibson November 20, 2017

Thank you to the seven who worked and sacrificed this week to put this together! I appreciate your efforts and I support this document too.

- ShalyceWoodard November 20, 2017

Lori - I never comment on threads or forums cause I'm usually busy being mom and not on the computer long enough to give it the time and attention to respond as is needed. I can see your heart in your words and your honest desire to do God's will. I LOVE THAT, and I commend you for doing as you feel is right. I'd love to talk more, but I have no means of contacting you. If you could email thesevenlotsters@gmail.com I can reply and talk with you. If you're up for it.

Love you girl!!!!!
Shalyce

- LynneMcKinley November 20, 2017

I remember every detail of where I was, what I was wearing, the sounds and people around me and the joy I felt in that first encounter with the original. That moment is indelible: the Spirit confirmed to me that the heavens are indeed open for business again. Every subsequent version has had good parts, nice additions, valid points of contribution, but I have also sensed a dilution of the original Spirit of the thing, and I was saddened. Realizing that it is likely impossible to move forward from this gridlock otherwise, I have supported the lots process, I support that product, and I'm grateful to all who had a hand in it. I've read Log's persuasive pleas to get back to the Sermon on the Mount, Lori's heartfelt explanations, Rob's heartwrenching laments, and many others. Each has an incredibly important viewpoint which I feel blessed for having encountered. This has been such an arduous and difficult process that many hearts have been wounded, many of my friends have been so spiritually and mentally overwhelmed that they just closed up shop and left town on the whole thing. I guess there are a thousand ways this could go, and perhaps the Lord would be agreeable and easy to entreat on any of them. For here, for now, with the clock ticking and the millennium fast approaching I stand up here and raise my hand in favor of the Guide and Standard as compiled by the "seven lotsters", with sincere gratitude, a hand of fellowship, and a bond of love to every single person who has cared enough about this work to engage. God bless you dear, dear people.

- Donald November 20, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 20, 2017

Hi Shalyce. Thank you for your love and kindness in reaching out to me. That was unexpected but welcomed. I prayed much for you after learning you were the only woman chosen by lot to participate. :)

I thank you for inviting me to contact you through email, but feel to decline taking any further discussion private. I like keeping things out in the open. I believe it helps me stay accountable and honest. But I also don't really have a need at this time for further discussion or understanding. I am more than willing to join my faith with others to ask for His will and heart to be made known. I can surely do that.

I am appreciative of the time, prayers, and efforts you and the other six gave and sacrificed to create this GS. I was neglectful of acknowledging that and feel sad as a result. I am sorry I did not take greater pains and measure my words more carefully to convey my gratitude. It has always been there, however.

Thank you again, and God bless.

- Jay November 21, 2017

Jared, I appreciate the time you have given to address questions about your position that you have given on your blog here:
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

- Blair November 21, 2017

Log, I have read through the questions and answers you have posted on your blog, and I have some questions for you of my own. I would comment there, but comments don't seem to be enabled.

1. You have mentioned several times that people should discuss things on a neutral forum, and you propose the one that is hosted at remnantofjacob. A forum was attempted with one of the other proposals. What makes that forum non-neutral? Have any views been rejected from that forum? Why did another one need to be formed? I personally don't entirely trust the remnantofjacob site, and I find it curious that you want to direct people there to discuss things.

2. I appreciate your views, even though I don't entirely agree with your reasoning. I think the Doctrine of Christ and Sermon at Bountiful (and on the Mount) are primary importance. However, I think that to serve those who know nothing of us, it is important to include other details that the Lord gave us. So how would you have us proceed at this point? Is the only option to agree with you and move forward with your proposal? If our roles were reversed, what would you want me to do?

3. I have read your points, and respect your views and logic. Are these points and logic, in your view, also from the Lord? That is, are you willing to accept further revelation from the Lord on this topic, or do you feel that your position is the result of the answers you have obtained from the Lord on this issue, and His answer to you is complete?

You may have answered some of these questions in the past, but I have not found them in your writings, so feel free to direct me to where I can read them. I hope I have not caused offense with any of these questions. I'm just wrestling with where to go from here.

- Blair November 21, 2017

I see your point, but writing in our own words has been tried, and seems to be rejected, precisely because others couldn't determine where the points came from, and if they were based on revelation from God, or just the logic of mortals. In all sincerity, what would you suggest is the proper path forward? What would be acceptable to you?

- Log November 21, 2017

1. What makes that forum non-neutral?

Assuming you're speaking of Comeserve, they would not permit The Rock of Jesus Christ, or anything similar, to be proposed.

2. Have any views been rejected from that forum?

Yes.

3. Why did another one need to be formed?

Because there was no neutral forum where all viewpoints could be aired without censorship and without control. That's what Matthew Crockett of The Remnant of Jacob Forum has provided, at my request. He has agreed not to moderate, and the only condition for participation is that you have already assented to the covenant offered through Denver Snuffer.

4. So how would you have us proceed at this point?

We all agree, or should agree, on the Doctrine and the Sermon. So, the job's done: use the Doctrine and the Sermon. The problems are arising because some are trying to leverage more than we mutually agree upon on us.

I won't agree to either less or more than the gospel of Jesus Christ, namely, the Doctrine and the Sermon, for the reasons stated, and more.

4. Is the only option to agree with you and move forward with your proposal?

Nobody is going to be compelled here, but consider carefully: we all already agree upon the Doctrine and the Sermon, which jointly are the gospel of Jesus Christ. The problems are arising because people are trying to stick us with more and less than the gospel and trying to cause the result to be put forth to the world. I won't agree to anything more or less than the gospel of Jesus Christ, neither will I put forth anything which tends to either harm or give cause for stumbling. The Golden Rule says we had not ought do to others what we do not wish others would do to us. The gospel, however, causes harm to none and gives no cause for stumbling, and we are commanded to preach it anyways.

We can also wait until the Lord rejects us as a people.

5. If our roles were reversed, what would you want me to do?

Do whatever you feel is right under your obligations imposed by the covenant and the law and commandments of Jesus Christ, knowing that his church must be 1. called in his name, and 2. be built upon his gospel.

It's almost like he foresaw this very discussion. See 3 Nephi 27. We are right now discussing what our church should be founded upon, and he's already answered us in the scriptures. If we try to build upon anything except his gospel - either more, or less - than we shall be hewn down and cast into the fire.

6. Are these points and logic, in your view, also from the Lord?

All truth is of the Lord.

7. That is, are you willing to accept further revelation from the Lord on this topic, or do you feel that your position is the result of the answers you have obtained from the Lord on this issue, and His answer to you is complete?

If the Lord directly commands me to put forth that which will lead men astray or cause them to stumble, as anything which is either more or less than his gospel must, then I will obey the Lord. By directly, I mean from heaven to me, not through a mortal. Because I do not have authority to lead men astray nor cause them to stumble, I will not agree to any G&S that consists of more or less than the gospel of Jesus Christ without being commanded by the Lord.

I'm not claiming any "authority" here. The argument from authority is destructive of a

society of equals, for if anyone can pull rank, we're not equal. Thus ends Zion. If we are equal, then I must persuade you, or you must persuade me. It works best if someone actually does know the truth, and can explain it. That is what I am doing.

I am not offended by your asking. I have been hoping someone would, instead of begging off by saying "you've said enough; we can't possibly converse without contention." As I said, I am willing to explain why I am doing what I am doing. I have an obligation to persuade by pure knowledge, meekness, kindness, love unfeigned, and, when all that fails, long-suffering.

- Blair November 22, 2017

Certainly, I think we can all agree that the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount/at Bountiful are of utmost importance, and should be either quoted in the G&S or the reader should be directed to read them. I guess the only part of your view that I disagree with is that those be the only thing in the G&S. The Lord said "Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require
of you."

If the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon were all that is needed, then why would the Lord require Denver to give ten lectures to the Mormon corridor? People have had those scriptures (in their current form) for over 150 years. It seems to me that a bit more would be helpful to bless and inform others who know nothing, as of yet, of the Lord's work going forward right now.

As you have said, we all have an obligation to persuade each other. I am at this point, unpersuaded that only the Doctrine of Christ and Sermon should be included.

I would also add that you could have easily started a post on comeserve.com with these same points. Did you attempt that, and it was removed? If so, I would like to know, because that would contradict my impression of the people who started that forum. If you truly want to persuade others, why wouldn't you utilize an option that would allow you to reach more people than the forum created by remnantofjacob (which, frankly, has not attracted very many participants)?

- Log November 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 22, 2017

1. I guess the only part of your view that I disagree with is that those be the only thing in the G&S.

The beauty of using only the gospel of Jesus Christ as our G&S is that you don’t have to agree with me. If at any point you feel the doctrine of our Lord or his law and commandments in the Sermon need to be added to or subtracted from, you are free to address this deficiency - within your own fellowship. And I don’t have to agree with your additions or subtractions to the Lord’s teachings within my own fellowship. Judge not,

condemn not, motes / beams, and all that. We leave each other in peace to do as we will in conformity with our own understandings of the gospel, led only by the Holy Ghost.

2. If the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon were all that is needed, then why would the Lord require Denver to give ten lectures to the Mormon corridor?

The prior question deserves more attention than it is getting: Did the Lord require Denver to give ten lectures to the Mormon corridor? How do you know? Do you have authority to make other people accept and trust your word on the answers?

3. People have had those scriptures (in their current form) for over 150 years. It seems to me that a bit more would be helpful to bless and inform others who know nothing, as of yet, of the Lord's work going forward right now.

Do you agree with the Lord in the A&C when he said: “All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know” (A&C p. 3)?

And do you also agree with Nephi when he declared, as the doctrine of Christ: “For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do” (2 Nephi 32:5)?

If the Holy Ghost teaches men all that they should know, and if the Holy Ghost also teaches men all things that they should do, then where does “a bit more” enter into the equation? Are you better than the Holy Ghost at blessing, benefiting, and informing people? I’m not. What do you have to add to “all things they should know and do?” Wouldn’t any addition to “all things they should know and do” be, by definition, more or less than what they should know and do? And wouldn’t telling more or less than they should know and do be to misinform them?

4. As you have said, we all have an obligation to persuade each other. I am at this point, unpersuaded that only the Doctrine of Christ and Sermon should be included.

And we don’t have to agree. When you agree with The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, you’re free to make up for any deficiency you see in the Lord’s gospel - within your own fellowship - and I am free to teach as I wish as well, both of us in conformity with the guidance of the Holy Ghost to us individually, if we should care to be led by the Holy Ghost.

5. I would also add that you could have easily started a post on comeserve.com with these same points. Did you attempt that, and it was removed?

I submitted a proposal functionally equivalent to The Rock of Jesus Christ. I was rebuffed and informed it violated their interpretation of the A&C and that they would not post it. I pointed out that their interpretation of the A&C was not the only, and not even the most likely, interpretation, and was rebuffed again. That ended the conversation.

6. If you truly want to persuade others, why wouldn't you utilize an option that would allow you to reach more people than the forum created by remnantofjacob (which, frankly, has not attracted very many participants)?

I did, and was censored.

If you don’t want to humble yourself and come and converse openly and publicly as

equals at the Remnant of Jacob forum, nobody can make you.

- Blair November 22, 2017

I think it is unfortunate that you were, as you put it, censored. I don't agree with that action. You might have mentioned that earlier, and gotten more participation at remnantofjacob.

I agree that only the Doctrine of Christ is necessary to save. In my opinion, that is not what this is about. The G&S are about how we function as a group, not what will bring any of us salvation.

Yes, I believe Denver was required by the Lord to give the ten lectures. No, I will not force that on anyone, however, I do find it curious that someone would accept the covenant as being from the Lord and binding and yet not believe that Denver, the channel through which that covenant came, is not a messenger from the Lord. Sure, it is possible that Denver was right with the Answer and Covenant, and yet was wrong with the whole ten lectures, but that seems to be a stretch to me. I have received my answer from the Lord, and I am doing my best to follow it, as I believe we all are.

I just don't know how to reconcile everything and everyone.

- Log November 22, 2017

Does the Holy Ghost, which teaches men all that they should know and do, not tell men what to do with respect to their relationship with a group?

Moses 7:27 And Enoch beheld angels descending out of heaven, bearing testimony of the Father and Son; and the Holy Ghost fell on many, and they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion.

As to comeserve, they get to do as they see fit, as do I.

Peace.

- Blair November 22, 2017

Log, the ordinance of the sacrament is not contained in the accounts we have of the Doctrine of Christ or the Sermons on the Mount or at Bountiful. Do you see the need to include that for the benefit of others?

- Log November 22, 2017

No. Those whom the Lord gives authority to perform ordinances and sends forth, the Lord instructs in how to perform them, as we see in 3 Nephi 11 concerning baptism, and 3 Nephi 18 concerning sacrament. All we would be doing by putting those things in a G&S is enabling pretenders, whom the Lord has not given authority nor sent, to ape the Lord’s ordinances.

As an aside, did you notice that the Lord himself is not recorded as blessing the wine in 3 Nephi 18? It is recorded that he blessed the bread, but also the words he spoke to bless the bread are not recorded either. Where did the sacramental prayers in Moroni 4 and 5 come from?

Why did the Nephites feel a need to fix the form of the sacrament? If the Lord didn’t do

it that way, must we? Alma baptized differently from the words recorded in 3 Nephi 11; might that indicate that the ordinances need not be fixed? Just because he gave specific direction to the 12 at Bountiful, does that mean we need to follow it?

- Log November 22, 2017

Also, please note that 3 Nephi 18:5-16 is directed at the disciples, not the multitude. There should be one appointed among the disciples and to him would Jesus give power to break bread and bless and give to those who would repent and be baptized in his name. Only one, apparently. And for always doing as they were commanded, Jesus said they, the disciples, were blessed, and built upon his rock.

- Blair November 22, 2017

You certainly have a unique view. While I don't agree, you are certainly welcome to it. You present a very wide gulf between what you will accept and what everyone I have communicated with on this topic will accept.

I read your post about "accidentally" making the covenant. Do you feel that the covenant is binding upon you? It seems you don't accept Denver as a servant sent from the Lord, so why would the covenant be in any way binding upon you, since it was given through him? Forgive me if this is offensive to you, but I find it very confusing.

- Log November 22, 2017

As a fellowservant said, “you can’t unring the bell.” Once I assented to the covenant despite my unworthiness, I became bound to fulfill the conditions of the covenant, including the production and adoption of the G&S. If y’all had done it before I got here, I’d have nothing to say about it.

I believe Denver. But I don’t get to stick others with my beliefs. That breaks the Rule. And since I know that having a king leads to slavery (Ether 6:22-24, Mosiah’s last speech, Noah) - whether we use the words “prophet” or “servant” or “messenger” to mask the fact that we mean “king” - I will not submit to a G&S which either explicitly or implicitly places Denver in a position not equal to even the least of us, neither will I put anyone else in a position of having to look to Denver for the word of the Lord when they should be taking the Holy Ghost for their guide and obtaining the word of the Lord directly through diligence in keeping the commandments and mighty prayer.

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus saith the Lord: Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

Restorationist Papers Effort - Update

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Dear brothers and sisters,

After being impressed upon by the Lord we desire to offer to the covenant body at large a statement of principles mutually agreed upon by some few, who after petitioning the Lord over our disputes received from Him what we believe is His desire for us, not by commandment but by pure knowledge, that He would have us accept everything He has revealed to the body of believers regarding the Guide and Standard that He has required at our hands. We have therefore compiled all that has been revealed and inspired by Him

into one document and we offer it together with a prayer for the Lord's acceptance, correction, or rejection according to His word to the covenant body. We offer this prayer at His invitation and desire only to be faithful to Him but we do not know how, or though who, He may choose to answer this petition. We do not believe that this requires any covenant Brother or Sister or any fellowship to be obligated to accept this work. We believe God has made us all free and able to choose what the Lord desires for them. We do not do this to oppose or hinder any other work any covenant Brother or Sister feels impressed to do from the Lord. We support all our family and desire to assist them in any way we can. To that end we offer what we believe the Lord has asked of us. We do indeed love our covenant family and can think of no greater way to fulfill our covenant with the Lord than by this labor we personally have accepted and for which we expect to be held to account by Him.
Some few who are a small part of the covenant body.

Proposed Guide and Standard
Prayer for the Guide and Standard

Comments

- Donald — November 19, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 19, 2017

I publicly dissent from this proposal. The reasons have been stated here.

Jared Livesey

- MaryCella — November 20, 2017

These documents are lovely.

I also believe the "casting of lots" has been an acceptable method for obtaining the required document.

A Plea for the Original, by Ken Jensen, (listed to the right), was an attempt to verify that many people were agreeable to Jeff Savage's original, (which needed only simple editorial changes). Sadly, it was hard to muster enough support to by-pass the strong vocal opposition from all the different factions.

- NGibson — November 20, 2017

I like this document, too. I like the section about exactness in the ordinances that isn't in a lot of the versions offered. Thank you for your offering.

I don't know how we are going to proceed and how a guide and standard is going to get agreed upon, but I do know we all need to continue to pray, be humble, and ask for direction with an increase of light, so we can proceed in a way that will be inline with the Lord's will for us.

- LoriTaylor — November 20, 2017

I second Donald's request, and would also like to know who is putting forward this GS. At this stage, I feel it good to be open with each other and own our ideas. Therefore, I would appreciate it if everyone would simply acknowledge their words, ideas, and works. It takes courage to put oneself out there and be vulnerable by sharing honestly and openly what one thinks and believes.

- LynneMcKinley November 20, 2017

This is stunningly beautiful in so many ways. No matter which version is ultimately printed in the scriptures as the "official" one, I will print this out, frame it, and display it over the mantelpiece of my home to be seen by anyone who enters. Thankyou for all the work and time that went into this, I love it. And I love you.

- LoriTaylor November 22, 2017

Sorry if I offended you, Donald, by leaving my comment.

- Donald November 22, 2017

Not offended at all. I learned who the group was and I was happy with that. :)

- LoriTaylor November 22, 2017

I am pleased to learn you were answered.

A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots-UPDATE (11/20/17)

Monday, November 20, 2017

Please click here to view the Preliminary Guide and Standard

Please click here to download the Preliminary Guide and Standard.

A Plea to Covenant People and Believers Everywhere- UPDATE (11/20/17)

Brothers and sisters, We have received some excellent feedback (thank you) and hope to publicly respond to some of it so that all may read. We have incorporated a lot of that feedback into the document, remaining true to our methodology and process. All changes thus far are relatively minor, a small tweak here for formatting or a clarification there on the word used. Please remain patient with us as we respond individually to each of you that have reached out to us. We are taking time as a group of seven to consider your suggestions. The files attached to this entry will lead to the same document posted on Saturday. When we have taken all input into consideration, and have made the changes necessary, we will be posting the Guide and Standard that will be taken to the Lord. The description of how that process will work is described below. Right now we are overwhelmed with your love and support, and hope you will take a moment to thank someone who went before, and did the real work. There have been many emails written

to us that are full of kindness and love. We also know there are those who disagree with the process, proposal, or draft. We extend to you our peace and love, may God bless you. As far as the content goes, one could edit and replace quotes with other quotes, scriptures with other scriptures, etc. One could create an (almost) entirely brand new document that stated the same thing just using different words from the canon. To some, the way Nephi phrased it resonates more than the way Joseph Smith phrased it, which might be slightly different than the way Denver Snuffer phrased it. To others, the way Denver phrased it resonates more than Nephi. It will be impossible to reconcile this. This document is only meant to give a tiny glimpse into thousands of pages of the words of the Lord; to point and guide towards the feast in the scriptures. We have already received from you some scriptures and quotes from authorized servants we could add or replace. They are all appropriate and wonderful and we will consider them. If we don't include them or change them, it is simply because we are trying to stay very brief and stay true to the work already done by all who worked before. Those who labored before have their fingerprints all over this current document. We are happy to keep it that way. We are hoping to close out the feedback process on Tuesday and finish the work asked of us. At that time, the seven of us will approach the Lord in prayer and fasting to submit to Him our effort in providing what He required, while asking Him also to give us His part. We will add or remove items, or communicate whatever He instructs after receiving direct input from Him. We invite all to join us in prayer and fasting on Tuesday and/or Wednesday that His will be manifest to us.

To honor the Lord's words, we are leaving Denver Snuffer out of this petition to the Lord. In keeping with the "Lots Proposal," we asked Denver if he would be willing to present the completed version of the Guide and Standard to the Lord on behalf of the body of believers. He responded, "I would be willing to pray for the group's success and petition the Lord to make it known to the group if He accepts the Statement. But I do not want to take one step in a direction that I've been forbidden from taking." We respect and support the Lord's command in forbidding Denver's involvement, and therefore we will prepare the document to take directly to the Lord; trusting He will faithfully give us His part.

We again extend to all our love and peace. As a body we desire to be His people, to accept and do as He requires. We have faith the Lord will make His will known. Your friends, Jack Hinkle, St. George, Utah Jason Carlson, Dallas, Texas John Webster, Cedar City, Utah Jeff Reber, Beaver Creek, Oregon Jonathan Dippold, Bury st. Edmunds, England Shalyce Woodard, Clinton, Utah Kirk Strong, Orem, Utah If you want to talk to us, we can be reached at thesevenlotsters@gmail.com

Comments

- Robynn November 23, 2017

I'm attempting to read this document however I am finding that there seem to be many issues. One with the over all document I cannot decipher what citing standard you are using when quoting exact words from scripture. Following the MLA standard you should " quote scripture." What I am finding that it is nearly impossible to detect which is written by God and those words written by man. This would help with clarity as well as proof of argument using scripture to make your point.

Under the heading of Jesus Christ there is two words that I have serious issue with they are "pursue judgment" really?? Do you really mean this?

Those two words should not be together when we are to pursue God and Christ's teachings and NOT judging!

I use the Oxford English Dictionary for defining of these two words.
Pursue: 1) follow in order to catch or attack. 2) seek to attain (a goal). 3) proceed along (a path or route). 4) follow or continue (a course of action). > continue to investigate or discuss.
origin ME (Middle English) from Anglo-Norman French pursuer, from alt of Latin prosequi "prosecute."
Judgement: 1) the ability to make considered decisions or form sensible opinions.>an opinion or conclusions. > a decision of a law court or judge. 2) a misfortune viewed as a divine punishment.

The combination of words is very confusing in the use as to what we are be towards each other. and then to state we are to pursue or seek after judgment. These two words seem contradictory to what the surrounding state says and as well with each other.

As with formatting it would add to ease of the reader to cite to noted footnotes on the same page that the notation appears on. So one is not flipping back and forth trough document.

And now moving on to page two!! I have a feeling I will be back with questions as to how things are being stated.

A Letter of Support

Monday, November 20, 2017

To all our Wonderful Fellow Covenant Holders,
Hello again.
We are the fellowship who compiled the Statement of Principles – Anonymous 1.
We have discussed together the Guide and Standard document completed by the seven individuals chosen by lot and we as a united fellowship support the document created by the seven.
We love these words of Christ and we have found through our own experience that these words He has so mercifully given have provided us with kind and wise direction.
We are excited about this document being taken to the Lord for His correction and instruction.
We have every confidence that if we as a body of covenant holders approach the Lord in meekness and humility that Christ our King will, in His mercy, correct and instruct us all to our great benefit because He has done so already. Surely, He will do this because of His infinite love for everyone involved in this process. He knows the price He paid for every one of us and He desires our success.
This is such an exciting opportunity for us all as covenant holders to rise up together and receive the will of the Lord in this assignment that we may be approved of Him and receive more commandments and more revelations in their time.
We do not see any problem in all the differences of understanding of what should be written because we know that Christ knows what is right and what He wants. He knows what must be presented to the world so that His sheep will hear His voice.
He comprehends our lack of understanding and our blindness, all of us, and He has declared that He desires to heal us. We believe Him and desire to take Him at His word because we have seen enough to trust Him.
There is nothing to fear in approaching Him together and presenting our weak pitiful offering in meekness and humility trusting wholly upon Him to mend what we all have broken and to give us more light by correcting us.
If we honestly approach Him with this document in the same way the Brother of Jared did

with the stones, acknowledging our weakness and our folly and our unworthiness before Him continually, He will respond with grace. The scriptures clearly testify of this. We believe what the scriptures say. He is an unchanging God and He is no respecter of persons.

What an exciting option to in unity ask Him to condescend in His mercy to correct us every one. There are no losers with this option because all in this option will receive the blessing of His greater light in equal portion by Him correcting us. There is no special or elite group in His eyes.

Everything He has given to this point He has freely given to all equally. His word in the scriptures, His word in the ten talks, His word in the Testimony of St John, His word in the conferences, His word in the answer and covenant, His covenant, and so forth; all has been given freely and equally to all for the benefit of all. Likewise, correction and instruction (more light) from His word concerning this document will be given freely to all for the benefit of all. No one loses. Everyone wins.

We heartily encourage everyone to approach the Lord together with this. Here is a marvelous opportunity for us all together to draw near unto Him now and He has promised that He will draw near unto us. If we are truly meek and humble He will correct and instruct us.

Let's trust Him. We will not go away empty handed. We will go away rejoicing together and all glory and honor will rightly still belong to and be given to only our Lord for this will be another example of how He is doing His own work.

Again, we love all of you and always pray that God will bless every one of you with His best blessings and gifts.

Our Fellowship

Comments

- Log — November 21, 2017

Maybe as G&S proposers abandon their proposals and opt for this-or-that other G&S proposal, their proposals should be taken off the sidebar of this blog to avoid the confusing appearance that their G&S is still a live option.

- LynneMcKinley — November 21, 2017

I like having sidebar access to all the versions because each one has some valuable components: references, phrasing, sequence, etc. that I would like to be able to draw from in the future as I attempt to explain this movement to my new friends. When the update blog goes down, if it does, I hope there will be a file of all past proposals which remains easily accessible.

- Jay — November 21, 2017

Or at least add a date to the title of each so that we can have a perspective on the chronology of things, I think would be helpful.

- Stevevanleer — November 21, 2017

The people's unity and faith in God is greater than the document presented to the Lord.

You are right fellowship. Even a fist full of little stones can demonstrate the kind of faith our Lord can respect and respond to. The brother of Jared called them "things" as he

presented them to the Lord. The Liahona worked “according to faith.” When Moses threw down his staff in Pharo’s court, it was with Hope and faith that God would do something with it. David chose five smooth stones from the brook, only one was needed. When David let fly that one stone, it was with hope and faith that he did so. David did not slay Goliath, God did. David was ready for a five stone skirmish. God knew better.

It is our collective faith in God and our unity in Him as His family that will please Him most. Some think unanimity is required. Unanimity would be wonderful, but is very unlikely in Gods system where agency is the key element. There is “opposition in ALL things.” “Opposition” does not imply right or wrong. Opposition simply implies there will always be opposing views. That is a good and desirable thing. We are indeed all free. There is nothing in the system currently being played out that removes or diminishes any individual’s ability, or right, to believe, profess, or act in any way they wish. This system has ever been God’s way and will continue to be His way eternally - He does not change. Opposing positions even play out in the Highest heavens, “and also a third part of the hosts of heaven turned he away from me because of their agency”. (D&C 29: 36)

We need to know God’s part, then we can know absolute truth. Once we have approached Him as He has suggested we need to do, then we can all align to His perfect will. Knowing His part is the thing we have failed to unitedly do to this point. The seven chosen by God will approach Him with the document we agreed they would produce with the support of our prayers and faith. I have faith God will make known His part. Every individual should approach God together with the seven and have Him speak to them apart. Some have already done so.

There will continue to be opposing views. That is precisely the reason we need to know God’s part. He has given us the way to know His part. That includes meekness, humility, and a contrite attitude to approach Him for His part. He will show us His part. I believe Him.

- Stevevanleer November 21, 2017

Joseph’s people failed by doing some of the very same things we have demonstrated over the last eight months in our behavior. Jarrings, contentions, covetous desires, treating one another as opponents, and adversaries, instead of kin, even risings up as Satan toward one another, continually accusing. God cannot and never will work with that kind of behavior. Contention drives the spirit of God away.

Unity is diametrically opposed to contention, jarrings, covetous desires and the like.

There is a growing feeling of peace, and love, and unity, among many of the covenant. The response of this fellowship (above) is a demonstration of that. Unity is growing among us. It centers in the Lord Jesus Christ our King.

Like David, we, as a people have chosen seven (not unlike David’s five stones) to allow God to do His work for us by His mighty hand. The people’s Goliath will topple in the same way David’s Goliath went down. Faith in our God and our unity in approaching Him will be enough.

We continue to invite every soul among us, perhaps especially those who feel opposed to this course to lay down all feelings of division and let us join in unity to appraoach our God for His part. It is our unity that He will respect and respond to because of our faith in Him.

(D&C 105)
2 Behold, I say unto you, were it not for the transgressions of my people, speaking concerning the church and not individuals, they might have been redeemed even now.
3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

- Log November 21, 2017

Mutual agreement means mutual agreement.

You have all been invited, and are still invited, to humble yourselves, and come and reason as equals upon the G&S, openly, in a neutral forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

- Log November 21, 2017

It is quite difficult for two parties, let alone more, to come to mutual agreement when one of the parties refuses to converse.

And we have only until the Lord rejects us as a people to come to mutual agreement.

- Log November 21, 2017

I was asked a series of questions concerning a previous post in support of the G&S proposal entitled The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles. The post in question is here: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/authors-essay-in-support-of-rock-of.html

The G&S proposal The Rock of Jesus Christ is found here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1rOkljQEJFJ4M0eOpqvu809DfPqJKtBDJ

In order to save space on this blog, you may read my answers to the questions here: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

You all have been invited, and are still invited, to humble yourselves and reason upon the G&S together as equals in a neutral forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

For my part, I will stand on the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/but-if-it-be-not-built-upon-my-gospel.html

Remember: we only have until the Lord rejects us as a people to mutually agree as one to stand upon the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation, and his gospel alone.

- KenJensen November 21, 2017

Thanks Anonymous 1.

I likewise would publish my support for the resultant G&S put together by the Lots 7.

I, along with support of several others, had submitted the entry "Adopted by Mutual Agreement." (adopting the original GP as the G&S)

I heartily welcome the opportunity to coalesce around this LOTS document. After whatever modifications/changes are implemented, I expect to be able to sincerely adopt it by mutual agreement with whomever else would do likewise... not that there may be more things or less things that could be included... but because everything that is included is true (IMO).

- LoriTaylor November 21, 2017

Jared, I wanted to let you know that I am thoughtfully considering what you are proposing for the GS. I can tell that you have put much thought and study into your offering. It is beautiful in its simplicity and scope, but also startling after exposure to all the other options.

You have a unique perspective that is very different from the other proposals. I find your logic and reasoning to be sound, though I find myself wanting to disagree or add more (knee-jerk reactions). Relying on my own learning, I suppose.

I may be mistaken with this idea, but it seems to me that the majority of GS offerings are all patterned after Jeff Savage's original version. Yours is not. There is only one other—the "simple" one, that is akin to yours. I find myself wondering why that is. Why did Jeff's version include what it did? I respect and do not doubt his preparation and patience in waiting until he felt moved to write. I had no questions about the content. I still like it. But maybe I was also looking for too much guidance for myself and family, and that is why I wanted all the details?

I can see how anything more than what you have outlined looks and sounds like “a church” of some sort, one that appears to require people to join and do specific…things. Whereas what you suggest frees all up to pursue whatever God puts into the individual heart. If some few are drawn to study, learn, serve, and worship together that’s great! But if they are not and instead feel led to remain part of an organized religion where they can also learn to apply the Sermon on the Mount and other commandments as given by Christ, that’s great too! Or any other beautiful combination of life and living. I can see the freedom and openness of what you are suggesting.

But does it fulfill what Christ admonished us it needs to? Is it "wise in word and kind in deed," written by us, and will it “bless, benefit, and inform” those “others who know nothing, as yet, of [His] work now underway?”

Does His work now underway include all that Denver has been teaching of late concerning tithing, fellowships, Joseph Smith’s work, the Book of Mormon, and Christ’s Sacrifice? What does Christ see that I do not?

Perhaps if we can each let go of preconceived ideas about what the GS is supposed to contain and look like, we can then hear His guidance with clarity? No se at this point. But I am excited to begin praying and asking specific questions of Him. He is faithful to answer when we humble ourselves and meekly see His wisdom. Thanks for listening, to

me and everyone else.

- Log November 22, 2017

Mutual agreement means you, howsoever many you may possibly be who agree together on whatever it is you agree upon, cannot put upon me what I do not agree to. To put upon me what I do not agree to is unjust.

That is, this requires unanimity.

And I will not agree to more or less than the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, as the G&S.

And since we all, at least in theory agree upon the gospel of Jesus Christ, the quickest path to mutuality is to put forth exactly and only what we all actually do agree to.

You don't have to trust me, I don't have to trust you, we both trust in the Lord and stand upon his gospel.

- Stevevanleer November 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 22, 2017

How much do any of us actually know about the law of the celestial kingdom, though?

Were any of those who comprised the third part of the hosts of heaven on any councils with authority to formulate what we think of as Father's Plan of Salvation? Or were they all just part of the general population?

What does equality in heaven look like and how does it function? Is equality the same thing as agency?

Father's Council, did/do They not have to have unanimous agreement amongst themselves?

What would a kingdom look like if there was not mutual agreement all of the time?

What would a kingdom look like where there is mutual agreement all of the time?

Have any of us taken this dispute up with Christ our Lord and been given light and understanding that can be shared? We've looked up the definitions, but have we asked Him? Perhaps this is a very good example of something we need His understanding of? Right now we are all just trying to come up with scriptures, analogies, and metaphors to demonstrate our own thinking. We have passion. We have desire to be obedient to our Saviour. But are we filled with His love and hope for one another? Do we desire to become friends, to serve each other, to sacrifice for one another? Are we anxious no one is left behind or walks away from us as a group?

I want to love each person as they are, and if any of my words or thinking is not coming from such a desire it is nothing more than stinkin' thinkin' that I ought to toss away. I can learn to understand and demonstrate faith in and patience for those I don't always agree with until I can agree on this one thing--GS. I hope others can do the same for me, though I feel badly that I will test everyone on that because I am full of weakness.

- Taylor November 22, 2017

Re: Log November 22, 2017 at 11:15 AM

Having unanimity as a goal seems noble. REQUIRING it (of a dynamic group) seems like something very different. Some folks will never be persuaded of any given thing. You and I both agree on that. Don't we have to allow them to not be persuaded? If we allow them to not be persuaded then don't we have to allow for a lack of unanimity?

I honestly think we have to allow for a lack of unanimity if we want to honor people's long term freedom to dissent.

- Log November 22, 2017

The Lord requires mutual agreement. The Lord does not vary from what he has said. Therefore, mutual agreement is required. The reason is because this G&S can be a material addition to the terms of the covenant - the G&S is, in part, for us “to follow.” Therefore we all have to individually agree to it or else the addition is unjust.

If one of us does not agree, we don’t move. The requirement that we mutually agree upon a G&S is not a matter of interpretation, but it is instead the literal, facial reading of the A&C.

So, you don’t have to agree with me. Mutual agreement is not my requirement. If we do not do what the Lord has said, and present him something not mutually agreed to as a G&S and have it added to the scriptures we are compiling despite our lack of mutual agreement, the covenant is broken, as I read it.

- Taylor November 22, 2017

Gotcha. I think we both want to do what the Lord has said. And that's good enough for me.

Your brother,

Taylor

P.S. In the A&C the Lord said differences in understanding need not divide us. I think that is true. Here's to a mutually agreeable G&S.

Standing on The Rock of Jesus Christ

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

There has been an update to "The Rock of Jesus Christ" proposal, which can be found in the sidebar.

The Author has asked that we post the update here as well:

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Update 11/22/17

I was asked a series of questions concerning a previous post in support of the G&S proposal entitled The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles. The post in question is here: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/authors-essay-in-support-of-rock-of.html

The G&S proposal The Rock of Jesus Christ is found here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1rOkIjQEJFJ4M0eOpqvu809DfPqJKtBDJ

In order to save space on this blog, you may read my answers to the questions here: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

You all have been invited, and are still invited, to humble yourselves and reason upon the G&S together as equals in a neutral forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

For my part, I will stand on the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/but-if-it-be-not-built-upon-my-gospel.html

Remember: we only have until the Lord rejects us as a people to mutually agree as one to stand upon the gospel of Jesus Christ, his rock and his salvation.

A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots-UPDATE (11/22/17)

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Brothers and sisters,

We cannot express enough appreciation to enough people. Thank you first and foremost to all those who labored so diligently before: we hope that you will see your hard work, efforts, and influence all throughout this document. One of the desires of our heart was to use your work and give you all of the credit – you provided us the design and material, we simply picked up a needle and sewed it all together.

Thank you to those who offered such helpful suggestions the last few days, and took the time to reach out to us. We were very pleased to incorporate the majority of suggestions. Thank you to those who united in fasting and prayer with us. Our prayers were answered. All glory and praise be to God and the Lamb, forever and ever.

We seven (plus our brother Doug) stand united together. We proclaim with boldness and in humility that God has been with us in this work, He has led us, guided us, influenced us, and shown us the path wherein to walk, according to His will and the righteous desires of our hearts. This is not to invalidate all other work, or previous work – rather it affirms His approval on so much labor that has gone before and been done by so many others - all of which inspired us in weaving this tapestry. Our goal was to find unity. He has given us charity, for each other and for this people. We express our love for you, and our desires for peace and understanding to be with us all.

We prayed and asked God if He accepted our work. We state, in absolute certainty, that God has spoken to us and declared to us from the Heavens His answer. You will read those words in a moment, as given during a prayer from the seven of us voiced by Shalyce Woodard. We seven stand as witnesses that He spoke and made manifest to us His acceptance of this Guide and Standard. I, Jonathan Dippold, also testify that during this prayer and in answer to my question - if He approved this document and the words

therein - that He spoke clearly to me in my mind and heart and said: It is enough.

Though our offering is meagre – and that so many of you could and would do so much better - we know that God in His mercy accepts it in our weakness, and therefore, our work is done. We invite you to read it, pray over it, and understand our desire not to supplant any other efforts, but rather acknowledge them and tell you of our love and desires for peace with all.

We now will relate to you the words He told us, through Shalyce. To be clear, this is a prayer, and an answer to a prayer. We share both. We don't claim it to be anything more or less than that. We share it simply for your consideration, we have no other pretense or motivation. We sign our seven names at the end to state our witness and acceptance of His words (italics added for clarification):

Shalyce : Heavenly Father, we love thee so very much. This has been such a powerful experience for all of us. We're grateful for the opportunity, and I don't think any of us expected it, but many of us were prompted and knew it was coming. And that's because we choose you, and we choose to serve, and we're doing everything in our power to obey thy wishes and to keep thy commands. Father, we have worked diligently in an effort to unify and to bring thy people together. It has been labor. It has been hard. But it hasn't been without reward. We are so grateful for thy help, for thy blessing, and for thy hand in all of it. We have seen it, we have felt it, and we have discussed it. Thank you for being with us. Thank you for helping, for the many, many months that it took to compile all the documents that we used in order for this to even come about. Thank you for all of those that worked so hard for so many hours researching and laboring and doing all of that. All of this would not be possible without all of them, and without you. We are so grateful. Father in Heaven at this time, we present this document to you, with our love and our support and our deepest desire that Thou would accept and help us if need be, to correct anything that is amiss, or something that's missing. If it be thy will, we pray that thou would give us thy words and answer in response to this document. Is it sufficient to fill the need of a statement of principles intended to be a guide and standard for thy people, thy covenant people?

The Lord to Shalyce : Shalyce, I am here. And I can hear you. I know you're scared, and it's ok. But I love you, and I'm grateful for your effort.

The Lord to all those who read this : I am grateful for all of your effort. What I ask of you is not always easy, and sometimes it's quite a sacrifice. But I will labor with you through all of it, so long as you come unto me, and listen for my words. This document that you've presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them. At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice. Heed the words contained in them, heed the words contained and referenced in the footnotes. All of those words were mine. I want you to come to me. I will come to you, and we together can be one. Shalyce & the Lord in unison : I am so grateful for you.

Shalyce : I love you Lord. Is there anything more, or what would you have us do next? Thy will be done Lord.

The Lord : Present it to the people. Present it to my servant David, and you will know what you are to do.

Shalyce : We close this prayer with Jesus' support and authority. I say these words in His Name, Amen.

The following was shared with us from Jeff Reber. He relates the following thoughts occurred the night before the answer from the Lord was given. We share it with his permission:

While reading through our working draft of the Guide and Standard, I pondered over the priesthood requirement of seven women sustaining one man. The thought came into my mind of how the lots chosen almost represented the inverse of this process (six men and one woman). Immediately my mind was opened: by the Lord's will (and not by our design), the names selected actually ended up as seven men and one woman. Although the work was completed by six men and one woman, seven men had participated in some way. An alternate was needed to step in for our brother Doug very early on, this was Kirk, and he was the seventh man to be selected. My mind continued down the path to understand that perhaps men should be more willing to support and sustain the woman as she provides other inspired services or speaks on His behalf; because such would please the Lord. I wasn't certain these ideas came from the Spirit until Shalyce indicated she had been directed to be the one to pray, and then proceeded to receive the answer from the Lord. Right after ending our meeting for the night, I prayed privately for the Lord to confirm all that had taken place. Immediately my mind was taken back to what I had been taught the night before, and that this prompting of thoughts was intended to be a sign and witness that the answer had come from the Lord.

Click here to read additional testimonies and witnesses from the group as they are made available.

Click here for the Revised Guide and Standard or click on the link to the right in the PAGES box.

Your friends, Jack Hinkle, St. George, Utah Jason Carlson, Dallas, Texas John Webster, Cedar City, Utah Jeff Reber, Beaver Creek, Oregon Jonathan Dippold, Bury st. Edmunds, England Shalyce Woodard, Clinton, Utah Kirk Strong, Orem, Utah

Comments

- Log — November 22, 2017

I do not recieve your revelation and I dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

- Log — November 22, 2017

I believe I am on public record as dissenting from this proposal from the beginning, as well. Therefore, you never had unity with the body, for I am part of the body and you did not have unity with me.

Jared Livesey

- KenJensen — November 22, 2017

I'm All In. Thanks for your efforts, and Glory to God!

- Stevevanleer — November 22, 2017

I too have approached our God. He has expressed to me that the words of the seven are His words. I am a witness of these things. Our God has accepted our meager offering. Praise be to His Holy Name. All glory and honor be to Him. Amen.

- TBM November 22, 2017

"The Lord: Present it to the people. Present it to my servant David, and you will know what you are to do."

Also the Lord: "I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him."

In other words: Not David's circus, not David's clowns.

- AdrianLarsen November 22, 2017

To quote in context:

"You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands."

What, exactly, is David forbidden from participating in? What verbs exist in the Lord's command? Write and adopt.

It would be reasonable, therefore, to conclude David is forbidden from participating in writing or adopting the statement. Does that mean he can't read it? Now that the Lord has accepted it, is it ok to show it to David?

I believe you are manufacturing a contradiction where none exists.

- AdrianLarsen November 22, 2017

I think it's worth considering how the Lord defines "the body." If the words in the Guide and Standard are, in fact, the words of Christ, would it be correct to consider one who opposes them, part of "the body of Christ?"

Or to put a finer point on it, can someone be part of the body of Christ while rejecting and fighting against Christ's words?

When He requires the statement to be adopted by the mutual agreement of His people, is he referring to all people, everywhere, or specifically to those whom He claims as "His?"

According to scripture, His sheep hear His voice. Those who will not hear His voice are not His sheep.

I think these are all ideas we should ponder carefully.

Everything in the Guide and Standard clearly comes from Christ, and has been exhaustively documented in His word. Some of us may not like the process by which it was created. Some may not like the topics chosen. Some may think the flow is bad. Some may prefer another document.

But those aren't the real questions before us. The real question is two-fold.

Are these Christ's words?
Has he accepted this Guide and Standard?

If so, that settles it--at least for me.

No matter what, there will always be those who reject and oppose. That's a given. In fact, it's even a requirement. And yet the Lord commands it to be adopted by mutual agreement. The contradiction is resolved by the Lord's own limitation--it will be accepted by, and adopted by the mutual agreement of those He considers "His people."

- Log November 22, 2017

I do not see where Denver Snuffer's approval is either permitted or required for the G&S proposal to be adopted by the mutual agreement of the covenant participants. If he is forbidden to participate at all in the production and adoption of the G&S, then it seems the appearance of a contradiction remains.

I grant opinions may differ, so we'll have to see whether Denver puts his stamp of approval upon this proposal, which proposal is not mutually agreed upon.

- Log November 22, 2017

We shall see if the Lord agrees with you that when he said "mutual agreement" he really meant "majority rules," with the additional provision absent from the A&C but made explicit by yourself that the minority who do not agree to be subject to the will of the majority are, unbeknownst to them and without the Lord's say-so in the A&C, severed from his covenant.

"If you're not with us, you're against us" indeed.

- AdrianLarsen November 22, 2017

Wait, what? Who brought up any need for Denver's approval? The command is to present it to the people and to David. The Lord didn't say "Present it to David to see if he approves." He simply said to present it. Let's not put words in the Lord's mouth.

- AdrianLarsen November 22, 2017

I did not state, nor do I agree that mutual agreement simply means "majority rules." I have written ardently and at length on both of these topics in contradiction of the opinion you claim I hold.

My point is simply this:

IF these are the Lord's words, we oppose them at our peril.

It has nothing to do with majority or minority.

- LoriTaylor November 23, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 23, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TBM November 23, 2017

If Dave isn't involved, why mention presenting it to him at all, if not for his approval, or opinion? Why not say "present it to Rock Waterman" or "present it to Adrian"? Or "Present it to the scripture committee so we can put something in the scriptures and get this clown fiesta over with"?

- Mark November 23, 2017

Log - God Bless you brother. As I recall, immediately after coming back from Boise you posted something about how you thought that you had made a mistake in standing and making a covenant and that you "take it back" for lack of a better term. You praised an individual that you knew who had the courage to NOT stand along with everyone else and make the covenant because that individual didn't feel that they "knew" without a doubt that the words of Denver Snuffer were from the Lord. Even though later that same weekend that individual received a blessing and did end up receiving the covenant. So, therefore, I'm perplexed about where it is that you actually stand. This new Guide and Standard says that we follow the Lord's law in the Sermon on the Mount. However, we recognized our belief that God has called servants in the last days - namely Joseph Smith and Denver Snuffer. There will be others. Do you honestly believe that there is anything in this document that the Lord would be displeased with? Do you honestly believe it would persuade anyone to do less than live the teachings of the Savior on the Sermon on the Mount? Is it not better to agree than to be right? Having to "be right" always excludes love.

- TBM November 23, 2017

I guess the important question now is, who gets to decide what the words of Christ are? Is any amalgamation of scriptural words equivalent to "the words of Christ" that should be adopted as our guide and standard to follow?

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/11/a-parable.html

- Log November 23, 2017

Adrian,

I commend to your review JST 1 Kings 13.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 23, 2017

We do not share beliefs in the role of Denver Snuffer. Denver as prophet, priest, and king unto the people ends any hope of Zion for us, for you don’t get Zion when we aren’t equal, both temporally and spiritually.

If this document were only going to be a matter of inward observation - that is, if it only applied to the covenant participants, and if the covenant were not going to be proselyted into - then I would be willing to subject myself to whatever got passed, without participating in the discussion. It would die with us.

The Golden Rule - the law of the Celestial Kingdom - demands that I not put forth that which will lead astray or cause to stumble from the right way. I do not have anything against those outside “the movement” that I should wish to do them harm.

Therefore, not for our sakes, but for those unfortunate souls we may yet infect with our

idolatry of men and our disbelief in the law and commandments of Jesus Christ I shall not agree with anything other than the gospel of Jesus Christ as the G&S save it be that the Lord commands me to. I don't have authority to do otherwise.

Let every man judge for himself, but I will remind you of the following passage:

Mosiah 23:12-14
12 And now I say unto you, ye have been oppressed by king Noah, and have been in bondage to him and his priests, and have been brought into iniquity by them; therefore ye were bound with the bands of iniquity.

13 And now as ye have been delivered by the power of God out of these bonds; yea, even out of the hands of king Noah and his people, and also from the bonds of iniquity, even so I desire that ye should stand fast in this liberty wherewith ye have been made free, and that ye trust no man to be a king over you.

14 And also trust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.

I will have no king but Jesus; I will not agree to any G&S which places Denver above any of us or gives cause for men to seek to Denver for light. I will put forth no guide and standard, nor principles, except those which Jesus taught by his own mouth, save he shall command me otherwise.

- Log November 23, 2017

Adrian,

I like your idea of not putting words in the Lord's mouth. That's a great reason to exclude anything Denver has ever said which isn't a direct quote from the Lord from the G&S.

Including any mortal's words as the Lord's words when the Lord is not being quoted is to put words in the Lord's mouth.

I think we should also exclude any words from the Lord which are addressed to Denver Snuffer and are not addressed to anyone else, because they aren't the Lord's words to anyone else.

To do otherwise would also seem to be, if not putting words in his mouth, intentionally misleading others into thinking that when the Lord was speaking to Denver, he was really speaking to, well, anyone other than Denver.

We wouldn't wish to lead anyone astray by holding Denver up as a surrogate for the Lord, would we?

Jared Livesey

- Log November 23, 2017

And, since the A&C is already had by all the covenant participants, and since the Lord in the A&C is only talking to the covenant participants, and since all covenant participants of necessity already have agreed to the covenant, there is no reason to put forth any of the A&C language in the G&S to those who aren't covenant participants: the Lord isn't talking to them.

Jared Livesey

- TBM November 23, 2017

It is my impression that Denver really doesn't want this to be the church of Denver Snuffer, LDS 2.0. He doesn't want to be our strongman. He doesn't want to be our leader. He doesn't want us to canonize his non-revelatory statements. What if he meant it when he said

"The “Strongman” model with only one prophetic figure will not work if you seek Zion."

What if Denver doesn't want to be our Ezekiel 14 idol?

So if my impression is accurate, how should Dave react when people call him "The Servant" or "The Servant David"? Should he order us to stop making him our idol? If he did, would that be an act of unrighteous dominion on his part?

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/11/daves-strongman-catch-22.html

- Taylor November 23, 2017

There's a section in The Second Comforter that addresses a lot of this idolatry, or words of man vs words of God, vs strongman stuff. Excerpt below. Brackets mine. We don't know peoples background or growth chart. I think we ought to be kind and set the correct example as we all attempt to follow the Lord.

Quote: "The Gospel requires us to proceed carefully, to be sure. We are required to find the voice of the Spirit for ourselves. Every Saint must become, in their own right, a prophet or prophetess. Not to lead others, but themselves (Numbers 11:29). For each must choose for him or herself to find and follow the Master’s voice in his or her life. The only sure rock upon which salvation remains to be found is that same rock of revelation which Christ assured Peter was secure to trust. If you follow [Insert leader] President Hinckley solely because he is the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, you are following a man. But if you follow President Hinckley because you hear the Master’s voice in his counsel and teaching, then you are following the Lord, and not a man. There is a great difference between the two. One honors the Lord and leads to exaltation. The other misses the mark and makes such followers Telestial (D&C 76: 98-101). This distinction is pivotal to salvation itself. It is not merely rhetorical, but of such substance if you fail to understand it you fail in the test of mortality itself. This is what we signed up for in coming to mortality. We accepted this challenge and expected it. Now it confronts us. So the test is afoot and must be taken with caution and humility."

There's a phrase that says this distinction ins pivotal to salvation itself. Lets be kind as each of us addresses these distinctions.

- Stevevanleer November 23, 2017

Every person ought to go to God alone between you and Him. He has either spoken to us as presented by the seven, or He has not. Go ask Him. This is a binary question. Yes or no. If God’s people cannot hear His voice - then He has no people. It is Him we need to hear and hearken to not the contentious voices of men.

The shrill voices of contentious men, fear, name calling, and insistence on “follow me or else” are perfectly discernible. Do you hear God’s voice in the insistent demands you hear around you? Ask yourself - is this how God sounds? Is this how God speaks? Does He insist you accept His words? Does He resort to name calling? Does He threaten and instill fear to get you to listen and obey? He only ever uses gentle persuasion, love, and kindness, to try to move you to a position.

Judge the voices even on this thread and simply ask yourself, is this how the Redeemer speaks and communicates and sounds? Does the Master dig in His heels and tell you insistently to either believe Him or else?

Or, on the other hand, would the one who died for you speak gently and kindly to you? Telling you He accepts your trust and faith in Him? Does He correct you harshly using bitter words? Does He speak in absolutes that He tells you have to be accepted by you Or else?

Read the announcement from the seven and discern whether the voice of God Speaks to you. His voice is still and small. His voice is gentle and full of peace.

Judge between the voices on this thread and discern the voice of God. He does speak to you. His voice is peace. Where do you find peace in the words hurled at you here?

You judge - peace and the voice of God or the voice of contentious men demanding this be this way or that - or else

- TBM November 23, 2017

Indeed Taylor. When I point a finger at others I'm pointing 3 at myself. I'm as much an idolater as anyone here. I'm no prophet myself, yet Zion needs many prophets.

- ScottStover November 23, 2017

So, I seem to recall something being said about having Denver take this to the Lord. I felt like that perpetuated our dependence on Denver - which is not a good thing. I was pleased to see that these 8 took it to the Lord themselves, and received their answer. We must all do the same thing. Log is right - we cannot rely on Denver as a Prophet, Priest, and King. However - I'm not sure where that PPK designation came from. He is a servant (as would be any prophet, priest and king). Log - have YOU declared him a PPK? Where did that come from? Are you being rhetorical, illustrating our over-dependence and glorification of Denver? It didn't sound like that.

There are times, as experience is showing us, when a focal point is needed - a unification that is more easily done by a man, and Denver has performed that service for us, but we MUST wean ourselves from this necessity. This whole GP experience has been an exercise in just that. We MUST learn to function without turning to Denver. Denver's service is to help us get to that point - but WE cannot lose sight of that goal. Log is right - Zion cannot function as long as we're still dependent upon Denver. He knows that, I know that, Denver knows that, and I think most of us know that.

I view this as a great step in that direction. Let's keep going.

- Stevevanleer November 23, 2017

We all appreciate that Denver is a teacher. We all are very clear that no man is to

become an idol. We are all so eager and anxious to point that out and remind one another. Why can we not be as animate about this:

2 Behold, I say unto you, were it not for the transgressions of my people, speaking concerning the church and not individuals, they might have been redeemed even now.
3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

If idolizing a man will destroy all hope for Zion - so will our refusal to unite in peace cooperation and love. Which poison are we choosing by our insistent division?

- Log November 23, 2017

Scott,

Just to note something - Denver Snuffer once said he has no respect for anyone who calls themselves a Snufferite. One can be a Snufferite - a disciple, or follower, of Denver Snuffer - and not call themselves by that name. A rose by any other name, as the saying goes, would smell as sweet.

For reference: http://denversnuffer.blogspot.com/2013/12/disgusting.html

Likewise, it is not necessary to formally declare Denver to be our prophet, priest, and king - it is only necessary that we treat him as such in order for us to have taken him as such.

It is time to wean ourselves off of Denver Snuffer entirely or we will have, indeed, another prophet, priest, and king, and fall short of Zion because of inequality and iniquity.

- ScottStover November 23, 2017

Log, we are certainly agreed on this - the need to wean ourselves from dependence on or idolatry of Denver. I just see that he has performed a service as we learn to do that. We are weak, but I am hopeful.

- ScottStover November 23, 2017

Steve, you sound frustrated. This is what it is. The Lord is in charge. I think things are moving along quite nicely. I'm personally a little saddened by the controversy, not only with Log's objection, but with tone of impatience expressed by others. Log is in his place, you're in yours, and I'm in mine. Any who cannot tolerate Zion will self-select out. In saying that, I'm not pointing at anyone, I'm just stating a principle that I think will play out. We don't need to be anxious about it at all. It will be what it will be. We just need to focus on loving and not judging. To quote the Lord's words to me specifically, "Trust me, relax". Now, if I could only take my own counsel. :)

November 23, 2017

- Log

Scott,

This is the time to become independent from Denver Snuffer. If we do not do it now, we won't be able to do it in the foreseeable future because our dependence upon Denver will be enshrined in the G&S, and be part of "our" message: "Denver speaks for the Lord."

- ScottStover November 23, 2017

Log, so you're objecting to including the words from the A&C, or from anything else Denver has written? You said, "That is not direct revelation" didn't you? Well, I think we have needed Denver as a go between, as the glue that has brought us together, but if we've learned anything from his teachings, it's that we must indeed become independent. I agree that now is the time, but I don't think we need to go so far as removing those things from the GP - if that's indeed what you're suggesting.

- Log November 23, 2017

I won't agree to a G&S which cites anything from or through Denver.

I won't point people to a living mortal messenger / servant / prophet / priest / king without direct commandment of the Lord. See Acts 16:16-18 and note well the evil spirit's message, and consider that reliance upon Joseph is where the Church went wrong - and after Joseph was taken, the majority followed the leader ever since.

I will instead point people to the Lord. Hence, I will not agree to a G&S which is either more or less than the Lord's gospel as I have outlined.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

I appreciate Log's main point about avoiding idolatry and priestcraft and to be a community of equals.

But I ask you Log, do you believe Denver has failed in any degree in making the SAME warnings? I've read over his 10 talks (repeatedly) and read lots of his blog and many of his books, and see repeated and passionate and articulate warnings to do and believe just as you admonish (as far as rejecting a strongman). He has been very condemning of the strongman model and totally slams it and warns the people to not go that direction, and he has pointed out the quotes of Joseph Smith which indicate the same thing (that our minds become darkened when we rely on a mortal, even when that mortal is a true servant).

To me it seems that any time a true prophet/teacher/servant is chosen and sent, he is immediately placed in a sort of "no win situation," if you will. The moment that servant declares what he has been commanded to declare, is the moment that some people (maybe even most) will begin to practice idolatry of that servant. NO MATTER WHAT the servant does or says to avoid said idolatry, some people will choose of their own free will to idolize that servant.

Do you agree? Are you one of those people with such tendencies? I confess I have those tendencies, truth be told. I need to be on guard to NOT do that. Thus I appreciate your warnings.

But if YOU were such a servant, and God had commanded YOU to warn the people

(which is the role of true messengers sent by God), what would you do or say differently than Denver has said?

One thing you say is that you would exclude anything the Lord told you (as a true messenger) from the Guide and Standard. You said we should exclude revelation from God given to Denver. Isn't that counterproductive? And if that's the case, wouldn't we have to exclude anything Joseph said, and anything that appears in the Scriptures, as I don't know of one part of the Scriptures that wasn't recorded physically by a mortal man? Jesus commands mortal men to write. They write. So if you apply your caveat to others, we wouldn't be able to include the Sermon on the Mount, which was recorded by Jesus' messengers. In fact, we would have nothing to include.

If I may say so, it appears you have an objection to the idea that Denver is speaking with the Lord and relaying messages as commanded by the Lord, as is the role of a true messenger. Sounds like you object to there being a true prophet (PPK, if you want to use your terms) in our midst TODAY. Mind you, most of us lament that ALL of us aren't prophets (Numbers 11:29). But it also sounds like you are okay with dead prophets' words being included.

And I think it is incumbent upon you to confirm or deny what Mark said above. Mark spoke first-hand about you when saying, "As I recall, immediately after coming back from Boise you posted something about how you thought that you had made a mistake in standing and making a covenant and that you "take it back" for lack of a better term."

Do you confirm or deny you felt you made a mistake? In other words, are you of "the body" or not? It appears you are NOT, because you took it back, so to speak. If you don't feel right about the covenant, then that's fine, you should own it, shouldn't you? Please weigh in and clarify. Nobody should condemn you. It's an important clarification. Obviously, "mutual agreement" would be impossible if mainstream Mormons were voting in this process, or people who reject Denver as a messenger sent by God.

The ironic thing is that the essence of your objection is shared by Denver and probably by most people here.

With Love,

Joe A.

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe,

It doesn't matter whether it was a mistake or not. All that matters is that I am one of you covenant participants in the eyes of God. If you disbelieve me, inquire of God. Here is the formula for such inquiries:

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

The sticking point typically is that the inquirer is not keeping the commandments of God as they are written in Luke 6:20-49, JST Matthew 5-7, and 3 Nephi 12-15.

I explained at length why I shall not agree to any G&S featuring any material from Denver Snuffer here: http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

See in particular my responses to questions 12 and 13.

If you feel my responses to questions 12 and 13 are inadequate, please tell me specifically where you find them deficient and I will do my best to clarify what I have not yet made plain.

You say:

"If I may say so, it appears you have an objection to the idea that Denver is speaking with the Lord and relaying messages as commanded by the Lord, as is the role of a true messenger. Sounds like you object to there being a true prophet (PPK, if you want to use your terms) in our midst TODAY."

I have no problem with Denver serving God in whatever matters God has commanded him. Denver's service to God has nothing whatever to do with my service to God. I will have no king but Jesus, neither shall I permit my authority to be used to advance idolatry of men to the world. If you wish to take the man Denver Snuffer to be your prophet, priest, and king, you may do so - in your own fellowship. You lack power to compel me to take him as my prophet, priest, or king, by the Lord's requirement that any G&S can only be adopted by mutual agreement, and you lack power to exclude me from the number of covenant participants.

And, without the Lord commanding me directly, I shall not depart from his gospel, nor publish more nor less than his gospel to the world.

You can have the gospel of the Lord and be free to make up for whatever deficiencies you find in his doctrine and his law and his commandments within your own fellowship.

Jared Livesey

- ScottStover November 24, 2017

Log, I think maybe I have detected something in your last comment that may be important. You mention authority and power in your statement. While the context around authority is as "your" authority, and the context of power is the power of others, the fact that they are even mentioned at all in this discussion is, I think, revealing.

I don't think there is any authority in the G&S. It is simply a guideline the help prevent others coming among us from having to reinvent the wheel. It is a statement of beliefs coupled with suggested guidelines (a GUIDE) than can be used by fellowships. As a slight aside, I think when we ask the Lord questions like that about sustaining priesthood holders by 7 women, well, I can see Him roll His eyes a little, like, "you still don't get it, do you". Well, Ok - since you want a guideline, here's a good one".

You also mention power. I am of the opinion that the only power that exists eternally is the power that comes through the very teachings you mentioned above - Christ's great sermons - which, by the way, are NOT commandments. They THEMSELVES are a guide for keeping the two commandments - love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Power AND authority come only from living these two commandments. That is the beauty of the gospel, and it is the source of Christ's power AND authority.

This is why I don't personally feel the need to critique either the scriptures or the G&S. Christ is indeed my authority, the source of all power, and any authority or power that might some day devolve upon me can only come through the exercise of charity. The words in the scriptures I accept as A guide (not the only guide) - insights to enhance my understanding of how to love as He did. Anything more than that is, in my opinion, idolatry of the scriptures.

The covenant I made was to love God and love my neighbor (as myself). That's what I heard Denver say when he read the A&C, and once I heard the words in that setting, I knew I would stand. There were lots of words surrounding it, but we humans seem to need all those fancy words, even when the gospel is so simple.

This comment serves two purposes in my mind: 1) to clarify to all how I view this issue of the G&S, as well as Denver, and your objections, and 2) offer you another viewpoint for your consideration.

Ultimately, the gospel is love. God is love. Christ is love. This is the only commandment - to love. All else is derivative and a guideline. All exercised authority is between me and Christ. No man holds authority over me that I do not concede him. All righteous power comes ultimately from love. It is the way of the universe, it is the law of all creation. We can choose to live in harmony with that law or not. To do so is life - to drink of the living water. To choose otherwise is sin and death, or separation from God.

Peace to you, my friend!

Scott

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

Log, (part 1 of 2)

You said, "It doesn't matter whether it was a mistake or not. All that matters is that I am one of you covenant participants in the eyes of God."

I'm not comfortable with the statement that mistakes don't matter. Isn't the matter extremely simple? The covenant words and the covenant itself came by way of Denver Snuffer, an authorized messenger who doesn't beat us over the head with keys and that he's "the man." He ridicules those who would follow him, in fact, and everything that I've seen from him indicates his utter contempt for priestcraft and idolatry. He avoids priestcraft and being the target of idolatry literally like the plague. I mean, he stays clear in every way you would if you were trying to steer clear.

So either you do or don't believe it was a mistake for you to accept that covenant as coming from an authorized servant. Which is it? It's an immensely important question.

The actual words in the questions of the covenant are harmless and agreeable with the Scriptures and easily acceptable to the Christian mind. Perhaps that's why you said YES originally? But you didn't apparently think it all the way through. The administrator is of extreme importance. If anybody else in the world had gotten up there and administered the covenant, I personally wouldn't have said YES to the questions. I believe Denver was sent. Therefore, his mission I respect. "Whether by mine own voice or by my servants it is the same". God could have been administering the covenant that day, as far as I'm concerned. So the point is WHO delivered the covenant, not WHAT the words of the covenant were. Is he, Denver Snuffer, a deceiver (as you seem to indicate by associating him with the story of the deceived damsel in Acts 16:16-18), or is he a true "DC 1:38" servant?

That is the crux of the matter. It ALWAYS has been the crux. Was Adam a true prophet? Was Noah? Was Moses? Was John the Baptist? Was Joseph? Is Denver?

In Acts 16, the damsel who was possessed by an evil spirit actually was stating a truth by declaring: "These men (referring to Paul and his companions) are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation." Paul appeared to not like what the spirit was saying through her, as you point out, and commanded the spirit to leave her, which it did. Remember that the damsel's abilities to tell the future (thanks to that spirit which possessed her) was a source of money for those who employed her. It's not clear to me what irked Paul. She had turned into a bit of a groupie, you might say. Her reputation proceeded her, and perhaps Paul didn't like having a well-known soothsayer-for-pay backing up his testimony. Perhaps her testimony actually hurt his missionary efforts. And I think it's plausible and warranted that, as you say, Paul didn't like her pointing to them, when the true "way of salvation" was Jesus Christ, and not them, though she correctly stated they were SHOWING the way or path of salvation, which is what true servants do. Paul was no doubt a humble and meek man, and didn't want undue focus on him. Denver is the same way, but nevertheless he is obeying the Lord in doing what he's been doing.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

(Part 2 of 2)

Like I said earlier, he's can't "win". If he says he's sent, then many will idolize him. If wasn't sent, then what he says doesn't matter. That's why Jesus says a true prophet is always dishonored by his own people. He can't "win".

And as far as being personally commanded to point to a true servant, you know how the Lord describes those who must "be commanded in all things."

So you must decide where you stand. Lukewarm won't cut it, Log, do you think?

Either Denver is on a mission SENT by God, or he isn't. If you believe he is "sent", then you can't object to including his words anymore than you could object to including the words of Joseph or former prophets. Could you answer concisely or free to elaborate if you feel the need to.

Joe A.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

And Log,

I've skimmed through your blog post where you answered several questions (not sure who was asking the questions), but I generally see you saying a lot I think is scripturally sound.

But rather than explore everything you've written, it just makes sense to establish if you think Denver was sent or not, and therefore if you made a mistake in entering into that covenant. I don't see how you can have it both ways.

Do you think Denver is deceived, or is a deceiver, or is he truly sent, and why? It does matter.

I'm kind of confused about your intentions and genuineness. Your "About Me" statement on your blog says, "I am an inactive member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ("LDS Church").

"I have been baptized again outside the auspices of the LDS Church because I believe Denver Snuffer has truthfully reported that Jesus Christ renewed the commandment to be baptized and so-called "rebaptism" is no longer a service that the LDS Church provides for members."

It seems like you endorse him as a true servant there, but then elsewhere spend a lot of time appearing to argue against him being a legit, "sent" servant of God.

Which is it?

Sincerely, with no intent to offend, I'm just trying to understand you,

Joe A.

- LoriTaylor November 24, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 24, 2017

Scott,

You say "Christ's great sermons - which, by the way, are NOT commandments."

Christ says, in the Sermon: "Whosoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so to do, he shall in no wise be saved in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach these commandments of the law until it be fulfilled, the same shall be called great and shall be saved in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, except your righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Christ says, at the end of the Sermon: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

Christ says, after the Sermon: "Behold, I am the law, and the light. Look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live; for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life. Behold, I have given unto you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments. And this is the law and the prophets, for they truly testified of me."

Therefore, do not make the error of thinking the Sermon is not the law and commandments of the Lord.

The law of Moses, of which the so-called "Two Great Commandments" are a part is done away in Christ, as he himself said: "Behold, I say unto you that the law is fulfilled that was given unto Moses. Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfil the law; therefore it hath an end."

The Sermon is the law and commandments to all mankind, as stated in the Book of Mormon.

"And the angel spake unto me, saying: These last records, which thou hast seen among the Gentiles, shall establish the truth of the first, which are of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and shall make known the plain and precious things which have been taken away from them; and shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people, that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father, and the Savior of the world; and that all men must come unto him, or they cannot be saved. And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb; wherefore they both shall be established in one; for there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth."

Let me repeat these so that there can be no misunderstanding.

"[A]ll men must come unto him, or they cannot be saved. And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."

The Sermon is what he gave both the Jews and the Nephites by his own mouth. The Sermon is the words by which all mankind must come to Christ.

That's why he said this to the Nephites at the end of the Sermon:
"And now it came to pass that when Jesus had ended these sayings he cast his eyes round about on the multitude, and said unto them: Behold, ye have heard the things which I taught before I ascended to my Father; therefore, whoso remembereth these sayings of mine and doeth them, him will I raise up at the last day."

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "So either you do or don't believe it was a mistake for you to accept that covenant as coming from an authorized servant. Which is it? It's an immensely important question."

The sole question is: am I a covenant participant? If so, then you go through me for any G&S proposal as per the covenant.

How I got here is not related to the fact that as a covenant participant a G&S doesn't get adopted except you get me to agree to it.

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "And as far as being personally commanded to point to a true servant, you know how the Lord describes those who must 'be commanded in all things.'"

I reply: I do know it. The Lord doesn't like to micromanage people in the execution of his commandments. You know that he has commanded us to, literally, "give to every man that asks of you." If therefore you withhold when someone asks of you, deciding that you will only give if the Lord commands you, then you are one of those who must be "commanded in all things."

On the other hand, if the Lord has commanded me to cry repentance, as he has all of his covenant people, then it is upon me to tell you to repent of your dependence, your trust, in men, and to cease from your idolizing of his servants. Thus in this I am fulfilling his command, while those who encourage, or even seek to compel, reverence towards

the Lord's servants are breaking his commandments by teaching men error and leading them astray.

I can object to Denver's words being included in a G&S because I know where the Church went wrong, and the only way to repent of depending upon a man to bring you the word of the Lord is to stand independent of him and do the Lord's will for yourself.

By, for example, preaching his gospel and nothing else save he shall command.

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "I'm just trying to understand you."

Joe, you also say: "[I don't want to] explore everything you've written."

These two are contradictory.

- Log November 24, 2017

Scott,

You say: "I don't think there is any authority in the G&S."

You are mistaken, for the very reason you state in your next sentence: "It is simply a guideline the help prevent others coming among us from having to reinvent the wheel."

It is for us "to follow." That makes it potentially a material addition to the covenant obligations. Because it may be a material addition to the covenant obligations, it cannot be imposed upon any covenant participant except if they agree to it. Since any G&S that gets adopted only gets adopted by mutual agreement, if we all agree upon a G&S, then it is for us "to follow" as per the covenantal language.

Whatever gets put forth as a G&S therefore is by my authority - and yours - and each individual that agrees to it, for the Lord has given us authority to put it forth by mutual agreement.

Knowing that reverencing a man is an error, no G&S featuring material that comes through Denver Snuffer shall be put forth by my authority.

You're free to adopt whatever wheels in your fellowship you feel are compatible with the gospel of Jesus Christ - you simply cannot impose such upon me in mine.

- ScottStover November 24, 2017

Log - I would not seek to impose the G&S on your and fellowship. What makes you think I would. My statement is that no one has the right nor the power to do that. That's why the G&S is merely a guide. I don't understand why you think that is the case, and I certainly don't understand why you would ever think that I would seek to impose anything on you. I'm sure you're using the pejorative "you", but I'm making it personal, because your statement is in response to my personal belief. I'm not saying I'm offended or anything - only that I can only speak for myself. I, personally, do not believe there is any power or authority in the G&S except that which we choose to give it.

- Log November 24, 2017

Scott, if the G&S is for you "to follow," then is the G&S for you to not follow?

- ScottStover November 24, 2017

Log - silly me to wade into the waters of the sermon with you! May I make it clear - to me, the sermon is everything. It is an expression of Christ's nature. It is an expression of the law of creation that I mentioned above. It is the goal of my life - although one that I fall woefully short of, largely because I have not defeated the natural man in me. I don't disagree with your statement - I was just saying that even the sermons point back to the 2 great commandments. As He said, "upon these hang all the law and the prophets". The last thing I would seek to do is minimize the sermons.

- ScottStover November 24, 2017

Log - huh? You've lost me now.

- Log November 24, 2017

Then preach the Sermon, and do not replace it with the Mosaic so-called "Two Great Commandments."

With the recognition in Jesus that God is a man, the Two Great Commandments are themselves reducible to this: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them, for this is the law and the prophets."

The rest of the commandments of the Sermon are how we keep that law.

- Log November 24, 2017

Scott: The Lord says, in the A&C, that the G&S is for us "to follow." Is a covenant participant following the G&S, as per the covenant language, if a covenant participant does not follow it?

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

I don't have the time to invest in reading your voluminous writings. Your comments here are enough to persuade me I shouldn't invest the time because of the contentious nature. And I like a good debate mind you.

You said above that everything goes through you. The spirit I feel from you is that you are enjoying the veto power.

If even you have that.

Because you're not answering my straightforward, simple question to you, that raises a concern if are genuine. And if you are not genuine, then I believe that throws into question the legitimacy of your status as a covenant-maker.

Obviously, one would expect opposition to this process. There is opposition in all things. So one would quite naturally EXPECT opposers to illegitimately take upon them the covenant so as to gain intel and/or to oppose the work of God.

This is my first dialogue with you so I don't know you or your intentions (and would like to give you the benefit of the doubt), but I think it's fair and reasonable to ask if you think Denver is a true servant.

Why would any intelligent Christian take upon themselves a covenant offered by God if they didn't believe the terms were given by God (via a true messenger)?

You can't escape the question, if you want others to know your true intentions, without owning how you view Denver Snuffer.

I think it's interesting you carefully chose the word "reverencing" Denver. That's not a bad choice of words. But reverencing is not idolizing. If you revere someone, that doesn't carry the weight of worshipping--not even close. So you are arguing against yourself. On the one hand your implying at the very least a worship of Denver, but by using the term "reverence", you show you understand revering isn't worshipping. In other words, including his words may in fact cause us to respect or revere him--that is true. And I say, So what?! If you don't revere people who commune with God then you probably have an inferiority complex. It's okay if some are more intelligent than you. You're okay with that I assume? We aren't all "equals" in light and truth, my friend.

Sincerely,

Joe

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "If you don't revere people who commune with God then you probably have an inferiority complex."

I say: "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

[For, if ye do,] are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges [having] evil thoughts?

[I]f ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

If, therefore, you reverence Denver above any, you are not the Lord's.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

Log,

Sounds like you're getting all lawyerly. I respect and revere all kinds of people. I respect my elders. I don't think you can persuade me that's a sin.

I guess I couldn't persuade you to clarify if you believe Denver is a deceiver or not.

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "I respect and revere all kinds of people. I respect my elders. I don't think you can persuade me that's a sin."

I say: My obligation to warn you from sin is fulfilled by quoting the scriptures in your ears.

You say: "I guess I couldn't persuade you to clarify if you believe Denver is a deceiver or

not."

I say: I have already said, multiple times, I believe Denver Snuffer.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

Log,

Thank you for your attempt to warn me of sin by quoting scripture. I don't interpret those scriptures to mean what you say they mean. Respecting / revering someone for their accomplishments or wisdom is not remotely the same as worshipping them. Christ commands us to honor our parents. So that's a sin in your mind?

I've seen plenty of folks like you who are upset instead of grateful that there are others who possess more light, knowledge, and truth than they do. They feel threatened by such people instead of inspired.

Denver or Joseph don't threaten my ego. I realize I'm not their equal in knowledge but God says I can be. Joseph and Denver don't claim to be greater than anybody as far as authority to compel respect or obedience. Denver views himself as our equal in that regard.

But he is delivering a message from God.

Your snswer was a lawyer answer. So I ask again...

Do you believe God has "sent" Denver and authorized him to offer the terms of the covenant?

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "Christ commands us to honor our parents."

I say: The law of Moses is ended, including the 10 Commandments. The Sermon, which is the law and commandments of Jesus Christ to all mankind, says nothing about honoring our parents. And, to clarify a point of confusion, "to honor" means to obey, to grant their requests, which the Sermon makes clear we are to do for everyone. So you're changing the subject.

Joe, you say: "Do you believe God has 'sent' Denver and authorized him to offer the terms of the covenant?"

I say: Yes.

- Underdog2 November 24, 2017

Do any scriptures say the 10 Commandments were part of the Law of Moses? I've never heard such a notion that God has rescinded the 10 Commandments. But He did do away with the animal sacrifices, etc. We are to offer up a broken heart and contrite spirit as sacrifices (3 Nephi 9) instead of animals.

Jesus made sure the 10 Commandments AND the Law of Christ as contained in the Sermon on the Mount were included in the BoM. Both are essential and I don't believe contradict each other. I'm surprised to hear anybody boldly declare that we are not subject to the 10 Commandments anymore. That sounds totally apostate to me. Even

though that's off topic, I'd love to hear your scriptural basis for such an extreme view that I would call anti Christ.

You said you believe Denver is sent by God to administer the covenant.

I assume you believe Joseph was similarly sent?

But you accept Joseph's words in the G&S but reject/ forbid Denver's. Why?

- LoriTaylor November 24, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 24, 2017

Joe, you say: "But you accept Joseph's words in the G&S but reject/ forbid Denver's. Why?"

I say: For reasons explained here:
http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-to-rock-of-jesus-christ.html

- Log November 24, 2017

Where It All Went Wrong

2 Nephi 32:5 For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do.

All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know (A&C p. 3).

So, the Holy Ghost, given to us when we exercise faith in Jesus, repent from all our sins, and are baptized, shows us everything we should do, and everything we should know. If one takes the Holy Ghost for their guide, they have no need for any mortal to teach them, as John noted (1 John 2:20, 27).

Where did the Church go wrong?

If the gentiles unto whom the Book of Mormon was given had hearkened unto the Holy Ghost they would have come unto me in Hyrum and Joseph's day. But they did not hearken, and would not allow me to abide with them in word, and in power and in very deed (A&C p. 3).

They did not listen to the Holy Ghost, which would have told them all that they should know and all that they should do. Who were they listening to?

In a citation from The Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, page 237, we find the following account:

President Joseph Smith read the 14th chapter of Ezekiel--said the Lord had declared by the Prophet, that the people should each one stand for himself, and depend on no man or men in that state of corruption of the Jewish church--that righteous persons could only

deliver their own souls--applied it to the present state of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--said if the people departed from the Lord, they must fall--that they were depending on the Prophet, hence were darkened in their minds, in consequence of neglecting the duties devolving upon themselves, envious towards the innocent, while they afflict the virtuous with their shafts of envy.

Instead of listening to the Holy Ghost, they listened to Joseph Smith, who, while a prophet, was yet a man.

So, what's the lesson we should learn from the Church?

Jeremiah 17:5 ¶ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 4:34 O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm.

2 Nephi 28:31 [Thus saith the Lord:] Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

The lesson we should learn from the Church is that trusting in a man, even if that man is a prophet, leads to cursings and condemnations by the Lord, and that we should instead take the Holy Ghost for our guide.

In a passage from Denver Snuffer, we read the following:

If you understood the scriptures you wouldn't even need what I've written. http://denversnuffer.com/2010/06/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/

And how do we become able to understand the scriptures? In another passage from Denver Snuffer, we read this:

The journey back to Him begins with all He has provided and preserved of His word. It begins for each of us in the scriptures. One of the immediate effects of baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost is to have the scriptures come alive; to have them overwhelm you with revelation, light and truth. It is not you doing this. It is you experiencing it, but the Holy Spirit opening and lighting them so the same Spirit which gave them at first now receives them in you. http://denversnuffer.com/2012/08/bfhg-part-2/

So, it is the Holy Ghost which gives us power to understand the scriptures.

According to Denver Snuffer, if you took the Holy Ghost for your guide, you wouldn't need Denver Snuffer. It seems then that following a man, even a man who is a prophet, is the behavior of people who have not taken the Holy Ghost for their guide.

- Log November 24, 2017

As long as you consider me your enemy and attempt to judge my heart rather than evaluate the words I am actually saying for their truth, you will not understand what I am saying and we will not proceed.

Mutual agreement is not forged on a battlefield nor is truth found in debate.

- Log November 24, 2017

Scott,

Also consider - if the G&S is merely there for us "to follow," like Thanksgiving food is there for us "to eat," and we don't actually have to follow it, just as we need not eat the food provided to us on Thanksgiving, still we must be extremely careful in what gets put forth in it because it defines us as a people, who we are, what we do, and who we represent. If we put forth anything which harms, curses, leads astray, or misinforms, we as individuals shall suffer for it, for we each agreed to it therefore we take full individual responsibility for it.

As Joseph said, only a fool would trifle with the souls of men.

- Log November 25, 2017

Right now, the conversation being had in secret is how to go around the public dissenters to the Lottery G&S and persuade the Scripture Committee to add the Lottery G&S to the scriptures.

Their argument follows the logic Adrian made explicit:
1. Shalyce's revelation is from God.
2. All who dissent from the Lottery G&S are not of the body - in context, meaning covenant participants.
3. All who dissent may therefore be ignored.

Thus, the requirement of the Lord is violated: instead of a G&S being adopted by "mutual agreement" it gets adopted by "majority rules." From the beginning of this all, the aim of the adversary has been to get the people to break the covenant by wilfully doing more or less than the Lord has commanded.

And if they succeed in persuading the Scripture Committee to accept Shalyce's revelation and publish the Lottery G&S, despite the Lord's requirement that any G&S be adopted by mutual agreement of the people - all the covenant participants - and lacking the mutual agreement of covenant participants, then the covenant, as I read it, is broken.

Sometimes, the worst thing you can do to someone is give them exactly what they're asking for. If they will not heed your counsel and warnings, it is just to give it to them: they asked for it.

My Lord, on the other hand, desires Zion, the society of the pure at heart, even all who hear him and keep his law and commandments. Therefore, that's what he shall have.

- LoriTaylor November 25, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 25, 2017

As it is written, the Lord worketh not in secret combinations (Ether 8:19).

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

Hi Log,

(part 1)

I just read this Sat morning a blog post at www.totheremnant.com which lays out a very solid argument and to me is very persuasive. Some of the points have been made above already by others. Have you read the blog post above? It's very possibly accurate to say it was composed with you in mind.

I'm thinking in terms of how to persuade you, but I'm coming to the conclusion that you are not wanting to be persuaded. It's obvious as the sky is blue that you are in opposition to Denver even though you SAY you accept him as being sent by God to legally administer the covenant.

I call this speaking out of both sides of your mouth.

Do you not see this? In other words, you're not being consistent.

I say that to you directly because I would appreciate somebody saying that to me. For example, I do appreciate you saying that I'm sinning by saying a respect/ revere / honor some people for their accomplishments and wisdom. Your scripture quotation falls short (in my view) of sustaining your argument, but at least I am able to see your argument in the light of day, which led to you saying that the 10 Commandments have been done away with because they are part of the Law of Moses, which idea I regard plainly as the mind and artifices of the devil. You haven't conceded you were wrong on that. If I'm wrong, please show me. I will humbly consider your scriptural citation. I think that idea is completely apostate.

And if that one idea is apostate from Christ (whom you keep saying is Whom you worship and Him alone), then that throws into question your intentions.

And since you write so much, there is much to find in your writings that I would say exposes your errors and disharmony with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and with reality (things as they really are), as Jacob teaches.

1) One is that you can accept Joseph's words but reject Denver's. That makes no sense. I'm not saying that Joseph or Denver always spoke/speak the words of Christ, but as far as their quotes inserted into the G&S, what specific statement of either man is objectionable (which statement or idea is not given by the power of the Holy Ghost)?

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

(Part 2)

2) You have said it was a mistake for you to accept the covenant in Boise. You say the mistake doesn't matter, but that's the whole point. What specifically was your mistake? You believe Denver was sent then and he spoke the words of Christ (in the covenant), but he's not sent now? What specifically was your mistake? You'd be a fool, to subject yourselves to a covenant that any "non sent" man would offer. What would be the point in that? So you first have to believe Denver was sent. Clearly you object to Denver being sent as a legal administrator. But you say you don't. You contradict yourself. This very well could be a lie you're caught in, meaning intent to deceive. I don't know your intent. But the contradiction is very problematic for your credibility. An infiltrator would argue that he took the covenant in Boise to become ONE OF the group, with the plan to say it was a mistake afterwards, and then say, "but you have to listen to me and "go through me" and accept my veto power because I took the covenant and that is what is important. If I agreed to the terms, then I'm a covenant-maker. Never mind that I believe I made a mistake. The point is that I entered into the covenant." And then said person

would obfuscate and avoid the resolution of whether it was a mistake or not. To be clear, in my view, if you accept the words of the covenant as given through Denver, then you believe him to be a spokesman for the Lord, just as Joseph was, just as Adam was. So you CANNOT object categorically to his words being included in the covenant. You can't have it both ways, as you are attempting to do. It makes no sense that you would object frankly. Unless you are lying or are deeply confused. If you have a specific objection to content, then what is it? You are saying TRUTH when you warn against idolatry, but you're saying the same thing that Denver and virtually everyone else is saying.

3) In your blog, you make some telling statements, like: "I will not willingly participate in the formation of another Gentile church based on what the Nazis called the Fuhrerprinzip, meaning the "Leader Principle," with Denver Snuffer as the unwilling Fuhrer." You are lying here or are confused. You know this remnant movement is not attempting to form another Gentile Church and is on record of not wanting to take that same path, and in fact REJECTS that. So why do you say the opposite? I've seen you quote DC 10:67-68 before. So you know. And you know there is no incorporation. You know there is no hierarchy, a key characteristic of the LDS Church. You know that there is an almost paranoid attempt among the people to avoid priestcraft and idolatry. The principles outlined in the G&S prove what I'm saying. You know this is a movement of equals, albeit imperfect men and women who can err.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

(part 3 of 3)

And seriously, you try to impugn the attempt to establish Zion by associating this process with the Nazis? From a psycho analytical viewpoint, I would love to hear how you compare Hitler to Denver Snuffer. I would love to hear how you equate or liken the Nazi's to Denver or to this remnant movement. Go ahead and write a blog post on that if you feel so inspired. Would love to read that one. But no, I shouldn't encourage you to lose focus, because that is what that would be. I bring up this quote of yours because it illustrates your frame of mind for all to see. I think it's fair game. You're perfectly willing to argue publicly and quote scriptures left and right and to, let's be honest, set yourself up as a light, and as the conscience of the group, so your statements should be scrutinized. I've only read a few paragraphs of what you've written at your blog. Enough to see that, in my view you're not filled with enough light and truth to compensate for the errors, though I agree with much of what you say. So like the chocolate pie that has a teaspoon of human stool in it, I don't feel the inclination to use you as source for light and truth. Denver's writings are the exact opposite. He's full of so much light and truth and sounds like a prophet after the order of the Son of God, that I'm willing to partake of his pie for the very occasional hint of human frailty that comes through.

4) Your comparison of what you allege may be in private discussion to a secret combination that is murderous and of the worst form of Satanic wickedness is disappointing. The Lord said to not only beware of wolves within the flock, but to cast them out and even destroy them if found (citing Alma 5:59-60). If you are a wolf (not saying that you are, but that you COULD be for sure), then is it a secret combination to discuss what to do about the wolf? And if there is wolf, is it unrighteous dominion to exclude him? Or should wolves be allowed to thwart progress, and be allowed to keep protesting and running their mouths when their reasoning and disagreeable spirit about them defies harmony with the the Lord (and His servant) and the group? Alma said to take these drastic measures:

59 For what shepherd is there among you having many sheep doth not watch over them, that the wolves enter not and devour his flock? And behold, if a wolf enter his flock

doth he not drive him out? Yea, and at the last, if he can, he will destroy him.

60 And now I say unto you that the good shepherd doth call after you; and if you will hearken unto his voice he will bring you into his fold, and ye are his sheep; and he commandeth you that ye suffer no ravenous wolf to enter among you, that ye may not be destroyed.

I now see the wisdom of going through this process. It is very possible that this process was designed to have the side benefit of exposing wolves (even one wolf) who weren't really known before. The discussion process emboldened people to speak up and make their objections. Most apparently, like myself, feel their objections have been heard. There has been plenty of time for hearing out particular concerns.

- Log November 25, 2017

Underdog2,

One man above any is a hierarchy.

As to the rest, my credibility doesn't matter.

Either I am a covenant participant, or I am not.

If I am a covenant participant, then I must agree to any G&S or else it does not get adopted.

You lack power to excommunicate covenant participants.

Therefore you go through me, and each and every one of the other dissenters, and get our agreement or else you do not get your G&S.

OR:

You accept Shalyce's revelation and thereby gain the power to excommunicate every covenant participant who dissents from the Lottery G&S.

It's your choice: execute the covenant as written, in which case you may adopt the gospel of our Lord as your G&S, or accept something outside the covenant which appears to allow you to sidestep the Lord's requirement that a G&S must be adopted by mutual agreement and adopt something other than the gospel of our Lord as your G&S.

As for me, I will stand on The Rock of Jesus Christ.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2, you say: "I've only read a few paragraphs of what you've written at your blog."

I reply: Without reading what I've written, you cannot understand the arguments I've put forth. You'd find many of your question answered if only you would read what I've written.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Log, you claim knowledge of a conversation being held in secret. Do you know this for a

fact, or are you speculating. You state it as if it is fact, which could be misleading if you don't actually have that knowledge.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Here's an idea, and it is a serious one - I'm not being rhetorical OR bluffing. If there are truly dissenters, and there appear to be, perhaps we could come at this from the opposite angle, and allow THEM to work together as a committee to come up with a G&S (Statement of Principles, actually) that is acceptable to them, and then see if the rest of the group can consent to what they come up with.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

I have no direct knowledge of the conversation, having declined the invitation to become part of it. It is an inference based on data and problem-solving.

The problem they're trying to solve is how to appear to abide the terms of the covenant while breaking the covenant simultaneously in the matter of adopting the G&S in order to meet a deadline.

They have not humbled themselves to discuss openly and publicly as invited, therefore their discussions are in secret. I know these discussions exist.

They do not address my writings to be able to persuade me therefore their goal isn't mutual agreement.

The inference is not difficult to make.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

I also want to say this. There is a lot of contention and attempt to control in this discussion. There is a spirit of judgment and speculation about motives that is counter-productive.

Zion will not be gathered based on telestial principles. This community will not survive based on telestial principles. The ideas (behaviors) of comparison (ourselves to others, ourselves to God or some standard or checklist), competition (attempts to measure ourselves higher or even lower than others as measured -again - by some standard), contention - and these three lead to control - will not work among us. I am calling these the 4 C's - comparison, competition, contention, and control - the principles of babylon. They build upon each other in that order, and they cannot exist in Zion.

Unfortunately, I read a lot of this in this discussion. It will get us nowhere.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

That's a great idea.

Another idea I had was for each individual to write their own G&S, and then maybe we could all compare G&Ss every month or so until all our G&Ss were the same, for then we would be mutually agreed as one.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Seriously, once the number of dissenters gets down to a certain number (less than 10?), let them be a committee. As long as it's more than that, we continue to work as committees by lot. OR - if we need another committee, make sure that at least 2 of the dissenters are on the committee. The details or numbers I mention are not important - it's the principle.

- Log November 25, 2017

Also, here's an oddity:

If Shalyce's revelation is of God, there's no need to even talk to those who disagree - they aren't of "the body". You already have your "mutual agreement" in that case and can proceed on to the Scripture Committee, assuming the Lottery G&S has already been emailed to Denver.

What purpose then is served by arguing, accusing, contending, and so on, against dissenters (particularly me) when on your own claims you have no dissenters and have already "won?"

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

I'll save you the time. I am not budging from the gospel of Jesus Christ, as contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, or its functional equivalent.

I don't have a deadline for obtaining mutual agreement, and I am willing to wait as long as it takes.

Jared Livesey

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Winning sounds a lot like competition. Shouldn't be part of the formula, of course. Log - I don't know what the purpose is in arguing, accusing, contending, and so on - as you say. I'm trying not to do that myself. I have lots of things that I believe, that I have learned, that, if I were to present them to the community, would be rejected or at least looked at with suspicion. I have no need or desire to share them and cause contention. If they are true, such truth will eventually come to light. If they are not, then I have more learning to do. I am here to contribute my love and whatever wisdom and insight I might have. I don't have to be right, and I especially don't have to prove to anyone else that I'm right. I just need to love them, and accept their love, while we all walk down our individual paths toward the great round-about of truth. It's like the arc-de-triomphe. Many paths leading in - but leading out is the Champs de elysee which leads to the Louvre and which represents Zion. We all need to arrive by our own path, and we need to encourage and be encouraged by loving each other. Truth will ultimately win out. We will each have truth distilled upon us, and falsehood and unbelief will fall away as we approach the center, but only if we focus on loving each other.

This is my approach, my philosophy, and the condition of my participation in this community. When I heard the answer, and the repeated pleas that we love each other - that's when I knew I would stand. Not before. These words came THROUGH Denver's mouth, but I heard the Lord's voice. It could have come through you, it could have come

through me, but the Lord speaks with love, and that's the voice that I heard.

Perhaps what I'm saying now is the the Lord's voice. Perhaps some will recognize His voice in this. Perhaps not. To the extent that my heart is aligned with His, that my nature is aligned with His, then perhaps this IS His voice. I don't know. It's not up to me to make any such claim. It IS up to me to encourage, to lift...to love. If I stop doing that, then I am lost, the covenant broken.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

You know, Log, I actually could go with that Rock of Jesus Christ statement. I have said for a long time that it needs to be simple - the simpler the better - in order to gain mutual agreement. However, I think one of the purposes of the SP is to assist other fellowships by offering a level of detail that is missing. There are indeed things like baptism and the sacrament that need to at least be pointed to in the scriptures - in other words - under baptism - say that we believe in baptism and then point to the scriptures. Same with the sacrament. I don't think the current SP on the table violates that. I could probably do without the whole priesthood thing, but the groups seems to want it, and I don't think it does any harm, so I'm willing to flow.

Apparently you see your refusal to budge as an expression of love - otherwise you wouldn't do that.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

Wisdom, as the A&C says, counsels mankind to align their words with their hearts. That is, say what you mean, and mean what you say - cease from hypocrisy.

I would rather people spoke from their hearts than acted like they felt what they do not feel. I prefer the straightforward and honest to the hypocrites, the actors who feign what they do not feel so that men may believe them to be the characters they're playing.

I appreciate, for example, UnderDog2's straightforwardness. I know where I stand with him.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott, have you read what I've written as to why those things you think should be included are, in fact, best left out?

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Log, are you accusing me of being a hypocrite?

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

No, I have not. Where is that?

- Log November 25, 2017

Start here: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-to-rock-of-jesus-christ.html

Or you could go directly to my blog and read November and October's posts.

- Log November 25, 2017

Not at all, Scott. In the first paragraph, I meant the word "you" in a general sense, not you as an individual.

- Log November 25, 2017

The antecedent was "mankind," after all.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Then why did you respond that way to my heart-felt soliloquy?

- Log November 25, 2017

Because I would rather people were straightforward and honest and spoke in alignment with their true feelings rather than follow your example without it being in their hearts.

This kind of imitatation is likely, since we're all coming from a culture of hypocrisy where soliloquys are most often used to signal what acceptable social behavior is for others. I'm not saying you meant to hold yourself up to follow, only that talking to yourself in public in venues like this lends itself to such interpretation - "Oh, then I should do that, lest people think less of me for not appearing loving!"

I'd like to get away from appearances and deal with truth.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Well, I did speak in alignment with my true feelings. That is not to say that I am successful myself in attaining such an high standard, but that is the standard I strive for. I can't control what someone else's motivation might be if they were to say what you said, "Oh, then I should do that..." If someone is going to follow and example without it being in their hearts, in an attempt to "look good", then they have greater challenges than that.

I admit - I do hold that light out there that others might see, and hopefully follow. Are we to hide our light under a bushel? This, of course, assumes it is indeed light. I hope it is, and I hope it's a light worth imitating - but each person has to make it their own.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Log - I just re-read the answer and covenant. The wording: "When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow." can be interpreted as a commandment, or it can be interpreted that it is a guide and a standard to be followed as the spirit directs. I probably don't need to explain extensively, but to me a guide and a standard is like a compass or a map. It's not necessarily a "my way or the highway" proposal, but more like a "this is a good way to go in most circumstances, and you can use it and adapt it to your own needs" I just don't interpret a "guide and standard" as authoritative and/or binding, but as a gift, advice, to aid in the journey.

- Log November 25, 2017

Then there should be no problem in accepting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, should there be?

There is nothing in it that can possibly curse, harm, or misinform. Neither can any go astray in following it.

And if any wish to make up for any deficiencies they find in the Doctrine and the Sermon of our Lord, they are free to - in their own fellowships.

And, since by your own admission it CAN be interpreted as a commandment, let's treat it as though it was, and tread ever so lightly in determining what we shall or shall not publish to mankind as the ways of the Lord.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

well, you have rhetorically interpreted my words into something I didn't mean. I interpret it as a guide. It should not be interpreted as a commandment, as it says "follow" not "obey". And, you omit the need, which I think is important, to supply the optimal level of detailed GUIDANCE for new fellowships. Your guide and standard is powerful, and truth, but I don't think it is complete toward fulfilling the purpose of this document. You still seem to fear that someone will use those details to exercise power over someone. I do not, as they only have power that I give them, and since it is a guide only, the Lord does now endow the current statement of principles with any authority for enforcement. Not trying to convince you, just making my thoughts clear.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

I see you have not yet read what I have written.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

I read the e-mails I got, Log. They contain the text of what you write on here.

- Log November 25, 2017

Did you read these?

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/founded-upon-rock-of-jesus-christ.html

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Yes I did. The first is the statement that contains the Doctrine of Christ and the Lukan sermon, and the second is your reasoning why they rest of it doesn't belong. After reading them, I shared why I thought yours doesn't fulfill the requirement to aid new fellowships and why I don't fear any power or authority because none is implied.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott,

The first linked-to post does not contain the Doctrine nor the Sermon.

Please read it and get back to me.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

Log,

You said, "One man above any is a hierarchy."

How do you define "above"? This may very well be the keystone of your misunderstanding.

You said: "Either I am a covenant participant, or I am not. If I am a covenant participant, then I must agree to any G&S or else it does not get adopted."

Do you expect the group to be chumps, to just go along with apparent manipulation? Is Zion to be a society of chumps?

The case against you as an infiltrating wolf:

1) You accept Denver as a spokesman for God and as one sent AND enter into the covenant.
2) You immediately say your action of entering the covenant was a mistake. (I haven't seen an explanation why), and you even now claim he's a true messenger but that the G&S can't contain his inspired words.
3) A mistake inescapably means you would not have done it originally.
4) Normally the person who made the mistake would quietly exit the group, to which he didn't want to belong in the first place.
5) But you choose to stay, arguing on a technicality, that you should not be expelled because you technically entered in originally.
6) Presumably you have served as a leading voice of (illegitimate) opposition the entire time, potentially influencing others. That's my guess.

Your defense is a 'legal' defense. Technically, you claim, you're part of the body. When in truth and spirit you admit you are not.

You prioritize a technicality over truth and spirit.

Why don't you just depart in peace?

But if you don't depart, and continue to insist to be part of the body based on a technicality, I don't see you being wronged by being considered not part of the body. In fact, if any wrong is being done, isn't it being done by you? Namely, taking advantage of the goodwill and charity of the body, where you are thinking the body is comprised of chumps.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2: I commend you for aligning your words with your heart.

It’s not me, nor anyone else here, that you have to persuade I am not a covenant participant.

It’s the Lord God you must persuade.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

I believe you persuaded God yourself by admitting your mistake.

Why wouldn't God accept your mistake?

He honors our agency.

So He accepts your confession of a mistake.

Meaning you've pulled out of the group and covenant by your own admission.

No harm done. You may depart in peace.

Why you would even want to be here is strange unless you're trying to impose your will or trying to "win" an argument.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2: I am required, per the covenant, both to write and to adopt, by mutual agreement, a G&S.

Therefore I shall.

Neither you nor I have power to excommunicate anyone from the covenant.

Therefore you go through me to get your preferred G&S proposal approved, per the covenant language: I must agree to it or it doesn't happen.

You cannot drive me off, and you cannot cast me out.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

I believe God honors your desire to withdraw. I would honor your desire to withdraw. Are other participants standing in your way from withdrawing?

You say you wish you hadn't have covenanted originally. God understands. You are excused. No harm no foul.

You're not being compelled to remain. Playing the martyr card is clever, but unnecessary.

You don't have any obligations to fulfill.

Your services are not needed. Why would God or anybody in the group care what you thought if you weren't/ aren't a sincere participant?

Further participation by you is inappropriate and undeserving.

If you were sincere, I think your opinions and input should be valued and I would revisit a question from above:

You said, "One man above any is a hierarchy."

How do you define "above"? This may very well be the keystone of your

misunderstanding.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2, you say: “I believe God honors your desire to withdraw.”

I say: God’s thoughts on the matter do not seem to match yours.

UnderDog2, you say: “how do you define ‘above’?”

I say: you clearly respect Denver above me, therefore there is a de facto hierarchy here, if not de jure.

A society founded on inequality cannot attain Zion.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

I certainly don't speak for God.

What I'm saying is that God honors our agency. If somebody feels like they made a mistake and didn't want to enter the covenant in the first place then it makes sense God would honor their choice to withdraw. He doesn't fight us on our agency. You're not trapped.

Do you feel you're trapped and can't get out?

Repentance wouldn't work for many people if they were trapped into former commitments to sin. Many say, "I don't want this sinful life anymore. They change. They repent. They go from rejecting God to accepting Him. In your case you went from accepting a covenant to wishing you hadn't.

Remember the time Mormon repented of the oath he made to not lead his armies? He changed. We are sovereign. We have agency. God respects what we decide. He is patient.

So depart in peace and when or if you're ready please return with full purpose of heart.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2: As I mentioned, you cannot drive me away, nor can you cast me out.

Therefore, I shall do what I agreed to do as per the covenant. Why would any disciple of Christ seek to persuade me to do otherwise?

Remember: “And ye see that I have commanded that none of you should go away, but rather have commanded that ye should come unto me, that ye might feel and see; even so shall ye do unto the world; and whosoever breaketh this commandment suffereth himself to be led into temptation.”

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

If you are a wolf you should be driven out.

It seems you could be frankly. But I'd like to give you the benefit of the doubt.

What I see is your own testimony has cast you out. No need for anybody else to cast you out because you've already done that.

But you attempt to have your cake and eat it too. You can't say it was a mistake to have entered the covenant and then have any believable case that you're sincere for sticking around and participating in this process.

Like I said, infiltrators are to be expected. You could be one. If so, that would give you motive for your behavior. A very cleverly hatched plan to thwart the work.

If you're not an infiltrator, then you are confused, and a keystone of your confusion is based on your erroneous definition of what hierarchy is.

I'll address that here.

From earlier, you said:

UnderDog2, you say: “how do you define ‘above’?”

I say: you clearly respect Denver above me, therefore there is a de facto hierarchy here, if not de jure.

A society founded on inequality cannot attain Zion.

Abraham 3:19: And the Lord said unto me: These two facts do exist, that there are two spirits, one being more intelligent than the other; there shall be another more intelligent than they...

Yes. I respect Denver's and Joseph's and Moses' words more than your words. They are true prophets. You are not.

This doesn't sit well with you, clearly. I think you might consider checking your pride at the door. Will you please consider doing that? We all have different levels of intelligence. That's okay.

You are more intelligent than many. But others are more intelligent than you. In intelligence, we are NOT equals. There IS absolutely unseen "hierarchy", if you will.

But as far as LDS Church "hierarchy" where there is a "boss" in any given meeting or conference, that doesn't exist in the remnant. Denver would not presume to be "above" anybody in any gathering.

Some day, when the knowledge of God fills the earth, then we will ALL "know" God and be equals in that respect. But right now very few have that knowledge. And even if they do, they aren't any better than you or I. Denver has said that repeatedly. He doesn't ask for position or titles and would reject such offerings.

He teaches a society of equals.

- Log November 25, 2017

If Denver teaches a society of equals, then why do you esteem him more than you esteem me?

Isn’t that rather contradictory?

- Log November 25, 2017

And isn’t the attempt to drive others out of the society inherently destructive of a society of equals?

- Log November 25, 2017

Doesn’t the very attempt to drive me out reveal that you see yourself as of higher position in the social hierarchy than me?

- LynneMcKinley November 25, 2017

While men use words
as weapons of war
and stab each other
with scriptures
tender hearts are wounded
and the women weep
for Zion

- Log November 25, 2017

Indeed, how can we ever be equal when you see yourself as higher than me, and take it upon yourself to be my judge, and seek to prevent me from fulfilling my agreement with God as per the covenant?

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

(part 1)

Log,

You said, "And isn’t the attempt to drive others out of the society inherently destructive of a society of equals?"

I tend to agree with you.

As I said, IF you are a wolf, Alma does teach to drive you out. But as a Libertarian and would-be disciple of Christ, I think this truly is a last resort. I also don't think Christ condones being a chump. The Lord teaches in Alma 43, "Inasmuch as ye are not guilty of the first offense, neither the second, ye shall not suffer yourselves to be slain by the hands of your enemies." In terms of a robust Christian debate on ideas, persuasion and long suffering is the rule. "No power of influence..." "Driving a wolf out" may be akin to driving the "wolf" teachings out, more so than an actual person. In other words, expose the "wolf" teachings. Joseph taught to not trample men because of their beliefs. Denver teaches so beautifully to love one another. He quotes the Lord's words given to him:

The Lord said: Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. I can bring him to understanding and knowledge. Therefore if you regard one another with charity then your brother’s error in understanding will not divide you . . . Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger . . . Even strong disagreements should not provoke anger nor to invoke my name in vain as if I had part

in your every dispute. Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part.

Now, Log, if you are sincerely confused, which I believe you could be based on how you define "hierarchy" and how you believe some may be "above" others, then what else can be done but brotherly conversation?

You said "Doesn't the very attempt to drive me out reveal that you see yourself as of higher position in the social hierarchy than me?"

I sympathize with your sentiment. I agree with you on the principle of one being persecuted for his minority beliefs. But again, what I've done repeatedly here is quote you. You've been given the rope, so to speak, to hang yourself. I let your testimony speak for itself. And your testimony convicts you as being an illegitimate participant. You've said you made a mistake and shouldn't have taken the covenant. You're excuse to remain and debate is that you're now under obligation to participate because of a prior mistake you admit to making.

Since this is a sticking point with you (you aren't disposed to believing that God will honor your desire to withdraw peaceably) and I certainly have no power, as your equal, to expel you, then that only leaves the option of long-suffering persuasion.

You are rejecting the inclusion of Denver's quotations because you feel he is "above" you, when his writings extensively teach he is your equal and not the leader and in no way is he atop any hierarchy, even a flat organization with one "above" all the others.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

(Part 2 of 2)

Let me ask you, Are you able to concede that Abraham 3:19 point, that there are different levels of intelligence, that there is INEQUALITY in intelligence, just as some people can jump higher than others?

I assume you will concede this self-evident fact.

Now, can you concede that just because somebody, like Denver as a good example, is at a higher level of intelligence (having received more light and truth) than others (he's testified of many visitations and face-to-face conversations with our Lord Jesus Christ and conversing with prophets like Joseph and others), that he nevertheless is NOT "better" or of higher "organizational stature" than others?

Signs that someone is of "higher position in the social hierarchy", as you aptly put it, would be visible things like the following:

* When he enters the room, everyone stands.
* When sacrament is administered, he is served first before ANYBODY ELSE.
* In a conference, he sits in front in a literally higher position than others (on a stand) facing the congregation.
* He presides in meetings, meaning people look to him and there is a general awareness that he's the one in charge.
* If there is a deference to him and any indication that people are deferring to him, he does NOT correct them, but allows the deference to continue unabated.
* The person of higher position would refer to himself as "president" or "leader" or any title that would indicate an organizational or positional higher than others.
* The person "in authority" would have subjects or quorums which he is to govern of

oversee.

As far as I'm aware, I'm not aware of Denver or folks in this movement seeking for the honors of men, or seeking for stature. It may happen. I probably does, And will happen. But as far as Denver is concerned, he painstakingly seeks to avoid even the appearance of being a leader or unequal (somebody "above" others). In his 6th talk on Zion, Denver said:

We all have our lusts, meaning “ambitions” in this context. Lusts and ambitions are the same thing for purposes of this verse. For example, "I really want to get ahead in the organization," is a covetous desire. Inequality invites lusts. Inequality invites covetous desires. To be one, you must have equality. You can't have one heart, one mind, and no poor among you if you have a stratified group of people. There can't be any rich or poor. As a consequence of what it takes to have Zion, you cannot have a “Strongman” model. It will not work. As Gentiles, you are prone to this failure. You crave a “Strongman” to be your idol. Therefore, you seek what cannot be in Zion.

So you see, you and Denver are on the same page!!!! I believe you ought to give a talk at the next Conference on the dangers of inequality!! You would deliver a needed and spectacular sermon on the subject no doubt since you've given the topic so much thought.

Third, do you concede that Denver doesn't act as a person of "higher position in the social hierarchy"? Do you concede that Denver teaches to be equal and against being unequal?

Here's another quote from that Zion talk:

"Rise up (and this is a very modest thing to begin with), you will learn so much so quickly. You will be astonished. You don't need or want a “Strongman,” and the woman's voice should be equal with the man's. There should not be some "ruler" among you Gentiles saying, "It's this way! It's gotta be this way! I prayed about it!"

I believe Denver is your biggest ally in your cry for equality.

Has your concern about not wanting to include Denver's quotations because that makes him "above" us somehow in your mind been resolved?

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2, you say: "You are rejecting the inclusion of Denver's quotations because you feel he is 'above' you."

I say: You're welcome to try to make that case by direct citation to anything I've written.

UnderDog2, you say: "I believe Denver is your biggest ally in your cry for equality."

I say: As is also the Lord Jesus Christ, and the aforementioned apostle James. Whether Denver wants you, asks you, or seeks for you, to hold him in higher esteem than me is not relevant. That you in fact do hold him in higher esteem than me is relevant.

We do not attain Zion except we start off in humility on a foundation of social equality.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Log, I value my wife's words more than I do Fawns, or yours - sometimes even more than mine. That doesn't mean there is a social hierarchy at play. The equality being declared is equality before God, equality of the right to be loved, sustained, respected.

- Underdog2 November 25, 2017

Log,

You say what YOU do or say is irrelevant. So that means what I do or say is also irrelevant, by your logic.

I've tried to listen to and understand your concern. With incremental questions I've attempted to do that. There was a flow to my questioning. I didn't see your attempt to respond to that natural flow. What shall I make of your avoidance?

So you circle back to the proverbial strawman that there is no equality inherent in a G&S which includes quotes from a living authorized messenger.

In your mind, he is "above" you or us and therefore there is a hierarchy, even if it's just one man "above".

I've addressed how I believe your viewpoint of what "above" means is inaccurate (it appears it's rooted in pride or jealously is what I'm guessing since you are bewildered why someone who value a prophet's words over yours). I've asked step-by-step questions to illustrate this. You've refrained from answering, clinging to your strawman.

What else can be done to grant you the opportunity to be heard than to ask you to respond and clarify your position and to respond to possible resolutions to your concern?

Alma said this:

6 And the people were desirous that Alma should be their king, for he was beloved by his people.

7 But he said unto them: Behold, it is not expedient that we should have a king; for thus saith the Lord: Ye shall not esteem one flesh above another, or one man shall not think himself above another; therefore I say unto you it is not expedient that ye should have a king.

I agree. Denver absolutely agrees. Do you agree with this? I hear you saying these exact words of Alma, but you think that by quoting an "Alma" (as in quoting Denver in the G&S) that that is elevating Denver to a "higher position in the social hierarchy" than you.

Your concern honestly seems like a very underdeveloped, petty envy, driving you to say, "if you don't esteem my words as much as Denver's than I will take my toys and go home."

OF COURSE, a true prophet has more light than you or anybody who's not seen into heaven and parted the veil. Alma, a true prophet, despite his greater understanding of heavenly things, however, humbly and rightly rejected that he should be made king.

King Benjamin was entertaining angels, but said he was no better than others. Said he, "And I, even I, whom ye call your king, am no better than ye yourselves are."

What does it take to convince you that Denver is no better than you, or anybody, and

doesn't teach inequality either? What do you need to hear? I invite you to start by responding to the few step-by-step questions I asked above.

If you refuse to respond, then what else can be concluded but that you're not sincere and indeed an infiltrating wolf who slipped in by disguise, and you're not confused about equality at all, but really resolute in sowing the seeds of disharmony, with an agenda to thwart progress?

It's a good question for you too: what would you do, hypothetically, about a participant who refuses to reason and doggedly clings to his pet dogmas, in the face of obvious resolutions brought forth, but rejected?

I want to listen to you, Log, but I think you need to meet half way and listen to me. I'm trying to be respectful to you, as I would expect to be treated with love and respect too.

- Log November 25, 2017

UnderDog2: “I've tried to listen to and understand your concern.”

I say: Go read what I’ve written. It is to explain my concern that I wrote it, after all. When you can explain my actual position to my satisfaction after having read the entirety of what I have written on this topic, then we may potentially be able to profitably discuss my concern.

If not, then not.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Log, I read your other document - the question and answer one. You have everything laid out in your mind. I don't agree with everything you say. I understand the logic behind it, but the thing that is missing seems to be humility. Your arguments over the past few days seem to be this:

1) I took the covenant by mistake, but having taken it, I intend to stick by it
2) I believe that Denver Snuffer is a true messenger sent by God, but his words are not the words of the Lord, and I will not accept them as part of the SP.
3) I will not accept anything in the SP except the scriptures I have specified (or something functionally equivalent), and I am willing to stand my ground regardless of the opinions and/or beliefs of others in the covenant community - thus communicating that you have no respect for their opinions or beliefs.
4) There can be no hierarchy, no person set above another - yet you have set YOUR opinion/beliefs above those of all others. THAT is a true hierarchy.
5) The GS which will result from the SP is, according to the AC, to be "followed" and is therefore binding - as if it can be enforced. Therefore, you don't think anything other than the doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount should be included, because anything else might be used to force someone to do something against their beliefs.

In my view, Log, you have set yourself, with your opinions and beliefs, above all others. You have demonstrated an unwillingess to compromise, again, in doing so, exhibiting a complete lack of respect for the understandings, interpretations, commitments of anyone else in the group. In doing so, you have effectively set yourself up as a group of one - seeking to force all others to bow to your beliefs and opinion.

The great irony is that you have actually set yourself up as a strongman, forcing everyone else to bow to your will or to unrighteously "cast you out". You've created a

no-win situation for the whole community - we either give in, or we cast you out. This is the result of your no-compromise position. I've seen this in action before. It is unrighteous dominion at its finest, and it's done under the guise of obedience and righteousness.

You said earlier that you appreciate knowing where you stand. Well, there you have it. That is my opinion of your behavior on this.

- Log November 25, 2017

You can't cast me out, Scott.

When you can restate my position to my satisfaction, then we may profitably discuss.

Until then, not.

- Log November 25, 2017

But I thank you also, Scott, for aligning your words with your heart.

It's good to finally know where we stand.

- LoriTaylor November 25, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 25, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- ScottStover November 25, 2017

Lori, honestly, I don't think I said anything to Log that Christ wouldn't say. Christ loves Log. I have no doubt about that. But I don't think He loves what Log is doing - the way he is manipulating everyone else. I was kind, trying to understand, until I finally did understand. I read everything he asked me to, and then the picture became clear.

You, Lori, have not done the same thing that Log has done. You have not dug your heals in and created a situation where there is no chance for success. You have simply expressed your feelings and concerns. Log has brazenly thumbed his nose at everyone and said, "I'm going to force you to either do it my way or violate your own standards". It's manipulation at its finest. I have pointed this out to him, and we will see what he does with it.

- Log November 25, 2017

Scott, maybe you can start by explaining exactly what I actually have written where you say you see my logic and yet disagree.

After all, if I have erred in facts or logic, then I would like to fix the errors.

On the other hand, if you have misunderstood what I have written, then I may help to correct your understanding.

So, from the documents I have referred you to read, and which you say you have read,

please help me to clarify whatever it is you think is unclear.

Because, in the end, if the real problem you have is not with what I have written, but is instead your condemnation of me for what you say is my lack of humility, further conversation seems futile, wouldn't you agree?

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Underdog2 November 26, 2017

Lori, I've mentioned my name above.

I've tried to be respectful and truthful and without guile in my communications.

Log has specifically expressed appreciation for my style. I appreciate him too for the same reason. And for not being easily offended.

I appreciate your comments too.

Joe A.

- ScottStover November 26, 2017

Log, it's not about your SP. I've already stated that, while I don't agree that it fulfills the requirement that the Lord gave us, I could get behind it. It would be sufficient for me. It's not about whether I agree or disagree with your reasoning or your arguments or your answers.

Instead, it's your unwillingness to compromise. You have stated that you intend to either force everyone to accept your ideas or to "cast you out". No one wants to cast you out, so the alternative would be to accept your ideas. That is manipulation, pure and simple. It is unrighteous dominion. As I said, I've seen people use similar techniques before.

I care about you. I want you to be accepted and loved and listened to. But when you put others in a situation where they only have two choices, and they are dictated by you, that is exercising control. It is setting yourself up as a strongman.

Do you not see that?

I will be gone all day and will not be in a position to respond. I don't desire to be mean, or pile on, or anything like that. I think I've demonstrated that in our past interactions, as well as everything yesterday. I want to understand, but you can be so dogmatic. You seem to thrive in dogmatism - a "my way or the highway" approach. That really doesn't work with me, or with most people. It is a sure way to get people to stop listening.

Again, if the rest of the community accepts your proposal, then I will too, but they way you are going about it is...well, I strongly object to it for the reasons I've stated above.

- ScottStover November 26, 2017

Your voice is important, but it is no more important than anyone else, and you have created a situation where you have placed your voice above all others in importance, and that is an hierarchy of the most pernicious kind.

- ScottStover November 26, 2017

And, you know what? When I prayed about this yesterday morning, the Lord said, "It's not your job". That was my ticket out. I didn't need to read all your stuff, I didn't need to engage all day with you on all of this. When I ask myself this morning why I did - the answer is clear. It was out of love for you. I wanted to understand, and I wanted to be on your side. Believe it or not, I am on your side. I'm offering counsel and a view point that you apparently can't see because I have to think that if you did, you would adjust somehow. However, what you do with it is up to you.

- Log November 26, 2017

Scott, when I asked what is your actual problem with what I have written, you responded: "[I]t's your unwillingness to compromise."

And it seems that the Lord has told you that correcting my sins, as you judge them, is indeed "not your job."

Perhaps, since your problem is apparently with me, and not with what I wrote, you should recuse yourself, since you cannot be an impartial judge of truth, but are instead a judge over my heart?

- ScottStover November 26, 2017

Recuse myself? Like this is a trial and I am a judge? I did not communicate clearly. I was praying about what to do about the whole situation - the interaction between you, the committee, the community, etc. It was not about "correcting your sins". I cannot correct your sins, and I am not judging your motives or your heart. I have said more than once that I'm sure you must believe that your actions are loving or you wouldn't engage in them. I am offering MY insights on how your interactions with the rest of us are manipulative, setting yourself above others, and exercising unrighteous dominion. It is up to you to recognize that or not. My problem is definitely with what you wrote in that you declare an unwillingness to compromise and in that it sets your opinion above that over others. In short, I am judging your actions, not your motives or your heart.

I will say this - every time I engage with you, you exhaust me. I will gladly recuse myself and let you work it out with everyone else. I've done my best. After all, it's not my job.

- Log November 26, 2017

"I am offering MY insights on how your interactions with the rest of us are manipulative, setting yourself above others, and exercising unrighteous dominion.

My problem is definitely with what you wrote in that you declare an unwillingness to compromise and in that it sets your opinion above that over others. In short, I am judging your actions, not your motives or your heart."

Precisely. Judging truth is not your concern. You are judging me.

- Log November 26, 2017

And judging me is not your job.

- Log November 26, 2017

That simply means you love your wife above others, and that inequality is, indeed, hierarchy.

That inequality, that hierarchy, by the by, is why the married are hindered in their service to God, says Paul.

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- YourFriend November 26, 2017

When I read the competed G&S, the prayer to Heavenly Father and response, I was truly amazed what the 7 lotsters +1 had accomplished. It is truly an inspired work. And I express my deep gratitude for the prayers, fasting, heart-felt commitment and time that went into this effort. I receive it wholly without any reservations as our G&S. As far as the Servant David is concerned, I have had a spiritual witness that he is sent and I am grateful for his continued sacrifice on our behalf. It pains my heart to read such criticisms of him and look forward to the day we are of one heart and one mind. Further pruning will be necessary to separate those who can discern truth from those who cannot whoever they may be. I pray that we cease to offend the sacredness of this moment. God Bless you all and love to you as my Brothers and Sisters and fellow believers. I will not respond to any comments reg

- LynneMcKinley November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 26, 2017

Lynne,

I will not receive the word of the Lord from (wo)men, but I will receive them from heaven.

I dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- FootballMom November 26, 2017

I have read this thread of comments and as one who avoids contention, normally I would have stopped. Something about some of these comments brought a feeling that felt very adversarial. I read on however, because I feel it is important to see all sides. I have read the links that were posted in order to see others' views. I believe I have a much better understanding where those who are dissenting are coming from.

I see that there are those that feel that the G&S should be limited to the Doctrine of

Christ and the Sermon on the Mount, with a possible 3rd addition to doing as the Holy Ghost directs. I read several times that if we have the Holy Ghost as our guide, no other direction is needed. For example, priests would not need to be told how to baptize since they, being guided by the Holy Ghost, would be taught that.

Coming from the LDS tradition, my husband was taught how to baptize. We were fully active members up until March of this year when the Lord actually directed us to leave the Church. It was a shock, but the Lord made it clear to us and we recognized His voice. To keep the story short, through our studies we came to believe that the Lord wished for us to be baptized again. We studied it out, and took it to Him for confirmation. His direction was clear that He wished this for us and our children. We are fairly new in our "awakening." The Lord has been directing us in such a way that miraculous is the only word that describes it. As we were deciding when we would be re-baptized, we just happened to be listening to one of the lectures Denver gave in his 40 Years in Mormonism where he said the Lord had renewed that direction to us. Because of that, we learned that no longer were we to use the words "having been commissioned..." but that my husband was to ask permission from the Lord first to receive the authority to use the priesthood. Then, he was to use the wording from the Book of Mormon. My husband isn't a pretender. He is a worthy man striving to do the Lord's will. We don't believe that it was coincidence that we just happened to be listening to Denver as he gave us better understanding that we could take to the Lord for His confirmation shortly before we were going to be re-baptized.

We are grateful that the Lord has given His directions to us, and know that they may at times come through another, such as how to baptize according to the Lord's will for us, which was different than what we had been taught. We then took it to the Lord for HIS confirmation.

This is an example of why I feel that more needs to be given in the G&S then only the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount. In the "Answer" I read that one purpose was to be a help to those that are not familiar with the work already underway.

We are working towards becoming a Zion people. I know I am not there yet, but I am sincerely trying. There may be many of you who have the Holy Spirit as your guide. But, for those of us who are striving for, but have yet to attain that great blessing, we are receiving what we are given and then taking it to the Lord. Of course, most of what we have received has been given directly to us from the Lord. However, there have been opportunities for our family to receive something from a man, and then to go the Lord with that information. This G&S is an example of this. We have learned the hard way to never, ever trust man, not any man. We will only follow the Lord, as I believe you all feel too.

Our family has gained such confidence this past year in the Lord answering our prayers. Each one of us who has entered into a covenant with the Lord has the opportunity to take this to Him. What a blessing that is. I have studied out both sides and know I will receive His direction to me. It will be my answer and whatever He tells me, I am willing to do.

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

Football Mom, I really like what you have shared. I can feel the genuineness of your heart and believe this comment thread has been elevated by you. Thank you!

Would you be open to hearing what I see in your experience? It might help others understand what Jared has been in support of and what I agree with at this point.

- FootballMom November 27, 2017

Lori Taylor...Of course I would be open to hearing your opinion. I am willing to hear both sides. Another lesson I learned through learning to rely on the Lord is how important it is to examine everything.

- ScottStover November 27, 2017

I don't understand what you're saying, Lori. Honestly, I don't know how it is that I have not loved Log. As I said, I have pointed out, rather kindly, I think, focusing on behavior and effect, not personality and motivation, what he is doing by holding the entire group hostage without being willing to compromise at all. It pains me that you think I am being contentious. I am not. I am pleading for the opposite - for understanding and compromise, for cooperation and consideration of the position of others in the community. Unfortunately, it is Log who is being contentious by declaring a position without compromise.

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

Thank you, Football Mom. I did not want to appear like I was belittling or challenging your experience.

I love how your experience demonstrates that we will each be guided and led to resources and information when there is need and we ask, seek, and knock. I have had similar blessings of guidance in my life, too, and believe all of us could share such examples.

You shared how you and your husband came to know how to be re-baptized, how it was directly through a message Denver had given that you “just happened” to be listening to. Not a coincidence, methinks. (I actually don’t believe in coincidences.) If I may point out, it was not through a ‘guide and standard’ or any type of handbook that the needed guidance was given. It came because you obeyed the guidance of Spirit to listen to a true messenger with an equally true message, and had it confirmed to your hearts by the Holy Ghost. Christ answered you, taught you, and showed you the way.

And could not an individual or group also be led, as we have all been led for a few years now, by promptings from the Holy Ghost and the Holy Spirit? None of us got to this place because we had a Guide and Standard spelling out minute details, right? Though we did have some foundational understanding. So what would be a good foundational starting place for those “others who know nothing as yet of [His] work now underway?” Does the world at large have a solid grasp on the message in the sermons, demonstrating their readiness for further light and knowledge? Do we?

What if the G&S were to simply and only include the Sermons on the Mount/Bountiful? Can we trust Christ to do His work and lead all those who are willing to hear His voice to the messenger(s) each person needs?

And are not all of Denver’s talks and much of his writings available in multiple formats, and for free in many instances? And will there not be those moved by the Christ’s Spirit to go out and share His message? And will they not be instruments in Christ’s Hand for teaching much of the how’s and wherefore’s? Is it really imperative to include anything beyond a familiar sermon from Christ Himself in the G&S? Cannot all the other guidance and information be found elsewhere, even in the scriptures themselves?

to be cont'd

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

This is simply an idea and inquiry on my part. For myself, I have always been fine with the suggested contents since the original version. I have no issues with the writings of Denver or him as a messenger sent by Christ. And I would agree with what you shared about being “kind in word and wise in deed.” But I wonder at this point if the kindest and wisest thing we could say to others and the world is to study the Sermons of Christ and learn to walk that talk. Plus it would be the guide and standard we say we are also willing to study and live. I could agree to that without reservations of any kind.

But since mutual agreement is required, and since there is no deadline given by Christ for this task, why not take more time to reason together and study together to learn how to understand each other? And through that have our hearts knit together in love? Perhaps we can still yet come to agree mutually to include recent revelations from Denver if given time? Or maybe we should just be willing to agree to what we can agree to in order to have unity and not fracture? Is it really so bad to consider only holding up the Sermons on the Mount/Bountiful as our Guide and Standard?

I was instructed by Spirit earlier this year to study the Sermon on the Mount and apply it to my circumstances as a member of the LDS church still. It has been eye-opening, especially as I have been shown what was/is in my heart. I have come to believe that if we as a people made a conscious effort to study that message together and discuss how to walk it out, many of our inter-personal issues would be healed and solid bridges of mutual understanding and love could be constructed.

Given that there is such a wide range of disagreement on what to say and how to say it, perhaps a simpler approach is necessary until we as a group have greater light, knowledge, and wisdom as a whole.

I think it would please Christ most if we chose this path, rather than rolling around in the muck and mire of verbal duke-outs and behind-the-scenes planning. It has been all too easy to forget who we are—to God and one another.

Thanks for letting me share. Sorry I am so wordy.

- Ash November 29, 2017

From the beginning, the Lord gave the people what they desired, an opportunity to become of one heart and mind, with the Guide and Standards as a stepping stone.
I straightway prayed on the matter and the Holy Spirit testified to me that "they should be nothing more or less than the Gospel of Jesus Christ... Then let the Holy Spirit guide each group (or individual I might add) to what they shall be led of God to do."

When I saw the G&S become many many pages, thrown about here and there, disagreements, etc, it did not sit well with me. I believe that it should simply be what God has already given us to follow, that we support the Truth found in scripture that had already been given us, then allow God to guide us on the group and individual paths He presents before us.
God, through His servant Denver Snuffer, Jr. received answer that this document should "to bless, benefit and inform", and this offering of "The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles" that has been offered by Jared Livesley does just that.

All that will be, will be, thus in all things, praise be to God for Truth restored and preserved upon the Earth this day and may His glorious works ever come to pass for His glory!

- Underdog2 November 29, 2017

Jared, one question: have you reached out to the 7 lotsters? They want to communicate with you.

Jared said this previously, "I hereby formally dissent from each and every G&S proposal pursuant to the A&C both past, present, and future, save one: The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles."

Is this the attitude of one seeking to be of one mind?

Jared states clearly that he utterly refuses to listen to anything else than what he himself proposes and that he controls things by his veto power that he believes he holds in his arm.

It seems to me that he's doing his level best to hinder progress. If his desire is to halt progress, I can't help but think of this quote:

What power shall stay the heavens? As well might man stretch forth his puny arm to stop the Missouri river in its decreed course, or to turn it up stream, as to hinder the Almighty from pouring down knowledge from heaven upon the heads of the Latter-day Saints.

As for me, having accepted the self-evident reality that the heavens are opened again, and that God is working again among the children of men, I have no opposition to using the Lord's words as carefully compiled and woven into the G&S.

And to be honest, I do have a problem with anybody declaring their blanket opposition to any proposal past, current, or future, and doggedly insisting their idea be adopted.

Puny arms of unrighteous dominion cannot thwart the work of God, and so I am at peace with the process as it currently stands. May God's will be done.

Thank you,

Joe A.

- FootballMom November 29, 2017

Lori...
I did read your response...I'll forgive you for being "so wordy" if you'll excuse me for not responding more quickly. LOL ;)
I can see your points. I am going to just share a few thoughts I have and if you wouldn't mind answering some questions?

One is that yes, we were given direction on how to baptize correctly by the Lord's guidance. The Lord led us right to what Denver had directed and is in the G&S that has been proposed. My question is, do you think it would be harmful to give people direction on baptism (for example) that is in alignment from the Lord?

Another part of the proposed G&S goes over the priesthood. For those of us who are from an LDS background, we do have questions about the priesthood. I think having a little direction such as you should ask the Lord for the authority to use it is wise. These are things that we were never taught but are obviously important.

Aren't these guides important? If we believe that we have been shown how to properly administer sacred and unchanging ordinances by a true messenger, why would we not have those in the G&S? I'm confused by this. I understand we are trying to keep it simple.

I'm interested in your thoughts to these questions. Also, I have had come to my mind several times that maybe the Lord is seeing if we can come to a unity as a people more than He is concerned with what we adopt. Maybe this is our test in order for us to receive more? Like you said, maybe we can agree in order to have unity and not fracture.
We have to learn to be kind to each other as we go through this process. You have done that, and I am trying too. :)

- JaneenKrambule November 30, 2017

Perhaps we should remove anything from Lehi, Isaiah, Nephi, Mosiah, etc. Our scriptures are full of men whom have given forth instruction from God of what He desires for us. Whatever is given us, are we in tune with God our Father and hear His words in what is being given? I shall not be responding again. I am at peace and know what Father requires of me. I listen to ALL whom Father sends for my further light and knowledge. Contention is not part of that.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Football Mom, thank you for such a kind response. I don't mind you taking time to respond. You are a mom. :)

I should state up front that I have never had an agenda for the G&S. I have always accepted what has been presented since the first one written by Jeff. My worries at the moment surround the disunity, meanness, and willingness to forget others who are not wanting to be left out. It is one thing for someone to voluntarily turn away, but another matter when a whole group says, "See ya. Don't let the door hit ya on the way out." That is how much of this process is feeling to me. And it hurts deeply, and out of my pain I tend to react.

I do agree it would be wonderful as well as kind in word and wise in deed to offer guidance and the standard for priesthood, baptism, the sacrament, and even fellowships. But unless we are willing to take time to come to agreement, where can we at least say we can agree for now? Maybe use that as a temporary bridge?

I'm a slow learner and as such tend to do most things the hard way. So I really benefit from direct explanations and answers. But I can see the reasoning behind the idea that we may all be led to the teachers and truths we are ready for through Spirit and Holy Ghost. I can also agree with it. I don't think it would be harmful to simply teach that.

I also wonder how much Christians at large understand, not to mention non-Christians. This perspective is difficult for me to get a handle on because my whole life I've been "taught" about ordinances and priesthood. They are familiar topics to me, though I still have much misunderstanding about them.

Is what is offered in the current G&S proposals sufficient to get folks going in the right direction? Surely we cannot expect to teach everything, but would someone who has

never performed an ordinance be okay with what is given? And what about how a sustained and authorized person being able to instruct in person?

And as to the unchanging nature of ordinances, I don't see how one person or a group can prevent someone from being led to not change an ordinance as outlined. We can state such and such, but how easily the adversary gets in. Plus sometimes there is genuine misunderstanding, and it will get taught. But maybe that is not the point. The point is that we get it right, teach it right, and demonstrate it right, yes?

Thanks for listening. I wish I could just be given more time to sort through things in prayer and discussion before something is agreed to. I feel rushed and pressured. I am sorry for everyone here that I am rather slow. I do require a lot of patience from those who know me bestest.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Something else I wanted to share: I don't know if you know Rob and Quintina Adolpho or have heard of them, but as I've read their comments throughout this process and understood their work as and with First Nation people I have wondered what they could add to a statement that is also meant to bless and benefit First Nation people. They would certainly have insights I don't have as a white American woman. I've also thought what a good thing it would be if we had the benefit and life experiences of people from non-LDS backgrounds. But maybe that is part of the burden we have to figure out.

- ScottStover December 01, 2017

Lori Taylor, it really pains me to think that you think I was being contentious or mean or anything of the sort. I am being very open here with you - perhaps even dysfunctional - and in front of everyone else. The thought that you think that about me is almost unbearable, because that is not who I am. I would honestly like to hear you say that you understand my position, and that you understand that I was not being mean or contentious. Perhaps you can't do that. I would like for you to understand that engaging with Log takes a lot of energy and effort, and it's typically much easier to just walk away, but I didn't do that. I didn't do that because I do care about him. Instead, I listened, I read, I sought to understand. I had no objection to his thinking, to his position, although I disagree with that position. I even said that I could get behind his version of the G&S. It would be fine with me. What I objected to was his no-compromise position. I felt someone needed to point out that taking such a position has the effect of forcing others to accept his position. I felt like I did that in a reasonable way. I have seen this done before, and it is always the same. It ironically leverages peoples' desire to be of one heart and one mind to force them to agree with you. It takes advantage of their kindness and meekness and forces them to do something they would not do otherwise.

This may be a conversation better continued in private. My e-mail is scootd28@yahoo.com

- LoriTaylor December 01, 2017

Hey Scott. Let me start by saying I am sorry to have hurt you. That was not my intention, but like all our intentions around here on the blog, it seems emotions get the best of each of us at times. I had not seen or realized you had responded to me, that's why I haven't responded back to you. If not for my convo with Football Mom, I would not be checking here anymore. I always forget to check that notify me box when I comment. :O

Also, I prefer to keep discussions out in the open. I think that is part of the mischief that

has happened around here. A forum, like the one Log recommends, or the ComeServe site, would be better suited than a blog to handle all of this. But that decision is not in my hands.

I could say a lot at this point, but honestly I am pooped out too. ;) I guess I simply wish now that we would all stop viewing one another as opposition to be overcome, a challenge to be surmounted, a problem we wish would just go away, a problem child to be corrected, a rebel needing to be peer pressured into compliance, etc.

I feel like we hardly know what a body of equals looks and sounds like. And for all the chatter and words, there sure is a lack of real communication! I feel like there is a Great Oz somewhere making all sorts of decisions. I'm just confused and hurt by it all. What a mess.

I know I will not want to join in other endeavors any time soon. I will just let people with strong personalities do what they are gonna do. I'm like you and have a tender heart that loves fiercely and just wants everyone in a giant group hug. Yet, He wants me here. Ugh.

Please be at peace with me. You are a wonderful person. I remember you from my FB days. I've always enjoyed your thoughts. Just be patient with me. I am a passionate individual.

- FootballMom December 02, 2017

Lori..
Thank you for your answer.

I have seen the Adolpho name on here, but no, I don't know either of them. But I agree with you that their ideas would be important to listen to, especially as we are seeking to recover the remnant.
I am grateful to have had an uplifting conversation with you. I believe we have both listened to understand.
Have a wonderful day!

- FootballMom December 02, 2017

Lori Taylor...
I forgot to mention, my name is Becky. It is nice to have chatted and learned from you!

- LoriTaylor December 02, 2017

Ditto, Becky.

It's a Holiday

Thursday, November 23, 2017

Many have time off from jobs and other responsibilities and are using the time to deal with topics such as the Guide and Standard or the scriptures project. We appreciate everyone's commitment to improving on what the Lord has given us and will give it our full attention - after a holiday. We respectfully ask that you not send correspondence to the scriptures committee for the next 2 days (Thursday & Friday). We've received a number of texts and emails, but would like to focus on family and friends.

The scriptures committee

Comments

- BrianBowler November 23, 2017

Amen. Each week has a day of rest. I find that when I give something a real that later the answers come easily. It's important to push and work...but rest is when the recovery and refreshing happens. Have a happy Thanksgiving.

G and S Support - Jeff Savage

Thursday, November 23, 2017

A Request for my Brothers and Sisters

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. (1 Corinthians 9:19-22, NIV)

I write primarily to those who are not in support of this Guide and Standard compiled by the 7 chosen by lots because you do not want to see the original governing principles document left behind. I get it. I have been there. I love you so much and am so grateful for your friendship, love and support these many months. I wish I had better words to express how much it meant to have you tell me that you had heard the Lord in the words of the original. However, I believe that the principle that Paul teaches above is more salient at this moment than holding fast to the echo of truth in the original. If you could be okay with the words I wrote, could you not also be okay with the inspired words compiled by 7 of your fellow brothers and sister? Paul was willing to act like a Jew when with the Jews. Christ condescended to be with us. If you believe that it is not necessary to only use the words of scripture, Joseph, and Denver to write the Guide and Standard , then can you at least appreciate that there are others--your siblings--who need that to come to an agreement? What if this small act--to mutually agree with this proposal--is all that is needed to unite us as one? Our ability to agree is what most matters. Truly. That may not be true for all situations and in all groups of people, but I believe it is true at this time. The Lord (in the Answer) tells us that we can "reason together and apply what [He has] given [us] and it will be enough." This is precisely what has been done. In His instructions to us, I see a loving Lord willing to work with a disjointed, proud people, despite their broken scriptures and weak offering. I believe the Lord manifested His approval of this effort in spades, with signs such as the Larsen's being picked sequentially, a father-son team being chosen (as was the case with the 12 in the Old and New world, as well as in the scripture committee), and even myself, the first to labor in this patch of vineyard, being the last to be chosen. There are many more signs there if you will ask. The Lord may not have asked us to use lots to decide what to do, but I hope we can all agree it was much better than having Denver solve the issue for us, and the fruits of their effort show that His hand was with the lot method.

Many are worried that we will offend the Lord with this offering. If that were the case

(because we left the original GP behind), then I believe He would have told us so. Remember that in the Answer, He told us that when men intend no offense, none is taken. Were this our only opportunity to define what we believe, then maybe we would be rejecting Him in this. But that was not our task. Our task was: " Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you."

Many have worried that we are losing the words of the Lord. In part, they read: " the humility and meekness required for those who would be my servants is hardly found on the earth. Repent, therefore, and adopt the ways of your Lord." Has the truth of those words not been made manifest in the intervening 9 months? If you hear the Lord in those words, prove that your heart is humble and your spirit is contrite. Prove by your actions that these words have sunk into your heart. Please lay down the sword of defense in favor of a greater principle. The Lord will provide.

Let us not neglect the weightier matters of the law: that is, to agree with your brother while you are in the way with him, and, before presenting a gift on the altar to the Lord, first go and reconcile with your brother. It is not as if we are voting to include the commandments of men mingled with scripture; rather, these are true teachings compiled to bless and help newcomers. At the end of the day, this is a 9-page document that sits at the tail end of thousands of pages. A small thing. A more personal note. I only have my experiences to guide me, but I feel to share what has happened recently. I have gained more through the sacrifice of this earthly thing than I have from any other thing. The promises given in Moroni 10 have been fulfilled in my personal life. The law has been planted in my heart and begins to spring up, changing me in a way I never before have known. Knowing all that I know, I would do it all again...though admittedly this time I would do it without fear. I wouldn't worry that someone else's argument against my position would undermine things. Rather, I would have the confidence in God to do my part, speak when moved upon by the (right) Spirit to do so, trust others are also being moved by the same spirit, and otherwise remain slow to speak. I promise you, those of you who have been loyal to and defended the original, that if you will sacrifice this good thing for the sake and for the love of your brothers and sisters, that your heart will be softened. That the soil of your heart will be broken such that the Seed (the law of Christ as given in the Sermon at Bountiful) will have place, the roots thereof will find purchase, and you will feel those swelling motions within your breast. You will feel the love of God, which casts out all fear, step in and that love will serve like a strong tree in a storm. It will anchor your heart, reaching up to your mind, guiding your thoughts in such a way that you will look back on your past self and will cringe at your "cretin-ness". I promise you all this, and do it by virtue of the love that is in my heart. I can testify and witness of the goodness of this sacrifice, and of the Lord's acceptance of the efforts of a weak group of people, just as He was willing to accept my own weak efforts, or of others who put forth documents. If you can exhibit no more than a small desire to believe this is possible, please give it a try. Plant the seed and see if it changes you.

Your brother, Jeff Savage

Comments

- Donald November 23, 2017

Thank you Jeff. Beautiful. :)

- KenJensen November 23, 2017

Thanks "Jeffy,"

I made a comment in support of this "Lots" version written by the 7-8 a couple days ago before the revised version was released yesterday.

It was a comment on a different thread which may have been buried and missed, so I'll put it here again:

I likewise would publish my support for the resultant G&S put together by the Lots 7.

I, along with support of several others, had submitted the entry "Adopted by Mutual Agreement" (adopting the original GP as the G&S).

I heartily welcome the opportunity to coalesce around this LOTS document. After whatever modifications/changes are implemented [have now been made] I expect to be able to sincerely adopt it by mutual agreement with whomever else would do likewise... not that there may be more things or less things that could be included... but because everything that is included is true (IMO).

Now, after having seen and read the revised version I can say that I am happy to mutually agree to adopt this statement-- with his many of youas will also do it-- to be added to the scriptures.

"It is enough."

- Mycornerofheaven November 23, 2017

All I can say is "amen" we need to learn how to reason together and let go of our hurt feelings and forgive we can't be the Lord's people if we don't learn how to come together even with our differences- maybe this was just a test for that same purpose - Margaret Brough

- JeffreyRichardson November 23, 2017

"I promise you, those of you who have been loyal to and defended the original, that if you will sacrifice this good thing for the sake and for the love of your brothers and sisters, that your heart will be softened."

Amen. This has been me.

- Janeen November 24, 2017

Can't mutual agreement mean we agree to disagree? I know that sounds odd but we can mutually agree to disagree. It doesn't mean anyone is right or wrong it is just that we love and respect each other to know there will be times we don't see things the same and that is okay. We can still move on. We can put aside whatever we "think" we know and be willing to learn something new. We know the Lord's ways are not our ways.

- TwoCents November 24, 2017

Part 1 by Q

When my husband started reading Denver's stuff I didn't give it much attention. Then he started writing a blog to me, and his family. As I read it, I heard truth and it rang true to me. For the first time in my life, I wanted to REALLY read the Book of Mormon, and

when I did, understanding poured in. I loved it. I wanted to understand it more. So…, I read Denver's stuff, and I felt freedom. I thought to myself, "you mean 'I' could have direct revelation from God, I don't need another man to direct me or tell me what this means. You mean, these white people don't have to be above me telling me what God wants for me. You mean God loves me too, and its not just these white people." That was the best fruit I ever tasted. I was so excited!

What woke me up was freedom, and it was freedom knowing that I could have a personal relationship with Christ, and I could come into His presence. It was no longer just the white people who could come into His presence and receive revelation (growing up all I ever saw were white general authorities). It was drilled into my head: White is right. White is beautiful and clean. White in the BOM meant they were more righteous. I grew up during the time of The Indian Placement Program, where before and after pictures were taken of Indians in the placement program, and at the time, they claimed the Indians' skin started to turn white because they were becoming more righteous.

For the longest time I believed this, and a part of me still does, to some degree. That part of me causes me to hesitate to write this because, white is right. But I as we have been commanded, we need to do as we say.

What I say is what I believe. Some have asked me, why don't you just join the majority, why don't you just agree to have peace, love and unity. If I defined these terms the way you do then I would join you. But I don't. Peace to me is when Christ is leading, where all men/women everywhere can come unto Him and have a personal relationship with Him. Peace comes from man believing that all men/women can speak to the Lord through the veil. Peace comes when iniquity (grossly unfair behavior) is no longer with us. My people lived in darkness because of iniquity. Peace isn't going to come by keeping my mouth shut, in front of everyone, and then behind backs speak what I really feel.

I tasted the fruit of freedom/equality and it is something I'm not going to give up because a "majority" believe in the lots proposal and they believe that the Lord called seven people by way of lots and believe that this document represents the majority's faith. The fruit I am speaking about is everyone has an equal opportunity to come unto Christ, each person has the ability to hear the voice of the Lord. Each person can be commanded by the Lord. That's what I understand from reading the BOM.

I believe Faith is knowing that the path you are on is acceptable to Him. So, when you say this is your "best guess" or "this feels right" or tell me a feel good story, I have a hard time accepting that this is being done in faith. In fact, when this was presented, it sounded like it came about, out of fear. When I spoke about allowing the voice of the Lord guide and not lots, some indicated they were: worried of "crazies" saying they heard the voice directing them; others reported there were some of you who thought it wasn't right that the "elite" were ruling; others feared evil people being in charge; and on it goes. To me, the lots idea was not generated by faith, it came about because we fear each other. How can you come up with an idea based out of fear and then claim it to be faith? This doesn't make sense to me at all.

I believe you mention in your document that, "God alone will establish Zion." When you say that this is your best guess and you feel good about it," this doesn't sound like God is in charge. It sounds like your logic is in charge.

- TwoCents November 24, 2017

Part 2
Is this the pattern you believe is in the BOM?

I don’t doubt God is still with you. Did God abandon the early saints and the Mormons all these years? Did He abandon my people? So, I believe you when you say He spoke to you. But does that mean you are right and I am wrong? Does that mean I am the opposition or the 1/3? Am I back to being that loathsome and dark person I was led to believe I was, because of iniquity?

I believe Lehi had a dream and in that dream he talks about people who made it to the tree, because they heard the voice of the Lord, others caught hold of the Rod, and those who clung to the iron Rod fell away. Clinging reminds me of someone who fears something so they hold on to dear life. Because of fear the lots came about, because of fear we can only quote scriptures. You can say, it is because you love God, but from where I am standing it looks like you are acting out of fear. Did Denver just quote scriptures? And if he did, would your eyes be open to see and your ears able to hear?

Before Christ appeared in 3rd Nephi he taught the people by way of His voice. We have been taught the past seven years by way of His voice. What have we learned? What is God offering us? What did He offer the children of Israel. What did Adam have? What woke you up to all of this? What will wake my people up? What is the fullness of the gospel? And has that been declared to us? 2 Nephi 29: 5 And the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be declared among them; wherefore, they shall be restored unto the knowledge of their fathers, and also to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, which was had among their fathers. What does this mean: the knowledge of their fathers? What did Abraham mean when he sought out for great and greater knowledge?

Denver taught about the fathers and it rang true to me because it aligned with the symbols that were preserved in my culture. I didn’t understand these symbols until this knowledge was shared with me. This understanding helped me understand that our people aren't dark and loathsome and evil. My culture wasn't evil. My people actually knew about the great and greater knowledge Abraham spoke about. What will open the eyes and ears of my people to see and hear? This document? If this was presented to you many years ago, when you were still a True Blue Mormon, would it have opened your eyes and ears to see and to hear? What's so different about you than all the other religions that approached us?

For me, because of my belief, I will pray to find out how I can help Him do His work. For me, I will follow the direction of His voice. I respect what you choose to do, if you believe the Lord's voice is directing you to do what you are doing, I can respect that but that doesn’t mean I have to agree with it or do it. Nor does it mean I need to shut my mouth and not say what I believe. To me, respecting your belief means NOT to cut you off, by way of parameters I set up because we believe differently.

Christ is the King of Zion. It is He that will lead us. It is by way of His voice that great and greater knowledge will be obtained. Christ is the one who does the gathering.

Hahina iamai ana kapuana
Kyun

Q

When the Hawaiins get together, to reason things out, at the end of things they say: Hahina iamai ana kapuana meaning: Now my story is told. When the Blackfoot are done reasoning something out they say Kyun meaning: now my story is told and I'm done.

- LoriTaylor November 24, 2017

That was absolutely beautiful, Q. (I think your name is Quintina, right? But since you signed with Q I'll just use that.) Thank you for sharing your heart and story. Please always speak.

- TheBishopsWife November 24, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TheBishopsWife November 24, 2017

I would like to say how I feel about the lots proposal. The Lord does many things, inspires many people in ways that are difficult to explain to others. Denver, himself, even taught about lots and how God uses them to make His will known; http://denversnuffer.com/category/seer-revelator/ “Such a system was uncontrolled by man, done by lot, completely random, but produced the right person. Left to God, it obtained God’s answer. Did with the sons of Lehi, and with the vacancy in the Twelve in the Book of Acts, too. There is no reason why such a system wouldn’t generate the Lord’s choice today. “

I do not see any fear in the lots proposal. I see a group of people with a genuine desire to accomplish the task the Lord has given to them and exercising great faith that the Lord would be with them. I read the 7’s Guide and Standard and it is beautiful and it is the words of the Lord. It is meant to be given to those who are new converts to the Lord and the work that He is doing in our day, to help them understand and know how to do those things that are the minimum requirements for coming unto the Lord; those ordinances which are crucial for them to be numbered as His Sheep. The document written by the 7 does exactly as it is required to do. I think most of us are to the point where we genuinely want to work together to accomplish this task, and, I believe that the lots proposal, although, not the only way to accomplish this task, was a wonderful way for many of us to work together.

As there are many ways this task can be accomplished, I would greatly appreciate it if those of you who disagree with the lots proposal would share with us your proposal; what is your solution to our current dilemma? What is your proposal to accomplish this "light" task the Lord requires of His People? I know some have written their own document, but this is a “group project”, not an individual one. For me, I supported and still support the lots proposal because it involved everyone in the entire body of believers if they chose to participate. It took great faith and much fasting and prayer has gone into this effort. I am still fasting and praying for the 7 as well as for the body of believers that we may all come to know and understand the will of the Lord and increase in love for one another.

Jeff, thank you for this beautiful post and your sincere humility in sacrificing your assignment and your original (and subsequent revisions) in order to try to make peace and move forward in adopting a document that will be accepted by the people and by the Lord. God bless you!

- HuhWhatda November 24, 2017

Here we are again. Why are we so in a rush to stop working to develop mutual agreement, rather than to coerce, manipulate, or cajole it? Jeff and many others state in

support of this effort, saying "What if this small act--to mutually agree with this proposal--is all that is needed to unite us as one?" But, I can reverse it and ask, what if it isn't what you think it is at all? So many here are so quick to speak for God, as if labeling it God's words makes it His. The Mormon temple ceremony is labeled God's words by them, does labeling it such make it so, when they have wrested them? How can you be so confident that this was God's intent? And if you are so confident that this is it, shouldn't the words themselves be sufficient to convince me? What's the point with all the fluffy words, it doesn't make the message somehow more true, and it doesn't impress those of us who have our minds pointed to where Joseph Smith left off, rather than where Joseph and the restoration began.

You have stated that it is our ability to agree that matters most here. Says who? By what power do you speak, translating what is most important here, or what is most important there? If you prefer people who'll simply lay down and follow the leader here, ...um, do you know where we all came from? We have been cast out from the LDS, for what? For following the leader there? No! For asking significant questions is what caused them to feel threatened and cast us out. Maybe you haven't been cast out yet, and still fly under the LDS radar as others seem to do, but I have chosen to act only when instructed by the Lord, and that is what I'll do, despite your instruction that it is only agreement that God wants. That is precisely what has put me in this path.

In my opinion, you should speak only for yourself, rather than speaking for someone else. I will speak for myself, and state that this recent effort does not resonate with me, and I cannot support it yet. However, I will not stop working towards mutual agreement. I will continue to work with those intending to continue.

Those who support this have spoken to all as if they speak for God. If God tells you to go in this direction, state it, and why. But when you try getting others to see as you do, you are out of bounds. Stay in your lane and I'll stay in mine.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda November 24, 2017

There are many types of fear. I think that this effort of lots was a way to remove accountability, to write and face the music for inspiration and revelation. The lots gave the assignment, so no one could complain about it's source. The people used someone else's words so they didn't need to get the revelation themselves, but could ride the coat tails of one who did. So, You might only define fear as running away from something scary in the dark, but we are in the dark, and none who have claimed the assignment have been able to speak with confidence, it has wavered from the beginning. They have side stepped the necessity to be a witness. In the absence of confidence, fear and doubt has increased.

Denver doesn't speak with fear because he knows who gave him the words he speaks. Unless those writers know, not merely believe, they will continue in doubt, and therefore can certainly be associated with fear. Yes, Bishop's Wife, I too smell fear.

Rob Adolpho

- LoriTaylor November 25, 2017

Thanks, Rob. There is light and truth in what you and your wife are saying. I am sorry for the fear I have contributed, but I am learning much about myself through all of this--how and why I think what I do at times, and how to re-center my heart in Christ and His Love.

I am grateful for your instructive wisdom and knowledge. I have so much to learn and wonder what the heck I am here for at times. God bless!

- TheBishopsWife November 25, 2017

Just to clarify, I do not smell any fear in the lots proposal. I see faith, hope and love.

- Jay November 25, 2017

[Part 1 of 3]
Rob and Q, I believe you are correct, that we did act out of fear. I include myself in this because I know I have been concerned about how long we have dragged out this process without reaching any resolution.
I have tried to see this from both sides, but I believe only God is completely unbiased, so forgive my personal perspective as I attempt to point out what I see are lessons learned from this challenge that we were tasked with of coming up with a G&S. To all that read this, please take it in the spirit I give it. I intend no offense.
What do we expect when this is presented to God for His approval? Are we looking for vindication of our position? (If God accepts it, then we have proof that the minority who has dissented from the process are in error and need to repent, or if it is rejected then we have evidence that the majority were somehow out of bounds in how they proceeded?) How can we know that God's approval isn't His way of saying, "have it your way" (see 1 Sam 8, D&C 3, etc).
The next time we are called to accomplish something together what is the precedent that we have set for ourselves if we follow this same process? Let's take a look at it. It was not difficult to determine the pulse of the group (no opinion poll was necessary). The majority were anxious to be done with this whole thing, willing to accept any number of proposals (as one person put it, "I want you to know I have agreed with every presentation of a statement of principles that has been presented so far"). Then we get a group of like minded folks together to collaborate on how to proceed. If we encounter resistance among us, we proceed without "the opposition" (because we know there will always be opposition), and carefully craft a plan using a backwards planning process [https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newHTE_84.htm] which is a proven method for achieving a goal. Now all we have to do is launch a campaign and get buy in from the majority who we know is already weary (as are we) and ready to get things done as efficiently as possible, so we can move on. It makes it even more convincing to use a method of lots to select a committee to follow step by step the plan that was crafted all the way down to the line items to include in the statement. This gives the illusion that it is the committee that was drawn by lots who were responsible for the outcome, when it could be that they just followed the plan outlined by the first committee who drafted the plan in the first place.
I don't say this to suggest that the committee who drafted the plan have evil intentions or to accuse them of manipulation etc. or anything else. Quite to the contrary. I believe their intentions were sincere, motivations pure, and even inspired. I only want to point out issues that I hope we can learn from in the future. The failures of Kirtland, Missouri and Nauvoo were results of such similar attempts to push agendas through that invited "jarrings, and contentions, and envyings, and strifes." (D&C 101:6)

- Jay November 25, 2017

[Part 2 of 3]
I want to make clear that I do not fault those who have come together and proposed a way to move forward with the. Despite that I have my own issues with the process and how I feel it has been marched forward, I am grateful for their efforts and see it has served good in moving us into action. God bless all those who played a role. You are as

the players on the field, playing the game. You may be making blunders while there are those of us on the sidelines judging and complaining about it, but at least you are taking action. We should all appreciate that effort, even if we disagree with some of your plays.
For those with eyes to see, it's evident that God has revealed himself in the drawing of the lots to select those who have been chosen. There was something miraculous that happened there, as Keith has pointed out [http://www.recordersclearinghouse.com/2017/11].

Acting in haste does not necessarily mean that we shouldn't take the bull by the horns and get something done when it needs to be done. To me, haste, (as referenced in D&C 63:24, 101:68) means acting hastily, or rushing the pass out of impatience or fear. It is important to get things done and within the time God asks (see D&C 124:31). But it's also important that it be done right. "How you proceed must be as noble as the cause you seek." Haste means to get sloppy, to rush through before we pause to take the necessary time to proceed correctly. To use a Steve Coveyism, If we pause to sharpen the saw we will cut more wood than if we continue rushing through with our dull saw because we can't take time to stop long enough to sharpen the saw.
It is true that we will always have opposition. But I don't believe that means you treat them like "that eccentric aunt that you just dread having come around. You can't for the life of you, understand why she thinks cloves should be poked into a turkey on Thanksgiving. You wonder if maybe there should be a procedure that more easily confines her to someplace where they administer psychotropic drugs. " (DS, 40 Years talks, Talk #3)
I feel we are rushing through a process that is not allowing us to learn to love and listen to and give audience to those with strong opinions among us. We are neglecting putting into practice the very principles we are trying to agree on. We are more focused on trying to hurry through to achieve an outcome without learning the more important lesson on how to love what we perceive to be the un-lovable among us. By rushing things through we are depriving ourselves of a blessed opportunity to experience the miracle of what it looks like to come together as one. Do we lack the faith, that by allowing ourselves to open up to "the opposition" we risk making ourselves vulnerable to the possibility of further delay and possible ire from God, at the expense of what we might learn if we considered others' opinions and ideas? What if what we lose by pushing forward in haste is the healing we might experience by finding the unity we seek? Are we willing to believe God can actually keep His promise that if we "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part."?
For those of us expressing concerns, as valid as our complaints may be, the problem is that without offering some solution to the problem our criticisms are just grumbling. We are as observers on the sidelines of the game making judgments about what we see happening on the field.

- Jay November 25, 2017

[Part 3 of 3]
To be honest, I love the document that has come about from this effort. I give it my full vote of confidence and acceptance. My perception is that the minority who voted against the current are less concerned about the document that has come from this effort, and more concerned with how it has been pushed forward.
So rather than comment on the sidelines, I would like to join in the game. Can I step into the huddle and recommend a possible "next play"? Moving forward let us take the time to consider what it would look like to give everyone a voice without allowing a majority vote to divide us. There are options that have not been considered or presented (that should include Christ giving His part).
In the Answer and Covenant the Lord tells us to "Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion" The

admonition to "Study to learn" reminded me of a book Denver mentioned in The Second Comforter:
"Charity is one subject that has been given a great deal of treatment by the Saints. Numerous books exist. One of the best is Bonds that Make us Free: Healing Our Relationships, Coming to Ourselves (Warner, C. Terry The Arbinger Institute, Inc. Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain Press, 2001.) In it Professor Warner not only discusses charity, but does so in a remarkably readable way. It is a book worth studying." (The Second Comforter, pg 281)
The book focus is on ourselves. We don't change others, we only change ourselves.

Another book that came to my mind was The Three Laws of Performance by Steve Zaffron and Dave Logan. I give a summary of the Three Laws (that I have called "principles") in some thoughts that I have recorded here - [https://youtu.be/rTWRB2rg6sA].
My point is, as we move forward from here, let us learn from this experience and not repeat the same mistakes. Let us seek to become one people who "must equally walk truly in [Christ's] path" (A&C pg 3) and "come together by precept, reason and persuasion".

- LoriTaylor November 25, 2017

Jay, I appreciate your thoughts as well as seeing a couple of people actually asking what the few think. I have been given similar ideas to yours--books like Bonds That Make Us Free would be worthwhile reads for all fellowships and families. I am to the point, however, where I just don't know if it matters what I think or feel anymore to anyone here. I honestly do not believe my ideas would be received with any interest since all that people want is my acquiescence to the lot G&S. Never mind what my heart is saying. Just force it and the light will come, supposedly. Each day the darkness grows deeper...

There is an energy of cruelty that has crept in...A person can not firmly disagree or express concern over what is seen without being vigorously labeled opposition akin to the third host of heaven who rebelled against the Head God and Council of Gods, and now too as a wolf attempting to harm the flock. Dear God. Where is the Christ-like love?

- RobAdolpho November 26, 2017

Lori and Jay,

I agree that the method of approach makes having a different opinion difficult. We probably share many things in common, but also have differences, as I can see in your explanation. Jay would agree with the lots Doc, but I wouldn't. Lori reserves her thoughts from those who only want her sustaining vote, where I would express my efforts in the direction of King Follet. However, where we seem to agree is recognizing the division growing because a group has a larger footprint, therefore a louder voice. None of us are responsible for our participation here. We came to this all by ourselves, because of the voice of the Lord. If, now that we are here, we are now required to listen to a man, or a group, or to simply agree, like the louder voices tend to believe we are to do, ...then they are requiring that I abandon my relationship with God in me, for the relationship of God in them. And that is not faith to me.

Both Jay and Lori recognize the necessity for all to continue following the voice of the Lord regarding this, as we have been regarding sacrament with wine, rebaptism, and fellowships. If the doc is acceptable to the Lord, then all that should be required is for us to read it as individuals, and like Denver's words, it will declare itself to us.

Nobody need put the next person down. God can speak for Himself. I pray that all will hear His voice, and know Him!

Hang in there Jay and Lori. We can wait upon the Lord, and in the meantime allow all to be free to chose how they'll respond and react. We are all being tested here.

Rob Adolpho

- Jay November 27, 2017

Rob, God bless you, brother. I am grateful for the things I have learned from you through this process. I look forward to hearing / reading the thoughts that come from your efforts in the direction of King Follet. Please keep us informed.

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

Thank you, Rob. You are a voice of soothing calmness for me. Christ has told me no on His acceptance of this latest effort. How can I deny His voice to me?

I care about everyone, especially those standing inside the circle yet outside the building. I cannot help but see them and want to work with Christ in bringing them into the fold. I just did not realize I would find myself as one of them.

I sense He is allowing all to choose and will let the effects flow. I do not feel panicked or distressed. I am here because I care, and I will continue to share my heart as long as I am welcomed to.

I feel sadness at times, mingled with His hope. I see so much goodness in those I have "met" here, so much strength and faith. I sense there is much I can learn from each person. The fact that we each got to this place! Miracles of miracles for me and my husband. We tend to be slow in our learning. ;)

Like Jay said, please keep us in the loop. I have been reading the King Follett sermon of late. Oh!

I would love to hear more from you and your wife. I want to learn more about your lives and your work among First Nation people. I am so ignorant about their history, needs, and giftings. Sorry I sound like a weirdo groupie!

A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots-UPDATE (11/25/17)

Saturday, November 25, 2017

We have now done as the Lord requested: the body, as well as His servant David, have been presented with the Guide and Standard. Upon completion of those two requests, the path forward was made clear by the Lord. By Sunday evening there will be another update outlining that direction.

The 7

Comments

- Log — November 25, 2017

I dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

- TBM — November 25, 2017

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/11/boulevard-of-broken-zions.html

Last night I had a dream.(I did not have a dream, I'm making this up.) I was in the spirit world. I was having a conversation with people from all times, nations, and dispensations.

We each talked about our unique situations. "I lived in the time of Moses," one said, "as we were led out of Egypt." "I lived as a Nephite near the time of Jesus." "I fought alongside Coriantmur." "I was a pioneer who crossed the plains and settled Utah." said others.

Finally it was my turn. "I lived in the days of Denver Snuffer," I said.

A hush fell over the crowd.

Then they all started laughing. "You were part of the group that failed because they couldn't come to mutual agreement on a statement of principles," they said with tears of laughter. "We failed over golden calf orgies, secret combinations, genocide, and polygamous secret combinations! We got rich and got laid," they said. "What do you have to show for your broken covenant?"

"Ummmm...I had a really cool iPhone. I mean, I didn't have to break a covenant or anything to get it, but it was still cool."

I woke up, really, really embarrassed.

I guess I'm willing to support the G&S. It's not the one I would've written. It's not even in my top 3 preferred G&S versions. But I have little faith in the ability of the group to mutually agree on anything else. I really hope that God doesn't interpret the phrase "mutual agreement" to mean 100% of covenant takers. If it does mean 100% then I don't like our chances. I don't like the idea that 100% is obtained by removing any non-supporters from the covenant body.

I don't know how we get to Zion from here. But I remain hopeful, believing that Christ has accomplished harder things. I ask Him to have mercy on us.

But could I ask just one little thing of y'all? Could we stop calling Denver "His servant David"? It's pretty cringey and feels a lot like "beloved prophet."

- JuliusQVernon — November 25, 2017

Totally agree on the "servant David" stuff.

Thanks for a great comment.

- Stevevanleer November 25, 2017

I stand as a witness - the Lord has spoken through the seven chosen by lots according to faith n the Lord Jesus Christ. You people of God know His voice. You judge and discern His voice for yourselves. Do you hear Him in the shrill, contentious, and divisive voice of men you hear constantly pounding you to follow them and believe their words? Or do you hear His voice gently encouraging you to come to Him and unite in Him with those who accept His words given through your faith through those chosen and guided by Him. It is your combined faith in our Redeemer that has led to the many miracles that have resulted in God's own voice to His people
to this point.

There is no argument more compelling that the Lord has spoken and is guiding His people through the things spoken by the seven than the ongoing barrage of opposition that includes tones of control, compulsion and dominion. We have all had enough of that where we left to be free.

Listen for the voice of God. Do you hear it speaking peace to you? Or do you hear the voice of God in those telling you you must hear and believe them or lose Zion?

God is bringing Zion - it will not be men that do that. His work is underway. You can listen to His voice and follow Him, or you can succumb to the fear of contentious men. You choose! Be free! Come unto the Lord our God and hear His voice. Follow Him.

- TBM November 25, 2017

"Even people of God get it wrong sometimes"

--Nephi, probably.

- Stevevanleer November 25, 2017

Twice they got it right. A third time is prophesied. It will happen. But not without faith in the King.

- Stevevanleer November 25, 2017

Lack of unity and division is most likely of greater concern than any other Zion destroying flaw among the people now.

It is true, we should avoid idolatry in its every form. However, if idolatry is to be avoided, and it certainly is, then causing division and driving wedges causing disunity among the people is equally destructive as idolatry. We should set our differences aside and live in peace and cooperation we should be united in Christ the Redeemer.

Suggestions of casting someone out because they don't accept the statement of principles accepted by the Lord is poppy cock. Who ever suggested that? Who really believes that the Lord would dismiss, or the people would dismiss anyone who chose not to accept the statement of principles accepted by the Lord? I personally find it astounding that anyone would refuse the word of the Lord when given. I find it equally astounding someone would suggest that will be the final division among the people. But that is absolutely every persons right to believe if they wish. The person's choice about a

statement o principles doesn't require the person to be "excommunicated" as someone has suggested. It only means that we agree to disagree. And while we disagree, we continue to abide together in respect and love and cooperation. We will disagree on a lot of things. The test is found in the way we choose to treat each other through the disagreements we may have.

I think some are failing the test of harmony, unity, and cooperation as God's people. The statement of principles we adopt is not the be all end All trigger mechanism that decides whether we are acceptable to God or to one another. The test - the real trigger, is the condition of our hearts toward one another throughout the process and after the Lord has said it is complete to His satisfaction. Those willing to unite, putting faith in Christ and His words alone, laying aside all division, will be found aligned in the way the Lord has said is required.

D&C 105:

2 Behold, I say unto you, were it not for the transgressions of my people, speaking concerning the church and not individuals, they might have been redeemed even now.
3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

Please - let us unite in our Redeemer in spite of our differences. Our differences should not divide us. We have enough that unites us that we should never allow division among us. We can continue to have differences but still live together united in peace and cooperation and the love the Lord has said He requires of us.

We invite All to unite in the Lord our Redeemer. We are only divided if we choose to be divided. Division flies in the face of our God who has reprimanded us for our treatment of one another.

Our Unity is greater than being right to the point we feel to dig our heels in with hard hearts.

- AdrianLarsen November 25, 2017

Yo,

The "His Servant David" stuff came from quoting the Lord. It's not designed to be adoration. Simply a statement of fact. Don't we all aspire to be the Lord's servants? Isn't the servant to call other servants into the vineyard? Servant is not an honorific title--it is a notation of subservience, in this case, to the Lord.

Why should that make us cringe? It's quite the opposite of the "beloved prophet" stuff.

Christ said the greatest among us should be the least and the servant of all. Let's not cringe at servants.

- TBM November 26, 2017

The part about casting out those who don't agree is in Shalyce's voicing the Lord:

>At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice.

Either her wording is false, or those who disagree are not part of the body.

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

I am in agreement we could and should stop using "His Servant David." It sounds pompous from our lips. But that's just my little thought.

- TheBishopsWife November 26, 2017

Part 1: What if this is simply a test to see if we, as a people, can discern and accept true messengers sent from the Father to teach us?

“I sought for the blessings of the fathers, and the right whereunto I should be ordained to administer the same; having been myself a follower of righteousness, desiring also to be one who possessed great knowledge, and to be a greater follower of righteousness, and to possess a greater knowledge” Abraham

“I tell you, if you want to ascend to the Heavenly Council, you must first acknowledge and give heed to the messengers sent by them.” St. John (emphasis added)

“Seek not to declare my word, but first seek to obtain my word.” The Lord to Hyrum Smith; http://denversnuffer.com/category/dispensation/

Questions and Answers
February 9, 2010 Denver
I get asked a lot of questions. The other day someone asked how “to write only what the Spirit directs?”
Answer:
That requires something quite subtle and hard to keep. The presence of the Spirit, its constant companionship, guidance and influence is so refined and difficult a matter to put into words that even the scriptures do not give an adequate account of the process.
Obedience is required, but there are obedient people who are utterly without the Spirit.
Obedience can make a person rigid and unyielding, when they ought instead to be meek and pliable.
Discipline is required, but not if it makes a person dogmatic…but a disciple follows the Master…
These words, like so many others fail to capture just how great and fine a balance is required for the Spirit to provide direction.
Meekness is required, but not in the way the world thinks of meekness. …
The process almost defies words. It is very real, in fact tangible. But the way in which you know it to be right involves an ability to feel the balance, taste the good, harmonize with the greater intelligence which pervades everything that is. It comes from Him. It is Him, in a very real sense. All things were made by Him, bear record of Him, and are a testimony of His way.
Writing the words of eternal life require someone to have eternal life. They can still be mortal, but they need the promise of eternal life. So I suppose the Lord’s admonition: “Seek first the kingdom of God, and all things shall be added thereto” really answers the question. Or as told to Hyrum: “Seek not to declare my word, but first seek to obtain my

word." The one must precede the other. At least the statement of the Lord to His disciples, and the revelation to Hyrum Smith seem to indicate as much. (Emphasis added)

- TheBishopsWife November 26, 2017

Part 2 "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" (Paul to the Romans 10:14,15) Paul asserted he was an apostle but his calling did not come because of a transfer of authority to him by Peter. He was called by God. He begins the first few words of his epistle to the Galatians: "Paul, an apostle (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead)" (Galatians 1:1) Was Paul therefore sent? By whom was he sent? You think it obvious no doubt, but the principle is critical to finding true faith in Jesus Christ. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. If Paul was an apostle because Christ sent him – not men or man –then for a preacher to be sent to preach the truth the same should be required today as then. If Christ does not require the same then Christ has changed and we know that cannot be true, for He is the same forever. If, therefore, a preacher must be sent then Christ must do the sending. Then the only preacher you should heed must be one who declares plainly that he has been sent by God. That was the claim of Joseph Smith." Denver Snuffer, 1st Address to Christians (emphasis added)

"As one who, like the Apostle Paul, has stood in the presence of Christ, and likewise been caught up into heaven and been taught unspeakable things, I know from the Lord's own voice my standing before Him." Denver Snuffer, Christian Rejection 3/16/2017

The document written by the 7 is nothing more and nothing less than the words of the Lord, Jesus Christ, as found in already canonized scripture and the words given to a true messenger in our day, a messenger who has been sent by the Fathers to teach us, even Denver Snuffer, jr.

- Log November 26, 2017

Where It All Went Wrong

2 Nephi 32:5 For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do.

All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know (A&C, p. 3).

So, the Holy Ghost, given to us when we exercise faith in Jesus, repent from all our sins, and are baptized, shows us everything we should do, and everything we should know. If one takes the Holy Ghost for their guide, they have no need for any mortal to teach them, as John noted (1 John 2:20, 27).

Where did the Church go wrong?

If the gentiles unto whom the Book of Mormon was given had hearkened unto the Holy Ghost they would have come unto me in Hyrum and Joseph's day. But they did not hearken, and would not allow me to abide with them in word, and in power and in very deed (A&C, p. 3).

They did not listen to the Holy Ghost, which would have told them all that they should know and all that they should do. Who were they listening to?

In a citation from The Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, page 237, we find the following account:

President Joseph Smith read the 14th chapter of Ezekiel--said the Lord had declared by the Prophet, that the people should each one stand for himself, and depend on no man or men in that state of corruption of the Jewish church--that righteous persons could only deliver their own souls--applied it to the present state of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--said if the people departed from the Lord, they must fall--that they were depending on the Prophet, hence were darkened in their minds, in consequence of neglecting the duties devolving upon themselves, envious towards the innocent, while they afflict the virtuous with their shafts of envy.

Instead of listening to the Holy Ghost, they listened to Joseph Smith, who, while a prophet, was yet a man.

So, what's the lesson we should learn from the Church?

Jeremiah 17:5 ¶ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 4:34 O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm.

2 Nephi 28:31 [Thus saith the Lord:] Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

The lesson we should learn from the Church is that trusting in a man, even if that man is a prophet, leads to cursings and condemnations by the Lord, and that we should instead take the Holy Ghost for our guide.

In a passage from Denver Snuffer, we read the following:

If you understood the scriptures you wouldn't even need what I've written. http://denversnuffer.com/2010/06/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/

And how do we become able to understand the scriptures?

In another passage from Denver Snuffer, we read this:

The journey back to Him begins with all He has provided and preserved of His word. It begins for each of us in the scriptures. One of the immediate effects of baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost is to have the scriptures come alive; to have them overwhelm you with revelation, light and truth. It is not you doing this. It is you experiencing it, but the Holy Spirit opening and lighting them so the same Spirit which gave them at first now receives them in you. http://denversnuffer.com/2012/08/bfhg-part-2/

So, it is the Holy Ghost which gives us power to understand the scriptures.

According to Denver Snuffer, if you took the Holy Ghost for your guide, you wouldn't need Denver Snuffer. It seems then that following a man, even a man who is a prophet, is the behavior of people who have not taken the Holy Ghost for their guide.

- Log November 26, 2017

Even if you will yourselves take Denver to be your guide, why would you teach others who have not yet taken Denver to be their guide to commit the same fatal error?

- BretNaylor November 26, 2017

I really appreciate the efforts of all those involved. Thank you. I am ok with the content of the document and actually happy with it. To me, it is about the content. Not about who it came from. Not the personalities. Does it contain truth and light? Will it help others? Most of all, will God accept it? Hoping and praying we will be able to move forward.

- Stevevanleer November 26, 2017

Precisely! There is division. Shouldn't be division.

D&C 105:

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

Those working hard to perpetuate division among the people are doing something as bad as idolatry - choke on one sin - swallow the other. Either sin will destroy Zion.

We must unite as the Lord has commanded. And that has little to do with what we may disagree on. We will always disagree on stuff. Let it go. Soften hearts - Unite in Christ our Lord. Hear His voice follow His words.

CORRECTIONS to the inadvertently mislabeled, "Restorationist Papers...

Saturday, November 25, 2017

Due to confusion resulting from misunderstandings of origins, associated names and participants, and the accidental mislabeling of what has been posted as the "Restorationist Paper Effort - Update," we have written an attached summary history and correction.
This Guide and Standard, for want of some distinguishing title is hereby dubbed the "Nonmancaaf Swhafugs" which is the "Non Opposing, No Marketing Added, Non Compulsory, All Are Free. Simply What He Asked From Us G&S." :)

Dear brothers and sisters,
After being impressed upon by the Lord we desire to offer to the covenant body at large a statement of principles mutually agreed upon by some few, who after petitioning the Lord over our disputes received from Him what we believe is His desire for us, not by commandment but by pure knowledge, that He would have us accept everything He has revealed to the body of believers regarding the Guide and Standard that He has required at our hands. We have therefore compiled all that has been revealed and inspired by Him into one document and we offer it together with a prayer for the Lord's acceptance,

correction, or rejection according to His word to the covenant body. We offer this prayer at His invitation and desire only to be faithful to Him but we do not know how, or though who, He may choose to answer this petition. We do not believe that this requires any covenant Brother or Sister or any fellowship to be obligated to accept this work. We believe God has made us all free and able to choose what the Lord desires for them. We do not do this to oppose or hinder any other work any covenant Brother or Sister feels impressed to do from the Lord. We support all our family and desire to assist them in any way we can. To that end we offer what we believe the Lord has asked of us. We do indeed love our covenant family and can think of no greater way to fulfill our covenant with the Lord than by this labor we personally have accepted and for which we expect to be held to account by Him.
Some few who are a small part of the covenant body.
See also www.preservingtherestoration. com

A Summary History for Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs The Lord's Requested Prayer for Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs

Comments

- TBM November 25, 2017

Savage G&S > G&S of the 7. But if we end up putting it to a vote...

- Log November 25, 2017

I dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

Updates and New Proposals

Saturday, November 25, 2017

There have been some updates and new proposals added to the sidebar. Each proposal has been dated to help identify those which are new.

A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots-CALL TO VOTE (11/26/17)

Sunday, November 26, 2017

Brothers and sisters,

God commanded us seven to do two things. We have complied with what the Lord told us to do. We presented the document to the people (online) and to Denver Snuffer (in person). After having accomplished this, the Lord showed us the way forward.
Here is a portion of the Prayer for Covenant that we found relevant and respectful to all the work done in the past and present:
"We desire as a people to repent and remove the condemnation and to overcome your

rejection, and to be true and faithful to your commandments. We have labored to present this to you in the hope we have shown respect for your word and not the works of men. We acknowledge that you have inspired and guided this work by your Spirit. We acknowledge we are imperfect and, despite your inspiration and assistance, we know there are faults and weaknesses with us and therefore we ask for your mercy to cover our weakness. We have attempted to be unified in this work, but have sometimes disputed with one another, and therefore ask to be forgiven for our own contentions as we were laboring beside one another." (Prayer for Covenant, pg. 5)

First, a personal comment to all those who doubt. We do not know why the Lord chose us to complete this work. However, despite our weakness ,we know the Lord has been with us in abundance as we have worked. There is no denying this. We witness, in boldness, that God has been with us, helped us, and inspired us. He spoke to us and accepted our offering. Our completed work is enough until such a time may come that the Lord makes it known that a change is required. For now: it is enough. This we know. We have no doubt or fear, for love has cast this out of us.

In reflection, we realize that we have composed a document adapted to the weakest of us all. Though these words are quotes from the Lord and through His authorized sources, these are now our words. They belong to us as a people. They feel to us now as familiar as if we had written them, originally, for ourselves. We pray the day will come when all will be prophets, that any may speak the Lord's words and we will recognize that they come from God, not based on the name of the person speaking, but based on the fact that our spirits are more refined and capable of recognizing truth. When that day comes for us as a people, we will know that we are truly progressing to the day when all may know the Lord for themselves and not rely on any other.

To those who cannot accept this document, or those who have doubt, anxiety, or fear - we invite you get in contact with us via our email (thesevenlotsters@gmail.com). Then we can call you, contact you remotely, or meet with you in person. We invite you to hear our testimony and why we did what we did. We will listen to whatever you have to say. We will pray with you. Online forums and comment sections so quickly spiral down into the mire. Please let us reach out to you personally. We are not here to debate with you, argue with you, belittle you, or to contend with you. We are not better than you. We just want to pray with you and have you hear our peace (piece).

While a few have been vocal on the blog posts, we know of hundreds ready to be heard. It is time to hear from all.

A vote will be offered from Monday, November 27th until Friday, December 1st to invite your acceptance and support for adoption of this Guide and Standard for inclusion in the scriptures.

Guide and Standard by Lot

This is the link to participate in the vote:

Vote on this Guide and Standard

We ask the people to vote, and answer if this work is enough. The scripture committee will then format and finish the edits before publishing in the scriptures.

May God bless us all as we work toward being one. Though we are weak, may God grant us strength. May we have patience for one another as God has patience for us. May we freely forgive and love one another as God so quickly forgives and so infinitely loves us. We know that God has blessed us seven and been with us, and we pray for these blessings be extended to you all, and for Him to be with you.

With love, and in kindness,

Jack Hinkle, St. George, Utah Jason Carlson, Dallas, Texas John Webster, Cedar City, Utah Jeff Reber, Beaver Creek, Oregon Jonathan Dippold, Bury st. Edmunds, England Shalyce Woodard, Clinton, Utah Kirk Strong, Orem, Utah

Comments

- Log — November 26, 2017

I dissent from this proposal.

Jared Livesey

- Log — November 26, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 26, 2017

And, once again, all covenant participants are invited to humble themselves, and come and openly and publicly discuss the G&S as equals in a neutral forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

Jared Livesey

- Stevevanleer — November 26, 2017

Mutual agreement in God's system means exactly the same thing it meant in the very first councils. God allows every individual the right and freedom to choose. There will ever be opposing views. And so it should and will always be. Those who mutually agree with God, His voice, His instruction, and unify in Him stand with Him. So, each must seek and receive His voice. Ask Him. His voice is still and small and speaks peace.

Exercising your right to choose does not break any covenant. This is the voice of fear seeking control. Unanimity as a requirement was rejected in the first councils. Nothing has changed. God has made us free. The challenge is not unanimity, the challenge is for us to accept the differences we may have and continue to live in unity, peace, respect and love for one another as Christ has commanded us.

Listen to God's voice - follow Him. The voice of fear and control is discernible. Turn away from it. Unite in Christ our Redeemer.

- Log — November 26, 2017

Steve,

By your comment, you are a witness unto yourself that you have read the warning.

Jared Livesey

- Stevevanleer — November 26, 2017

I regard no warning from men. I regard my God and Him alone.

- Stevevanleer November 26, 2017

For example, here is a warning I take very seriously:

2 Behold, I say unto you, were it not for the transgressions of my people, speaking concerning the church and not individuals, they might have been redeemed even now.
3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

May I ask why a vote is being held? Does it matter? Is it mere formality so it can be said it was presented to the people? Is that so the people can feel they played a part? Why not just place it in the scriptures since it is obvious the vote will not be unanimous? Ima just wondering and asking sincerely.

- Log November 26, 2017

Lori,

I believe the vote is being taken because everyone who answers yes, no, no, will be by voting that way cut off from the body, according to the understanding of the Lottery project.

Thus the vote produces the mutual agreement required to pass the Lottery G&S, by excommunicating every dissenter.

I voted yes, no, no.

The Lord does not lie, nor does he vary from what he has said, nor does he work in secret combinations. This will be interesting to watch.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 26, 2017

For this to work, they have to have, if they haven't got already, the Scripture Committee's buy-in.

Jared Livesey

- Jay November 26, 2017

Jared, you make an excellent suggestion.

May I recommend to the group here that conversations specifically about Jared's proposal, The Rock of Jesus Christ, be conducted in the space he has laid out for that purpose where the format is more conducive to discussion than here.

I think it is wonderful that technology makes it possible for us to communicate so freely

across distance and time zones. I would like to point out the obvious that carrying on discussion through this medium has unfortunate limitations. So much of communication involves eye contact, body language, voice inflection, etc. that is lost here. So much better to meet in person when possible. As Denver Snuffer has observed:

"The greatest mischief of discussion groups lies in the mistaken impression that collective effort will help the individual in their personal journey. The path to God is solitary...
Groups create an artificial environment...
In a group discussion there is more contention than harmony. Contention is dark and invites errors. It would be far better to contemplate, meditate, study scriptural passages, to look into related statements from prior patriarchs, prophets and apostles than to debate with others. New information can open the mind. Contentious debate will close it...
Take a look at discussion boards. How often are they wholesome and free of contention? The "comments" on this blog were disabled because of the deterioration that took place here."
http://denversnuffer.com/2012/02/groups/

- Log November 26, 2017

And they may protest "you cut yourself off by dissenting!"

The truth of that statement depends on whether Shalyce's revelation is indeed of God.

Jared Livesey

- KeithHenderson November 26, 2017

"The Lord's People"

When a set of principles and commandments are set forth by the Lord and called covenants by Him, and subscribed to in the affirmative by a group of people standing before God, angels, and others present; and that group of people strive to live up to those principles in their daily walk, that group of people, by decree of God, become His people. The covenants, in all their parts, become incorporated into each person by mutual agreement by all who so agree in the affirmative. These, then, are those who He (God) refers to as My People.

Mutual Agreement

When anything spoken or written in part, mirrors those words mutually agreed to by those consenting to the Covenant in its whole, then that element, spoken or written, which mirrors any part of the whole Covenant also by definition is mutually agreed to also. For instance, if in accepting the Covenant a person agrees to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant, that person, along with all others accepting the whole covenant has mutually agreed to that one element also whether or not it is associated with the whole Covenant.

In my very humble opinion that which has been written in this Statement of Principles has already been mutually agreed upon, even if no further action were to be taken, because all the words in it reflect the Covenant to which all of us [as the people of God] affirmatively subscribed.

I will vote my continuing support for this Statement of Principles and would raise both

arms in the affirmative and have each counted if that were permissible.

Keith Henderson

- Log November 26, 2017

Putting this in the main thread:

You might understand the vote this way:

"Are you a covenant participant? yes / no"
"Are you a member of the body? yes / no"
"If you said no, might you become a member of the body? yes / no"

Given Shalyce's revelation, that they have unity with the body, it seems pretty clear they intend by this vote to excommunicate every dissenter.

We shall see what the Lord says.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 26, 2017

I missed the word "tithing" in the A&C, just to pick one.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

Thanks for the heads-up, Jared. Holy moly, I don't even know what to make of the last two questions. Whhhaaat? I figured I would put in due diligence first in prayer to even see if I should vote at all.
I'm looking at the foundation and wondering if I want to build a house on it. It sure looks cracked in some places. And then Denver's newest post on his website has me wondering. I agree with you though, this will be interesting to witness.

And for what it's worth at this point, I'm feeling more and more that simply focusing upon the Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful as our Guide and Standard would be ideal. I was Told earlier this year to study the Sermon on the Mount and apply it. My experience as a result has shown me the power of His sermon and how much we need to take it more seriously. I think it would be beautiful to present that to the world as our Guide and Standard. Everything else can be found elsewhere, and used as led by God.

- Log November 26, 2017

Also, the G&S is unrelated to the covenant except by the covenant requiring us to write and adopt the G&S by mutual agreement.

The issue isn't whether the G&S reflects the A&C contents. The A&C contents are not necessarily related to the G&S contents. Just because something, or even everything, in the A&C is put into the G&S does not confer assent to the G&S. The two things are distinct.

Just to clarify a point of apparent confusion.

Jared Livesey

- Jay November 26, 2017

Lori,

Here how the vote reads:
We ask the people to vote on the Guide and Standard produced by lots, and answer if this work is enough.

Have you received the covenant?

Here is the document compiled by seven people drawn by lot:
http://bit.ly/GuideandStandard - Do you accept this Guide and Standard and support its adoption?

Thank you for participating. If you desire, will you please reach out to us to share your thoughts and have a conversation with us regarding the guide and standard? Please email us at thesevenlotsters@gmail.com.

(I'm not sure where Log got his strange questions from)

- Log November 26, 2017

The vote, verbatim:

1. Have you received the covenant?
2. Here is the document compiled by seven people drawn by lot:
http://bit.ly/GuideandStandard - Do you accept this Guide and Standard and support its adoption?
3. Although you may disagree with this being your preferred Guide and Standard, will you agree at this time to adopt the document as presently written, as a guide and standard for those that desire to be the Lord’s people?

Remember the relevant language from Shalyce's revelation: "At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice."

If you therefore disagree with those words, or believe that the Lottery G&S does not suffice, you are outside of the body, if Shalyce's revelation is of God.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 26, 2017

So, folks, the apparent intent with this vote is to excommunicate every Lottery G&S dissenter from the covenant.

The Lottery G&S supporters may protest that no dissenter is of the body, and by voting in dissent from the Lottery G&S one is simply affirming one is not of the body, but that depends upon whether Shalyce's revelation is of God.

I voted against it.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

Thank you, Jay, for clarification. Words are important. The two questions make good sense and what I would expect to see in this process.

Jared, please just be straight forward and honest. Don't state something is so, especially direct questions in a voting process, when it isn't exactly so. I do feel somewhat mislead. I'm not angry, but I would have been shocked to see different questions than what you said. You may have simply inferred them, but I can't review your comment now to see if it was my mistake and I took you too literally. If I did, I'm sorry.

- Log November 26, 2017

I said "you might understand the vote this way," and what followed was how one might profitably understand the vote.

I have gone ahead and quoted the entire vote, along with the relevant language from Shalyce's revelation which gives the profitable interpretation of the significance of the vote.

I apologize for any confusion I may have inadvertently caused.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor November 26, 2017

Thanks, again, Jared. Time for people to consider.

- Log November 27, 2017

This all seems very familiar.

The Chosen Ones

Alma 31
15 Holy, holy God; we believe that thou art God, and we believe that thou art holy, and that thou wast a spirit, and that thou art a spirit, and that thou wilt be a spirit forever.

16 Holy God, we believe that thou hast separated us from our brethren; and we do not believe in the tradition of our brethren, which was handed down to them by the childishness of their fathers; but we believe that thou hast elected us to be thy holy children; and also thou hast made it known unto us that there shall be no Christ.

17 But thou art the same yesterday, today, and forever; and thou hast elected us that we shall be saved, whilst all around us are elected to be cast by thy wrath down to hell; for the which holiness, O God, we thank thee; and we also thank thee that thou hast elected us, that we may not be led away after the foolish traditions of our brethren, which doth bind them down to a belief of Christ, which doth lead their hearts to wander far from thee, our God.

18 And again we thank thee, O God, that we are a chosen and a holy people. Amen.

Using Private Inquiries, Like Voting, without Disclosing Intent to Cast out Dissenters

Alma 35
3 And it came to pass that after the more popular part of the Zoramites had consulted

together concerning the words which had been preached unto them, they were angry because of the word, for it did destroy their craft; therefore they would not hearken unto the words.

4 And they sent and gathered together throughout all the land all the people, and consulted with them concerning the words which had been spoken.

5 Now their rulers and their priests and their teachers did not let the people know concerning their desires; therefore they found out privily the minds of all the people.

6 And it came to pass that after they had found out the minds of all the people, those who were in favor of the words which had been spoken by Alma and his brethren were cast out of the land; and they were many; and they came over also into the land of Jershon.

Yes, this does all seem very familiar.

- JeffreyRichardson November 27, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JeffreyRichardson November 27, 2017

Although I am in support of this, I feel rushed. Why so soon on the acceptance?

On the one hand, yes, we want the scriptures to (finally) be complete. And as Keith stated, we already on agree on the content, so whats the hold up? On the other hand, as you know, many people are not feeling this revelation. I feel like they deserve more than a week to be persuaded.

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

Oh, thank you Jared. I think the issue was mine. I remember reading that "might understand" sentence now that you have pointed it out. I just took things literally. I appreciate your willingness to clarify and always discuss.

Hopefully someone will answer my questions so I (we) can have correct understanding about this step. Why does everything feel like a surprise to me at this point? Maybe I should change my name to "Clueless." Anyhoot. Have an awesome Monday, y'all.

- Taggart November 27, 2017

Yes I agree it feels rushed.
Also, a few questions regarding the vote.
1. What is the purpose of the vote?
2. Is there an acceptance threshold we're trying to meet that the voting results will identify? If so, what is that threshold? 51%? 91%? 100%?
3. If the threshold is 100%, we clearly don't have that so more time to persuade is probably needed.
4. If the threshold is less than 100%, how has that been determined? Will it still fulfill the Lord's requirement of mutually agreed upon principles?
5. What does asking "is it enough" mean?
6. You mention above that the vote will be taken and then the scripture committee will format and edit before placing in the scriptures. This is assuming mutual agreement? Is there a step I'm missing?

Thanks for considering my questions and thanks for your efforts towards this project.

- Taylor November 27, 2017

I agree with Jeffrey - while I'm sure this is yet another GS document that's ok with me, I'm having trouble understanding why the rush to get a vote done this week.

I'm also having trouble seeing how, exactly, this vote will or indeed can be any different from the votes we've taken before. I predict a wide margin in favor, something on the order of 90/10. What of those who vote no for some reason, are they just cast out? What of the other proposals; who decided not to dignify them with a vote, and how are they sure this is ok? I really don't want anyone to feel they've been strong armed or coerced, or had this thing rammed down their throats. If you can help me understand how this vote is different from the one that took place in early August, I'd really appreciate it if you would explain it to me.

- TBM November 27, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TBM November 27, 2017

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/11/contradictions-part-2-where-do-we-go.html

The tl;dr is this: We aren't capable of mutual agreement without coercion right now.

- DanielRogers November 27, 2017

The previous common consent vote of Aug 5th was set aside by strong personalities in this movement who felt that we needed to pursue 100% mutual agreement.

Those personalities appear to have realized the error of setting aside common consent as they have apparently now endorsed this effort and have publicly advocated that those who do not agree with this particular document are not part of the body.

If this document is going to have legitimacy, we must acknowledge that it was an error to throw out the previous common consent vote.

I suggest we accept the Aug 5th vote as the first statement of principles adopted by the common consent of the body and then acknowledge this document as the second.

- Log November 27, 2017

Daniel,

1. The document voted upon on 8/5/2017 is not part of the covenant I assented to on 9/3/2017.
2. The 11/22/2017 revelation to Shalyce Woodard stating the Lottery G&S team has unity with the body, meaning, in context, the body of covenant participants, despite lacking the mutual agreement of covenant participants required by the covenant, thus logically implying all dissenters from the Lottery G&S are not covenant participants, does not apply retroactively on a facial reading of the revelation.
3. Therefore, if your suggestion is taken as a proposal to adopt the document voted upon on 8/5/2017, I dissent.

Jared Livesey

- Karen November 27, 2017

This will be a several part response. I apologize up front for the length, but feel it important to share.

Taylor and Daniel,

While I am no expert on this topic, I have paid close attention to all that has happened. I was a firm supporter of the Original, the June, and the August documents; so I have no agenda. I believed any of them would have been acceptable to the Lord. I felt as frustrated as anyone over the fact that the vote in August was left undone and never taken to the Lord for acceptance. I guess we hadn't learned yet, as a body, the lessons we still needed to learn.

The reality is that at that point in time, the GS was under the responsibility of the Scripture Committee by assignment. It was their decision to not take it to Denver and the Lord and submit it for His acceptance. I am sure they were prayerful over that and that such a decision has served the purposes of the Lord, even if it was frustrating to some of us. No one but the scripture committee had the right to make that decision at that time.

Since that time, the scripture committee has officially stated that they are now NOT responsible for the GS anymore. They said that they finished their responsibilities over the matter, which ended in division and gridlock, and will not be responsible for its completion. The body must figure it out.

The assumption by many that mutual agreement meant 100%, was part of why that gridlock existed, and continued to exist after August.

We have never been given a definition by the Lord of how mutual agreement is to look; what will be acceptable to Him. Is it 100% of every person who took the covenant? Is that even possible? We were clearly told that there are still those that are lofty among us, how is it possible that we can expect complete agreement between every covenant holder, especially when we still have not risen up to prove our ability to dwell in Zion and connect to the mind and will of the Lord? Zion may have a people who are connected enough to the Lord to produce 100% agreement, but we are not that group yet. We are proving ourselves. There are varying levels of commitment, understanding, and ability to hear the voice of the Lord. That isn't a criticism of our condition, I am just trying to be a realist on the matter.

How is it possible that we would expect that there will not be opposition to something the Lord wants; it is always the case. In Joseph's experience, it proves out that often those who were once the most informed and dearest of friends become the opposition. I am not accusing those who oppose this document of being tares, or prideful. But a genuine question I have to those who feel they cannot accept this document is, “Why?” What is there in the document that is unacceptable? It is all language we have received from the Lord. If we are to be easily entreated, why do we continue to find reasons to squabble over little details; when most of us already see that this is NOT really about the details of the document, but about our loftiness and inability to set aside differences of opinion to do the work of the Lord.

- Karen November 27, 2017

part 2 continued.....

We covenanted to follow the teachings of the Book of Mormon in word, thought and deed. Have we forgotten the words found in Alma and Helaman that ask us to be "easily entreated?"

"And now I would that ye should be humble, and be submissive and gentle; easy to be entreated; full of patience and long-suffering; being temperate in all things; being diligent in keeping the commandments of God at all times… (Alma 7:23)

"Oh, that I could have had my days in the days when my father Nephi first came out of the land of Jerusalem, that I could have joyed with him in the promised land; then were his people easy to be entreated, firm to keep the commandments of God, and slow to be led to do iniquity; and they were quick to hearken unto the words of the Lord—(Hel. 7:7)

What does it mean to be "easily entreated?" The 1828 Dictionary defines entreated as "consenting to grant what is desired." We should all ask ourselves if we are among those who easily consent to grant that which is desired; particularly when the desire is righteous and a request from the Lord. Will you be one who will walk a mile with your brother in righteousness because he requested it of you?

What is desired of us by the Lord, is for us to figure out how to set down our personal opinions, implement the standard of conduct between us that is becoming of those who claim discipleship of Christ, and be easily entreated to agree to a document that gives sufficient instruction to replace Section 20.

Some are saying that we need more time to persuade. Is there anything in this document that you have not heard before? Most of it was taken from the ideas found in the Original, the June, the August, and a myriad of other documents submitted by dozens of believers in the movement. The document reflects the work of hundreds of individuals input and understanding of this assignment, as given to us since March. We have been working on this intensely for 8 months now. How much time do we need? One individual who decides they will never accommodate others could potentially hold the entire body hostage indefinitely. The document is not anything new in reality. We should go to the Lord and ask him if it is acceptable or not. We really don't need months more to do this, we've had sufficient time.

As for why this document is being put up for a vote with the intent to be submitted for inclusion in the scriptures, even though the August document was voted upon and never submitted; As stated, the August document was under the responsibility of the Scripture Committee and they chose not to present it to the Lord and have officially put it to bed. Thus, it was incumbent upon the body to figure out how to proceed. 87% agreed to a lot system wherein the Lord could be left to choose who would compile the document based off the Lord's words and the work previously done by others.

That is scripturally called the voice of the people. It is perfectly legitimate to do our business that way, particularly when the people involved are so intent on doing the will of the Lord. There must be a mechanism whereby decisions can be made, and things can get accomplished and move forward (especially when no one can be the strong man and dictate…even the least among us cannot resort to being a strongman by holding others hostage to their opinion). The scripture committee used this method repeatedly to determine the content of the body of our scriptures, and we had no issue with it. It is a legitimate method wherein to grant permission to move forward with something. Great respect was attempted to be shown by those proposing the Lot system, by first requesting permission to do it by the voice of the people. They didn't just assume

permission, but asked and were granted permission from everyone.

- Karen November 27, 2017

part 3 continued....

As a consequence, the seven chosen by lot, have moved forward with their assignment knowing the voice of the people had granted permission. Because the lot system was based upon the faith that God would choose who He wanted to finish out the work, they must now conduct themselves with the same sort of permission from the Lord to act, that we had previously granted to Scripture Committee in trying to get this assignment completed. Either the Lord chose them to do it, or He did not. I believe the Lord gave abundant witnesses, or signs, to us to show us that He was indeed behind the lot system.

Once finished, they took their completed document to the Lord first and foremost. This is as it should be, as we are all attempting to rise up and receive answers from the Lord on our own, and within the parameters of responsibility that we have. The responsibility was granted them by the voice of the people, and the Lord, to do so. They took their responsibility serious and were given individual witnesses, as well as a group answer when they united in prayer with Shalyce as voice. The Lord spoke to them in answer to her prayer. Are they supposed to ignore His voice and the approval He gave? Should they have confidence in His acceptance and continue on with what He asked of them? I believe that based upon what we all profess to believe; we would expect nothing less from them.

They do not have the responsibility over any other documents put out there for consideration. Their only responsibility and obligation is with the document that they were granted permission to create, that was subsequently accepted by the Lord. They fulfilled the other requirements given by the Lord in answer to their prayer (presented it to the body and to Denver), and were then instructed that the final step is two-fold; take it to the people for a vote and during that time, continue to try to persuade those who may feel opposed to it still. They are faithfully fulfilling that responsibility. Their email has been made available and the request is made for those who oppose the document to contact them directly.

They have reached out to a number of people already, and will continue to do so throughout the vote, and as the Lord instructs. This does not mean that everyone will agree. Nor were they instructed that everyone would or was required to agree. They are taking this one step at a time to complete what the Lord has asked and nothing more or less. We should not panic and make assumptions that have not been stated.

So what does that mean if there's 90% approval and 10% disapproval? Does that mean the 10% are being excommunicated from the covenant, as some have expressed. They have not said that. That is not their role to determine. My assumption is that removal of an individual from the body is by personal choice, not by how one votes on this matter. If one allows themselves to become so obsessed with anger over the matter, perhaps that spirit will overtake an individual if they allow it. But it certainly isn't necessary.

For me, I choose to be easily entreated. It is the position that many have had through this entire process. I am grateful for so many people who have a spirit of good will and cooperation.

Sincerely and with love and respect to each of my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Karen Strong

- DanielRogers November 27, 2017

So since you are saying you are easily entreated and to entreat is to grant what is requested, are you saying that you are ok with this proposal?

It seems to me that accepting the voice of the people means accepting all of their voices. Isn't it an easy thing to call one document the earliest accepted version and another document the latest accepted version?

I think there are a lot of folk that would appreciate the gesture and it seems like such a simple request.

- Taylor November 27, 2017

Thanks for taking the time to respond Karen! I'm making it a matter of prayer before I determine whether, or how, to vote this week. Like you, I'm intending to be easily entreated. There have been at least 5 proposals that have been advanced at some point that would be fine with me. As that list continues to expand, I'm mainly trying to understand what makes this process different from what's happened before - others have experienced outpourings of the spirit, answers to prayers, etc. I really don't want to be found contributing to any abuse of our brothers, and I hope however this process proceeds, we can avoid further scarring of one another.

- LoriTaylor November 27, 2017

Hi Karen. I've only time to read through the first part of your comment, but will come back to finish later and share my answer to your question of why I feel unable to accept the lots G&S. But I wanted to ask if you could help me understand the responsibility part you mentioned.

You said it was originally the scripture committee's job to create the G&S, and I understand that it had been decided Jeff would tend to it since it was his question concerning LE D&C 20 that started the inquiry. But was it understood that originally Christ meant Jeff alone should create it, and once the committee mutually agreed to that version, the task was done? Or is there a possibility that Jeff and the committee could have asked Christ if the group (us) should be included from the first? Was that ever considered? Or since there has always been the small group of individuals working on the scriptures, it naturally would follow for one of them (Jeff) to write a new revelation to replace D&C 20? Is that how they were thinking of it?

Maybe the only person who could tell me is Jeff himself, but it has been on my mind ever since the beginning of this. And maybe it does not even matter now. But it seems from the outset (after preview docs of the scriptures were released) that we struggle to accept revelations from one another, no?

And when Christ gave His Answer and renewed His command that we create the G&S, I felt the "you" was us. But maybe He had been willing to change the "you" from having meant only Jeff to now mean all of us? But it sounded like He always meant the group as a whole body, because Denver shared how Christ told him He hadn't expected we would get it right immediately. But that was after the task was opened up to the group, so maybe not?

At what point did the scripture committee understand they should invite the rest of us in to the work? Only after a lot of hullabaloo?

- Karen November 27, 2017

Lori,

Nice to hear from you again.

I don't know the answers to all of your questions. I just know that it was clear from Denver's talks that the scripture committee was called of the Lord separately through their own inspiration first, then brought together by him at the end of 2016, and that the Lord confirmed what they were doing His work, and made it part of the preparation for us to receive His covenant...after first fixing and making as accurate as possible the word that He had given to us, to the degree that they could with available information.

Since the GS came about by needing to remove Section 20 and replace it with something that would fit for fellowships, as instructed by the Lord through Denver, and the assignment was given to them as a committee, I'm sure it was up to them as to how that was to be fulfilled.

They initially chose Jeff. I think that was acceptable. Jeff then allowed others to be involved. That was acceptable, too. Then he allowed for an even larger group open to anyone in August. That was acceptable, too. But ultimately, it was the scripture committee that had the oversight to get it done and approved. I may have something messed up in this, but that is my basic understanding.

For me, it is literally water under the bridge. If I hold on to "what if's," or "why not's," I will be tempted to travel a road of resentment or feeling I'm justified in a "pity party," so to speak. It has been a temptation for me to go there; because I was willing to accept all to the avenues and felt sad that others made it so difficult to do. I'll be honest...the weekend of the covenant was miserable for me because I was so upset that the August document wasn't taken to the Lord. There's a confession that I'm sure others relate to, but i share it is to show I am not biased toward the current effort.

But after soul searching, the spirit whispered to me to move forward from the point where we find ourselves in the moment, and stop re-hashing the past. No good comes from it, unless we are using it to learn from and correct our mistakes, it divides. Otherwise, re-hashing it over and over is like having a wound that we keep pouring salt in. I was prompted to work to find something and the Lord led me to the United Proposal, followed by the Lots proposal to carry it out. I believe I felt His confirmation because I was willing to lay down my prior position for the good of the whole. Don't know if that makes sense. But hope that helps with your question.

Karen

- Log November 27, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 27, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

November 27, 2017

- Stevevanleer

Ask God yourselves. You need not rely on any voice of any man putting forth shrill accusations and devicive position after divicive position. The accusations put forth men, that anyone who feels opposed to any certain Statement of principles will be excommunicated is an invention of men which is without merit or basis in truth. It is designed to make you fear. Does our redeemer do that? Does He threaten and coerce to get you to believe Him and follow Him? His voice is clear. It is still and small, but discernibly clear. Contrast His voice with what you are bombarded with here.

What is there to be excommunicated from? The covenant you made is between you and God. Angels made note of it, but they have power only to testify what they saw you do and say. It seems only our Lord, since it is entirely between you and Him, would, or could, have anything to say about your covenant with Him. You need not listen to the threats and fear pandering put forth by men about excommunication from a covenant you made with God alone. Only He has power to do anything with the covenant you entered into with Him. You can honor it, or you can break it. It is entirely your choice. He is the only one who can allow it to continue. He is the only one who can say with any authority whatever that it is no longer of force. Feeling one way or another about a statement of principles to guide you is something you can ask God about. Go ask Him. He will tell you. If it is a matter that will come between you and Him and your covenant with Him, He will tell you.

It is absolutely unnecessary for you to involve, to listen to, or pay attention, to any man who thinks he has authority to tell you anything about your personal covenant with God.

Here's how it works within the system our God has decreed. He has not, and will not ever change. He is governed by law. He is the giver of the law. If you are separated from "the body" that He calls His, it will be self selection. Period. It will happen in the very way it has happened from the beginning:

(D&C 29)

"36 And it came to pass that Adam, being tempted of the devil--for, behold, the devil was before Adam, for he rebelled against me, saying, Give me thine honor, which is my power; and also a third part of the hosts of heaven turned he away from me because of their agency;"

It is simply a matter of agency. No other person can do that for or to you.

If you find yourself separated from God it will be because of an exercise of your agency. God did not, and does not, require unanimity. To do so would destroy agency on the part of one or more. He cannot do that. He would cease to be God if He required you to take any position to which you feel opposed. It is eternal law. Period.

It has ever been so that a faction of children will mutually agree to God and His Law, His voice, His word. They approach Him alone, hear His voice, come to Him, and receive Him. Others are easily persuaded by men, their philosophies which are always mingled with enough scripture to make them appear authentic.

You will only know you have chosen the good part when you finally set yourself free from all the voices pounding you and just go to Him alone. He will tell you the answer to every question you may have. It is the only way you can proceed and not be deceived.

Leave men and their philosophies and fear out of it. Go to God. He laid down His life in order to win the right to be the only one you can trust and rely on. Trust Him. Receive

Him. Follow only Him. Listen only to Him.

I bear solemn witness of the Lord Jesus Christ. Allow yourself to be guided by Him. When He speaks, trust Him.

- Stevevanleer November 27, 2017

Zion in fact is those who unite in the Lord our God according to the union required by celestial law. Division will never lead to Zion. You are invited to unite in the Lord Jesus Christ according to His Law. Go to Him. Hear Him. Receive only Him.

D&C 105:

2 Behold, I say unto you, were it not for the transgressions of my people, speaking concerning the church and not individuals, they might have been redeemed even now.
3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;

4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

Division cannot lead to Zion

- Taylor November 27, 2017

I am now satisfied that this vote CAN be different. I can't say that I "know this is God's will," or anything like that yet, but I am open to the possibility. If I can persuade you to be open, then I want to do that. However you vote or don't vote on this, I have no intention of withholding love or fellowship from anyone; you are a brother or a sister, you belong to the Lord, and you are worth knowing.

- SethN November 27, 2017

Lori, in the scriptures project official announcement it states: "(A Proposed Set of) Governing Principles is a rewritten statement of principles and practices -
similar to LDS Section 20 - that reflects this assembly's efforts to preserve the Restoration. This
statement is not yet completed. It requires additional inspired input from you."
http://scriptures.info/Downloads/Official%20Announcement.pdf

Seems like it was meant to have the greater assembly's input from the get go.

- Taylor November 27, 2017

Make that two Taylor's who approve of that message.

Taylor W

- RobAdolpho November 27, 2017

Steve, your party tends to make the image out to be precisely the way Jared has stated. It was your comments that stated that those who don't accept the current words have rejected the covenant. But you're upset with Jared for restating it as an excommunication, why? Because it puts you in the position of the bishop or stake president because your words draw a line in the sand?

Yours, Keith's and Karen's comments are so offensive because it uses words of covenant to control the perceptions of others, rather than simply stating why you agree and let others choose for themselves why they would or wouldn't agree. If disagreement arose, go back and try again. But that isn't going to happen according to you because we already mutually agreed. It won't happen to Keith because he'll raise two hands high in the air in support of this only. And for Karen, she says she don't care which is accepted, but for her it's the majority. All three of you stated why you go with the lots, but none of you are willing to consider the progress of something other than your own understanding, while in the same breath you have called yourselves charitable, humble, and kind.

You may not see your departure as excommunication. Jim O'Rulian didnt even consider this a possibility, that people would descent from the lots proposal. All of you see this a way to get'er done, so we can get to the good stuff. I have an opposing opinion, this work on the people, with the people we are calling Family is the good stuff.

Rob Adolpho

- DarylinMesa November 28, 2017

Unity with which body? Body of Christ? Earthly body? Heavenly body? Covenant body? Body of believers? Body of worshipers? Unity in the 7 Lots participants?

By that wording, where do you get the idea excommunications are intended? Excommunication from what? From who? Is suggesting excommunications a manipulative ploy to spread fear? Lies?

What authority is used to offer warnings? What are the consequenses of need heeding the warning? Excommunication? Rejection from God? Rejection from man? Why is such a stout warning being expressed? What is the motivation for the warning? What inspired the warning? What authority, directive and from whom?

Jared, I'm hoping you could answer some of these sincere questions I have. I have seen your continued dissent from the process being so outspoken and demanding that your views are considered - fair enough. But when such a stern warning is cast upon the body, I take note and ask you, Where are you coming from? What spirit animates you in these actions you have taken?

Daryl Brown

- Log November 28, 2017

Daryl,

I invite you to ask of God, who gives to all men liberally, and does not upbraid.

Here is the formula for such inquiries.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

May your inquiry of God be fruitful.

Jared Livesey

- Stevevanleer November 28, 2017

Oh Rob - I won't contend with you - but I do want to say hello to you and Q. I hope your family is all well and happy. I bet it's getting cold up north? I wish you guys a warm and happy Christmas. Probly not the right place for a personal note right? I hope we can diasagree and still dwell together in peace and the joy of our Lord. My best to you guys Rob.

- Log November 28, 2017

As of today, 11/27/2017, I hereby formally dissent from each and every G&S proposal pursuant to the A&C both past, present, and future, save one: The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

I have posted explanations for The Rock of Jesus Christ, and have invited one and all to come and humble yourselves as equals, and reason together openly and publicly concerning this matter in a forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37. You are all still invited to do so.

It is not my purpose to make you move, for if you move only unwillingly, then you do not agree in your heart even if you feign agreement with your lips. I will explain why we must all stand on The Rock of Jesus Christ to those who seek an explanation in humility as equals, both openly and publicly, for only if you are persuaded will you move on your own.

Your servant,

Jared Livesey

- Log November 28, 2017

This is a revision of my original post against which Steve is contending.

I concede this one choice will not break the covenant.
=====
The Lord requires mutual agreement on the G&S, as he has stated in plain language.

To do anything more or less than the Lord requires is to not do as he has required.

"Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required" (A&C, p. 8).

"I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have

no promise."
=====

- DanBurnside November 28, 2017

This question is going to veer from the current discussed topic. But I don't know where else to ask this question. If you can direct me to a forum or someone who knows, etc. I will be much obliged.

I am not acquainted with you all and am working to understand what all this means. I emailed Denver a question about two weeks ago. I received a reply from him. Then I asked a question again and received no response. My friend said I likely appeared obtuse and that's why I didn't get a response. So maybe I am obtuse, but I'm not meaning to be. Here is the email I sent Denver:

In the paper, Scripture, Prophecy and Covenant the opening line says: "The adoption of latter-day scriptures as a law and covenant is a necessary step foretold by the Book of Mormon." I was looking for the scripture in the Book of Mormon you are referencing where it says "law" and "covenant", etc.. Can you direct me where to read to see your point?

Thank you.

Denver responded:
There are many places where the Book of Mormon is identified as containing the "fulness of the Gospel" including revelations through Joseph. But internal to the Book of Mormon itself, the following are a few (but not by any means all) that bear on the question:
Lehi explains:
"Yea, the Lord hath covenanted this land unto me and to my children forever and also all those who should be led out of other countries by the hand of the Lord. Wherefore, I, Lehi, prophesy according to the workings of the spirit which is in me, that there shall none come into this land save they shall be brought by the hand of the Lord. Wherefore, this land is consecrated unto him whom he shall bring. And if it so be that they shall serve him according to the commandments which he hath given, it shall be a land of liberty unto them. ..For if iniquity shall abound, cursed shall be the land for their sakes, but unto the righteous it shall be blessed forever.
Nephi prophesied:
"the promises of the Lord are great unto the Gentiles, for he hath spoken it and who can dispute? But behold this land, saith God, shall be a land of thine inheritance and the Gentiles shall be blessed upon the land. This this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles and there shall be no kings upon the land who shall raise up unto the Gentiles. ...For I the Lord, the King of heaven, will be their king and I will be a light unto them forever that hear my words. Wherefore, for this cause, that my covenants may be fulfilled which I have made unto the children of men, that I will do unto them while they are in the flesh, ...he that fighteth against Zion, both Jew and Gentile, both bond and free, both male and female, shall perish for they are they who are the whore of the earth. ... Wherefore, the Gentiles shall be blessed and numbered among the house of Israel. Wherefore, I will consecrate this land unto thy seed and they who shall be numbered among thy seed forever for the land of their inheritance... I will have all men that dwell thereon that they shall worship me, saith God."

- DanBurnside November 28, 2017

Part 2

And, again Nephi prophesied:
"as many of the Gentiles as will repent are the covenant people of the Lord, and as many of the Jews as will not repent shall be cast off."
Christ prophesied:
"in the latter day shall the truth come unto the Gentiles that the fulness of these things shall be made known unto them. ...At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations and above all people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings and of deceits ...I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them. And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them. And I will shew unto thee, O house of Israel, that the Gentiles shall not have power over you, but I will remember my covenant unto you, O house of Israel, and ye shall come unto the knowledge of the fullness of my gospel. But if the Gentiles will repent and return unto me, saith the Father, behold they shall be numbered among my people, O house of Israel."

- DanBurnside November 28, 2017

part 3

Christ also explained:
"When they shall be fulfilled, then is the fulfilling of the covenant which the Father hath made unto his people, O house of Israel. Then shall the remnants which shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the earth be gathered in from the east, and from the west and from the south and from the north, and they shall be brought to the knowledge of the Lord their God who hath redeemed them. And the Father hath commanded me that I should give unto you this land for your inheritance. And I say unto you that if the Gentiles do not repent after the blessing which they shall receive after they have scattered my people, then shall ye who are a remnant of the house of Jacob go forth among them. And ye shall be in the midst of them who shall be many, and ye shall be among them as a lion among the beasts of the forest and as a young lion among the flocks of sheep who, if he goeth through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces and none can deliver."
And again:
"that he may shew forth his power unto the Gentiles for this cause, that the Gentiles, if they will not harden their hearts, that they may repent and come unto me and be baptized in my name and know of the true points of my doctrine, that they may be numbered among my people, O house of Israel. ...whosoever will not believe my words, who am Jesus Christ, whom the Father shall cause him to bring forth unto the Gentiles and shall give him power that he shall bring them forth unto the Gentiles. It shall be done even as Moses said, They shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant. ... wo be unto the Gentiles, except they repent, for it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Father, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee and I will destroy thy chariots and I will cut off the cities of thy land and throw down all thy strongholds. ...But if they will repent and hearken unto my words and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this remnant of Jacob unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance. And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city which shall be called the New Jerusalem...and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles."
Moroni warned that God said to the Brother of Jared:
"whoso should possess this land of promise, from that time henceforth and forever should serve him, the true and only God, or they should be swept off when the fullness of his wrath should come upon them. ...Wherefore, he that doth possess it shall serve God, or shall be swept off, for it is the everlasting decree of God."

- DanBurnside November 28, 2017

part 4
Moroni also explained:
"Come unto me O ye Gentiles, and I will shew unto you the greater things, the knowledge of which is hid up because of unbelief. Come unto me O ye house of Israel, and it shall be made manifest unto you how great things the Father hath laid up for you from the foundation of the world; and it hath not come unto you because of unbelief. ...And then shall my revelations which I have caused to be written by my servant John be unfolded in the eyes of all the people. Remember, when ye see these things ye shall know that the time is at hand that they shall be made manifest in very deed. Therefore when ye shall receive this record, ye may know that the work of the Father hath commenced..."

-Denver

In Denver's response I did a word search and there was no scripture reference to "law", only "covenant". But all the covenant scriptures he gave are in reference to a covenant that has already been made in the past. I have taken the BoM and D&C and done an entire word search on the words "law" and "covenant" and can not find the answer. Then I asked Denver the following question over a week ago and received no response. Can anyone here answer my questions? Thank you in advance.

Thank you for your response. I am working through Preserving the Restoration and Conversing with the Lord through the Veil. A friend has asked me to consider the "Scripture, Prophecy and Covenant" paper. I read and re-read your response to my email. You referenced the Fulness of the Gospel and I find I am still confused. I'm just looking to know the reference for where it says, "The adoption of latter-day scriptures as a law and covenant is a necessary step foretold by the Book of Mormon." i.e. the Scripture you are referencing. Additionally, for those that were not aware of the covenant taking place two months ago - how does one go about making it at this point?

Dan Burnside

- JansonFish November 28, 2017

Friends,

Consider the contradiction here from Jared's (Log) words...

Logscabin.blogspot.com

"A Confession To My Readers" 9/4/2017

"Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say “yes” when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer, they should consider me as not being part of that covenant. I failed in a test of personal integrity pertaining to question 1. I lied by saying “yes.” I repent me of this lie by making the truth known."

And this from Jared on this very blog...

LogNovember 25, 2017 at 9:20 AM

"Underdog2,

One man above any is a hierarchy.

As to the rest, my credibility doesn't matter.

Either I am a covenant participant, or I am not.

If I am a covenant participant, then I must agree to any G&S or else it does not get adopted.

You lack power to excommunicate covenant participants.

Therefore you go through me, and each and every one of the other dissenters, and get our agreement or else you do not get your G&S."

Are we to not consider you as part of the covenant as you stated in your blog post?

Janson Fish

- Log November 28, 2017

Janson,

What matters is whether God considers me part of the covenant.

For that, you'll have to inquire of him.

Here is the formula for such inquiries:

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts,
and ask me in faith,
believing that ye shall receive,
with diligence in keeping my commandments,
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

May your inquiry of God prove fruitful.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 28, 2017

Dan,

I would invite you to ask of God, who gives to all men freely and doesn't upbraid.

The formula for inquiring of God is as follows.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the things which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts,
and ask me in faith,

believing that ye shall receive,
with diligence in keeping my commandments,
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

May your inquiry prove fruitful.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor November 28, 2017

Seth N, thank you for pointing me to that. I have taken some time to review that and other recent posts on the sister blog for the scriptures. It is still unclear how the committee felt it okay to unanimously accept Jeff's work, but then acquiesce to a group of people (they said they were told numbered 230) and invite the larger body to work on what was then called governing principles. But it hardly matters anymore. Those in charge will do what they will do.

- LoriTaylor November 28, 2017

Karen, I have not forgotten that I said I would return and share my "why," but after writing and praying and crying and praying and writing more I have decided to keep my thoughts private at this time. But I appreciate your willingness to listen. God bless.

- TBM November 28, 2017

Janson,

You think log is the only person preventing 100% mutual agreement? We can pretend he's not in the covenant if we want, but we still won't get 100%.

- Taylor November 28, 2017

No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the priesthood [or association, or covenant]; only by persuasion, long suffering, gentleness, meekness, and love unfeigned. When we undertake to exercise control or dominion or compulsion upon the souls of the children of men, in any degree of unrighteousness, behold the heavens withdraw themselves, the spirit of the Lord is grieved, and when it is withdrawn, Amen to the priesthood [or association] or the authority of that man.

I say that to recommend caution on the part of anyone insisting that "you go through me, and each and every one of the other dissenters, and get our agreement or else you do not get your G&S." If you want to dissent, that's fine with me. Really. I'll still fellowship with you, pray with you, break bread with you, etc. if you disagree with this (or any other) proposal. But I'd recommend against attempting to assert that sort of control, or compulsion, or dominion.

- JansonFish November 28, 2017

TBM,

I don't think that, I'm aware of others who aren't in agreement.

I have been reading the blog posts and Jared, to me, seems to be the most adamantly opposed to anything other than his proposal. I've identified contradictions in his writings

and thought it fair to emphasize them in light of his arguments.

Janson Fish

- DanielRogers November 28, 2017

Shalyce's answer supports the idea that there are other legitimate documents:

"This document that you've presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them."

This section states that acceptable documents "did come about". So if this is going to be the published version, maybe we should make it clear that it is/was only one of many acceptable alternatives.

That is my suggestion anyway. Something of a preamble that acknowledges that there were many documents that did come about that were acceptable.

- Log November 28, 2017

Would you agree foisting a G&S upon those who do not agree to it is control, compulsion, or dominion?

If not, why not?

Jared Livesey

- Paul November 29, 2017

I fully support the G&S as compiled by the Lot committee. I see the Hand of the Lord in its foundation.

Paul D

- Cherryann November 29, 2017

http://www.totheremnant.com/2017/11/the-driving-test.html?m=1

- Log November 29, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log November 29, 2017

Remember: you don't have to agree - not with me, not with anyone.
Failure to agree is not opposition.
Opposition is opposition.
Contending against something is opposition.
You don't have to oppose to not agree.
You can simply not agree.

Without mutual agreement, no G&S which gets adopted fulfills the Lord's requirement.
We have no announced time limit to come to mutual agreement.

And I dissent from any proposal save it be The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

- GeorgeSchultz November 29, 2017

I've read through probably 75% to 85% of all of these comments. I think the Lord's purposes for having us produce this document are misunderstood. I see campaigning, argument, and endless explanations of points of view. Exactly the stuff he wanted us to overcome and avoid.

If the Lord wants us to understand correct Doctrine it's going to come from Him it will never come from us. It is a trivial matter for him to correct it.

So the test was about something else. It was about being able to be agreeable with one another, to be one people and to produce a document in the spirit of love for one another.

- TBM November 29, 2017

I am sorry, dear, but to question my document is to question the Ministry, and by extension, the Minister himself. I am a tolerant man, but the one thing I will not stand for is disloyalty.

- Stevevanleer November 29, 2017

Jared you have pointed out a very cogent and important point in quoting the Lord From page 8 of the Answer and Covenant.

“Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required.”

Here is substantially what the Lord requires of us from the preceding paragraphs on page 8 (actually the first sentence comes from page 7 last line)

“Let not your hearts remain divided from one another and divided from me. Be of one heart, and regard one another with charity. Measure your words before giving voice to them, and consider the hearts of others. Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. I can bring him to understanding and knowledge. Therefore if you regard one another with charity then your brother’s error in understanding will not divide you...

Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger. Take care how you invoke my name. Mankind has been controlled by the adversary through anger and jealously which has led to bloodshed and the misery of many souls. Even strong disagreements should not provoke anger nor to invoke my name in vain as if I had part in your every dispute. Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part...”

The Lord has “required” quite a lot from us indeed. The only part from page 8 about which there has been any real disagreement has to do with language relating to “a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people”.

There is no need to re-hash that issue - many simply dis-agree about that. And that is fine. We can disagree on that and ten thousand other things. The Lord can and will provide direction and course adjustment on stuff we may disagree about. He says so in the quote above if we will unitedly come to Him to receive His part.

It's not so easy for the Lord to fix all the other stuff He requires of us if we refuse to listen to His words and change our hearts toward one another. To this point we appear to want to ingnore all the other stuff He requires of us, unity, no division, charity toward one another, so that we can continue like a bunch of angry hens to squabble over the one item He has said He will show us His part if we will allow Him to do it.

- Stevevanleer November 29, 2017

Part two

Therefore the real issue(s), the one(s) that we all ought to assess and be sure we are not lacking in, is all the stuff the Lord requires of us from the quote above. The weightier matters of the Law as Peter called them.

All of the to do about which version of a "statement of principles" to take to the Lord, has had the effect of dividing and separating hearts. What has happened, because of the disagreement arising from one requirement of the Lord, (the one He said He can fix by showing us His part,) is contrary to all else the Lord has required of us in the quote above.

We ought to lay down our defenses and unite in the Lord Jesus Christ. Some thing are more important than other things. The prophets and the Lord Himself have taught repeatedly that the higher law requires all that the Lord has required of us from the quote from page 8 above.

You are also precisely right, in pointing out, "I the Lord am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, he have no promise."

Much to consider from that page 8 and the entire Answer and Covenant. The least, is that which the Lord has said He can fix for us if we will approach Him on very reasonable terms He has set. The greatest requirements of the Lord have to do with issues that relate only to individual hearts. The Lord has been very clear, our hearts have not been right. Our focus and attention should go to those issues of the heart. Unity, harmony, cooperation, peace with, and toward one another.

Let's lay down the defenses, come together in unity and make some kind of showing that we do in fact desire to be His people by accepting and doing as He has required. And that has much less to do with a statement of principles that He has offered to show us His part and fix for us if we will come to Him, and much more to do with hearts that continue to need to be fixed. The first heart that needs adjustment and serious tuning in my own. I pray the Lord will help us find unity and peace together.

- doug November 29, 2017

I agree, I believe it's about getting along. Not to eliminate disagreements but to agree to disagree in love.

- JuliusQVernon November 29, 2017

Let me explain why I disagree...

;)

- Ashley November 29, 2017

Yes.

- Log November 29, 2017

Explaining why you don't agree is not contention.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 29, 2017

Well, Steven, if you wish, you are invited as all are to humble yourself and converse as equals openly and publicly in a forum provided for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

- TwoCents November 30, 2017

I don't think disagreeing is what is causing the contention. I think what is causing this so called contention is gossip. Labels like "evil", "1/3" and "opposition" are straw-man allegations.

Dealing with passive aggressiveness is difficult. If someone, who is assertive, addresses the passive part then they are labeled aggressive, and if someone addresses the aggressive part then they are told they misunderstand and are labeled as mean, or the opposition.

I find it very fascinating how quick people in this movement label people who may oppose them as evil. I get pointing out bad behavior, but to say someone is evil? Just because someone has a different perspective, a different understanding, doesn't mean they are Satan's follower. But, I guess what's new, I don't know one religion that didn't call our people Satan followers, savages etc. And why? Because we had a different understanding, we had a different perspective?

Just because someone doesn't agree with this document doesn't mean they disagree with the Lord's words. How many times have religions come to the reservation quoting scriptures, justifying their authority and power, while physically and sexually abusing the people. Didn't the Pharisees and Sadducees have written scriptures (frontlets) that they wore. The rejection of the Lords words come in when you say but don't do, just like the Pharisees and Sadducees.

What if I compile all the scriptures about the Gentile nation and use that as my G&S, would you agree to that? Or maybe you believe you are no longer Gentile??? You call yourself the covenant people, but are you doing what you are saying?

Denver stated:
The fact of the matter is, that you can make a vow to God, but you cannot create a covenant with God. God can make a covenant which you can fulfill by your performance. God can offer you something, but it's up to you to accept it. You accept it by what you do. It's not enough to say, "Yea Lord, I'll go out and do as I'm bidden." Instead you must actually do it. Because it is only through doing that the covenant is kept by you. It is only through doing the covenant is able to be empowered sufficiently to give you the blessing

which a law has been established to allow you to lay ahold. You can't get there without God offering you the covenant and you accepting God's invitation.

What is this work now underway? The Aaronic Priesthood that houses the preparatory gospel? Or is it what Denver has been trying to teach us in regards to what Adam possessed? Is it what Abraham spoke about- the great and greater knowledge? What does it mean to Come Unto Him?

What does the idea of restoring the remnant of this land and no longer forsaking them mean to you? When you say you love us does love to you mean ignore us, talk stink about us behind our backs, publicly be nice and then send private nasty emails- is that what you call Christ like behavior? Is this doing what you are saying? And you want me to join you knowing that you are saying but not doing? Uhhh…. NO thankyou! I have no problem if you have an issue with me, because of my bad behavior, come and talk to me about it, BUT WHY do you have to go behind my back and gossip. AND WHY do you believe the gossip?

Q

- TaushaLarsen November 30, 2017

Love this quote Q, " God can make a covenant which you can fulfill by your performance. God can offer you something, but it's up to you to accept it. You accept it by what you do." It is certainly up to us whether we accept the covenant or not - the covenant HAS been offered, how many have accepted? I am trying to accept it.

I just want you to know I see so much insight and knowledge in your comments. Thank you for taking the scriptures so seriously as to know how to use them to make a point and teach.

I just want you to know there are many in this movement who think kindly of you and respect your opinions and perspective. I appreciate all that you teach me.

I hope we can all seek for this "greater" knowledge that Abraham sought. I hope that this is the work underway, and not just another continuation of the preparatory Gospel.

Tausha

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Beautifully, passionately spoken, Q. Amen.

I am reminded of YHWH'S counsel to "Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other,
causing anger."

I have much studying to do.

Accidental Deletion of Some Comments

Monday, November 27, 2017

When a person removes their comments on this blog it leaves a note saying they have done so. While we were going through the posts and deleting these notes, it was realized that replies to removed comments are also deleted when we delete them. This happened only a couple of times before the mistake was ralized, but we wanted to publicly apologize to anyone whose comments were accidentally deleted. We value everyones' thoughts and will avoid deleting those in the future.

Comments

- TBM — November 27, 2017

I dissent from this proposal.

(Sorry log, couldn't resist)

- Taylor — November 27, 2017

I'm offended.

Just kidding, I'm not.

- LoriTaylor — November 27, 2017

THANK YOU FOR THE LAUGH!!! Oh, my goodness. That was brilliant. I'm sorry too, Log. But I needed a chuckle. You guys's are wonderful. I'm glad some still have a sense of humour.

- LoriTaylor — November 27, 2017

It is good to see we can still show some humour. :)

- Log — November 27, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — November 27, 2017

How many cents has the dissenter sent if the dissenter could sense scents?

A Different Idea from One of the Lot Group

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

A new proposal has been added to the sidebar titled "A Different Idea from One of the Lot Group".

Comments

- Inspire — November 28, 2017

I wouldn't necessarily call this an official "proposal," even though there are ideas presented which might be interesting to experiment with.

---Doug Larson

- Taylor — November 28, 2017

I'm a little bit surprised that the first comment doesn't say "I hereby dissent from this proposal." :)

- Inspire — November 28, 2017

Which is why I didn't want it officially called a proposal. Just some ideas.

---Doug

- Log — November 28, 2017

I'll put this here, too - the idea does not conform to the requirements of the clear language of the A&C.

So, as you may have guessed, I dissent, yadda yadda.

Jared Livesey

- Inspire — November 28, 2017

Said over there as well:
Seeing as how it is not up for vote (at least I am not submitting it that way) and is in no way "official," there is probably no need to dissent, but it is certainly your right to quickly disagree.

---Doug

- HuhWhatda — November 30, 2017

(Part 1)
Doug,

I believe that your idea of considering the efforts that have been made is along the lines of respecting the communication with God, given to one another. When people simply respect revelation in others, not trying to change them to fit their own revelations and justify their own ideas, that is an environment of equality. Now, that doesn't mean that someone else's revelation must now be your revelation, unless it also rings true to you. If it rings, then it is your revelation. If not you can respect others' revelation by not trying to make them look like you. It only means that you respect that they are instructed their way, and you are instructed your way. It seems your idea respects others revelations as equal in value to your own, and that has a great ring to me.

The other efforts haven't done that. They have accumulated a majority voice, dismissing

the voice of the Spirit to those who have a different opinion than their own, to get'er done! Slick arguments have been proposed for why this one is "the one" and that all others must be done away with. An argument for claiming an assignment from the Davidic servant was used to manage perceptions. An argument for lots have been pitched, directing people's perceptions. An argument for majority governing the voice of the people has been marketed, directing people's perceptions. I recently heard of Adrian Larsen's current post, stating that rejecting the current document is rejecting the Lord's words, and people's perceptions are being managed their too. In my opinion, what it seems to boil down to is what does the Lord say to you?

When large crowds of like minded individuals begin to rally in one direction, those who have different opinions doubt their communications with God, believing them to be the late bloomer in the bunch, that just hasn't gotten the memo from heaven yet. Rather than waiting for God to speak to them, they trust in the arm of flesh, jump on board without their own witness, and justify their choices, mimicking the same justifications as the clambering crowd. But unless God has spoken to you directly, it will continue to be a matter of doubt. In the past, many of those clambering support of the current proposal being voted on, have also supported previous ones, like the original, the June 10th, the July 2nd, and the Aug 5th proposals. They have claimed that the Lord would've accepted any one of them as a way to justify their changing their minds. But, if the Lord supported any one of them by His voice to you, why would you ever change your mind and do something else? I wouldn't.

In the beginning, when people had a problem with Jeff Savage's name being in scripture, I had no opinion, so I voted to leave his words unchanged. However, when the invitation was given to the fellowships, and my friend (knowing nothing of Denver) got baptized (beginning a new fellowship), the voice of God was given to me. Because of that voice, I have not, nor will not stop working towards a mutually agreeable G&S. Although the crowd is developing momentum and inertia in their direction, unless the Lord speaks to me, I will continue to do the work He instructed me to do, and will not be star-struck by the arguments referred to above. It is the Lord's voice that makes your confidence wax strong, not your friendship with men holding status, or your alignment with those having pull. Right now the Lord's voice doesn't support their efforts to me, and I will continue to work with those who are also waiting upon Him. I will also respect those who have heard His voice directing them to accept the current vote. The orchestrator of Zion is not Denver, Jeff Savage, or the Lots committee of Seven. It is Christ. So if Christ dictates to you, do that! I will too.

- HuhWhatda November 30, 2017

(Part 2)

I believe that previous efforts have tried to get the Lord to own the words, thus justifying themselves by quoting His words. Quoting the Lord's words to the Lord was not the assignment required of us. If I understand correctly, the assignment seems to be for us to write a statement reflecting us, not a statement reflecting the Lord. Quoting isn't a statement of us unless it is our words. It holds accountability for who we are and who we claim to be. Our claim to God is like Nephi saying, "you know I believe all the words my father speaks." It is a show of our equality. Using the Lord's words to make us look like we believe is not the same as using our words showing we believe. Until we come to mutual agreement, we cannot move forward simply by managing perceptions. We actually have to be mutually agreeable. Your current efforts seem to be pointed in that direction because you respect the revelation others have had. I do not believe it is an end, but I do believe it points in a good direction.

If this gets broad acceptance and printed in the scriptures, and the Lord hasn't confirmed

it to me, I will send you all off with figurative flower lei's, wishing y'all the best. As for me and my house, I will wait upon the Lord. And if I am unable to hear His voice because my heart is too hard, I will face the destruction for my lack of preparation in softening my heart. But I will not fake it until I make. Rather, I will learn it until I earn it. I hold myself accountable to follow Christ alone or be held personally accountable for my own sins.

Rob Adolpho

- Inspire November 30, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Inspire November 30, 2017

Rob,
Beautiful words, and it feels like we are on the same page. But this chapter is not yet over.

I rather like what you said, "the assignment seems to be for us to write a statement reflecting us, not a statement reflecting the Lord." If that is the case, we are indeed writing the statement at this very moment. Not by the seven, not by a committee, by Jared or myself. The statement presented is how we associate with each other. Is it through mutual agreement or do we draw near unto the Lord with our mouths, and with our lips honor Him, but have removed our hearts far from the Him?

People might someday look back and say, "Boy, they really made a statement!" It remains to be seen if it will be that we learned nothing from our history, or that we figured out a way to mutually respect one another in our sundry approaches.

Doug Larson

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Hey Rob. I left a comment elsewhere a little bit ago where I talked about creating a statement that is representative of Him to the world, meaning how we reflect His light and love. But I like how you have spoken. I had not considered how it could be an example of our own hearts. I just want to share how I have come to know Him and how everyone else can go on that journey too. He's amazing. I want the world to begin to have hope in Him again.

- HuhWhatda December 01, 2017

A thought came to mind as I read the responses here. The Holy Order is her on Earth through the patriarchal fathers. They are the trunk of the tree from which branches come from, and that tree is the family of God. Those who are of the family of God, which the covenant is offering, ought to be a "statement" like Doug said.

Writing from there would be a light thing, but our hearts lack, and that is the work upon us now: conditioning our hearts. Some have claimed that throughout this whole process their hearts were right, and that would mean it's someone else's fault, because someone else's hearts aren't right. That is neither meek nor humble. If we don't have a statement mutually agreeable, your only option is to blame yourself. If we take the accountability on ourselves, we are doing as Christ did for the sins of the world, and that will surely make our hearts right, especially if we follow His example of healing with love.

I will not give a bill of divorcement, that will be unacceptable to me. I will continue waiting upon the Lord, working toward something mutually agreeable, and making a real "statement," ...as a whole, as a people, as a community, as Zion. I truly believe this to be possible. But, belief requires the work of faith to make it so.

My comments here aren't to upset the efforts of others, they are to communicate my point of view and insights I have had, to be shared with those who have accepted the task to write. I am not one to simply dissent. And I am not contentious, even though I have been accused of that. Since my opinions don't align with the popular opinions, rather than continuing the work, I have been blamed for stopping the work, for hindering the work, for standing in the way of the work. Only when our ideas are shared openly can the work be done to merge the efforts. If I need to repent, I will do it, I just need to know what I need to repent of.

Best of luck with your efforts,

Rob Adolpho

Committee G&S Update: Answering Questions and Putting Rumors to...

Thursday, November 30, 2017

We would like to answer a few questions and hopefully settle a few matters. Let's get started:

What is the meaning of the term "Mutual Agreement?" There have been many prayers asking about this subject, as well as a lot of heartache as people have disputed the definition of this term. In response to prayers and pleadings, the Lord answered with a definition to Denver. He defines mutual agreement, as used in the *Answer to Prayer for Covenant*, this way: "As between one another, you choose to not dispute." Simply put, even if we disagree, if we choose not to dispute, we have mutual agreement. For example, if someone insists that they will not accept any G&S other than their chosen version, those who do not dispute with them still have mutual agreement. That definition fits well into the text of the *Answer*, which reads (in part), that we should: "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me, I will tell you my part." It appears that sometimes it takes a while for a group to become sufficiently contrite. This definition also will hopefully allow for us to reach a conclusion on this effort sometime in the near future. We will post an update on next steps for the inclusion of a final *G&S* once the current effort to gauge the body's reaction is completed.

August 5 th Document: Why was it not taken to the Lord for His approval after the majority vote? A couple reasons, but primarily because we felt He approved it at our meeting. Everyone who stayed through the prayer at the end felt that way. This meeting was miraculous in many ways, as we were joined by a host of people who wanted to get involved but who had not been involved before and yet able to come to agreement on the document. However, there were some people who strongly expressed their disagreement with the document. We thought about the parable of the pass, and we did not want to rush and force something through in the current state of affairs. Ultimately, after we were given the Lord's *Answer*, we wanted to wait and see how taking the covenant would change people. The Lord said that, "if [our] hearts were right…[we] could have finished this work long ago." A light thing indeed, to get our hearts in order. ;) We believed—perhaps a little naively—that people would have a change of heart after taking

the Covenant in Boise and would accept what was already put forward. That didn't happen, so we decided to wait and see. The committee in general, and Jeff in particular, resolved to try and support any public effort to write a *G&S* (please read his recent post to see how that has gone for him). This process has been good for all of us. The Lord's words to not return to Him void, and this assignment has done a lot of good for our hearts. There is a rumor, spread by those who claim to be "in the know," that the reason the August 5 th document was not taken to the Lord was because "the scripture committee realized that the *Guide & Standard* was supposed to go in the scriptures, and because Jeff wasn't a prophet he couldn't write something that would go in the scriptures." That is, simply put, false. If you want to know our thoughts on the matter, please see the Preview edition of the scriptures. :) Now, if your question is "Why did *Denver* not take it to the Lord for His approval?", then that's a separate issue. We didn't do that because, A) that is not listed as a requirement in the *Answer*, B) we did not believe that we had 'mutual agreement,' which was a requirement before the document was added to the scriptures, and C) we weren't sure if this would qualify as Denver "participating", and we didn't want to invite him to be disobedient. We are trying to avoid the inevitable "darkening of the mind" that comes with too much reliance upon one man.

Is the *Guide & Standard* to be considered scripture? Will it be a part of the Covenant (Question 2)? The Question in question reads: "Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?" No; the *Guide and Standard* (whichever one is ultimately adopted) will be placed in an appendix at the end of the *Teachings and Commandments*. While in the scriptures, it need not be viewed as scripture and "binding" (whatever that means). That was a big revelation to us. We learned that for the first time in mid-August, which we thought we had clarified…we dropped the ball on that one. This new understanding was a major factor in our decision not to include the *G&S* as a part of the vote we took on Saturday to approve the *Old and New Covenants*, along with the *Teachings and Commandments*, as our scriptures. We find it interesting that the Lord would declare that "The records you have gathered as scriptures yet lack many of my words, have errors throughout, and contain things that are not of me," and yet the Lord would ask us to "receive" them as a "standard to govern [us] in [our] daily walk in life," and "the use the scriptures to … guide [our] words, thoughts and deeds." That sounds familiar. Is He hinting that even an imperfect statement of principles would be sufficient? If it is NOT a part of the covenant, and not a requirement for future covenant holders to accept, that suggests to us that this really is a light thing.

What is to be done? We are not in control of that. It is interesting to note that those who claimed we would be rejecting God's words if we rejected the Original (or other, more recent documents) are now on the other side of the debate. Now, those who feel like they cannot support the products of the "Lotsters" are told that they are rejecting God's words. We don't feel like either is necessarily the case. Did God call the 7 on the scripture committee? Probably. There is evidence to support that. Did he call the 7 Lotsters? Probably. There is evidence to support that. But does that mean you must accept the Original or be damned? (Though an argument could be made that our progress has stalled…) No. What about this recent *Guide & Standard*? No. God's ways aren't necessarily our ways, and we on the committee were unwilling to force others to make the choice to accept one version or be cast out from the people. We are still unwilling to consider that. We don't feel like rejecting any of the offerings constitutes rejecting Christ or His words. Whether you can or cannot support any of the documents, we hope you will still continue to fellowship with us. We draw no lines in the sand. Revelation should not be used as a trump card. We still need to learn how to respectfully disagree. It appears

that we haven't learned that yet, so the scripture committee is playing the same role we played before. We are waiting on the Lord for further light and knowledge, and for our hearts to get right, before we finalize anything. In the meantime, this process has led to many more broken, softer hearts, than we had eight months ago. We consider that a victory. While we are still in limbo, it is worth considering that persuasion does not consist of saying, "God told me X is true." Quite the opposite, in fact, as God appears to answer us according to our desires. In the past we have received many messages saying "God told me X," when we had been told the opposite. The Lord speaks to this issue in the *Answer.* We invite all to go and study that amazing revelation. While we are on this topic…what is light? A wave? A particle? Life-giving substance? Disinfectant? Collection of smaller rays, strings, etc.? Or is it knowledge? Intelligence? Christ's life-sustaining influence that allows us to think and move and breathe? Is it love or happiness? It does reduce depression… Is it merely something to see by, or a source of warmth? As demonstrated by this exercise, the meaning of light depends on what kind of being you are (animal or plant), what kind of instrument you are using, and the current state of your environment. Yet…are they not all light? If something so fundamental to life can be so different depending on the person and situation, can we not all agree that any one (or all) of the *G&S* assignments may be very difficult for someone to swallow? Let's figure out how to respectfully disagree.

Hey! Why was the Original ever removed? To be brief, it was first removed from the website because there was a meeting held with a small group of people and a few members of the committee, where worries were expressed that A) there should not be a proposed statement of governing principles, B) who the hell were Jeff Savage and Michael Hamill, and C) other complaints. At the end, the two committee members present decided to remove the GP from the website scriptures to maintain the peace. More discussions, online and over the phone, continued, and a couple alternate versions were submitted to the scripture committee. At one point, Jeff was told that many people would refuse to take the covenant in September if the GP were included in the project. After much prayer, he felt to call a meeting similar to the constitutional convention, with representatives from each fellowship invited to come and help draft a version of the GP. The three versions were submitted to the group of representatives, and all were invited to pray and decided which version they would use as a base text (following the Constitutional Convention as a guide, where the Madison's Virginia Plan was first voted on as their base text before they discussed, edited, and voted on the various elements before satisfying the people). All of those who voted, prior to the meeting, voted for the Original as the base text. However, there were many (almost half) who had either not seen the emails, or had asked to join the meeting late, and were not a part of that vote. At least one fellowship wrote in that they did not believe a statement of principles was God's will. That meeting was long, and many people had to leave early. All of those that stayed, however, felt that God approved of their efforts. We believed that we were done…until vocal opposition arose. About a month later, another meeting was held to try and resolve the issues with the entire group of representatives. We didn't fully finish the task during the meeting, and it was very difficult to try and resolve the issues over email. Thus, another meeting was held in Sandy on August 5 th, where any and all were invited to attend. Online and in person, there were between 50 and 70 people in attendance, many of whom had never sat in a representative meeting. At the end of that meeting, all were asked if they opposed. None spoke. Then a prayer was offered, and those involved felt that it was sufficient, meaning we were done with the assignment. Again, there was vocal opposition. While discussions were going on about what to do, the *Answer to Prayer for Covenant & Covenant* were revealed, and suddenly the issue of whether this was even needed was put to rest, as we had a direct command to write a statement of guiding principles. With the additional knowledge that the *G&S* was not a part of the covenant, we

decided, as a committee, to leave the matter until after Boise so that other ideas might flower or we might change as a people. That is where we left it, though we have endeavored to assist every other effort that has come out of the body. Also, the criteria for an acceptable statement of principles changed when the Lord gave us the *Answer*: the statement of principles must be written by "you", meaning all of us. Any document not open to contribution by the entire body does not meet this requirement. The original version was written by Jeff Savage and edited by the committee, so it fails that requirement and cannot be considered as an acceptable version by the Lord.
(Oh, and for the technically-savvy, an iOS app will soon be released. Because we are not fully finished editing the Bible text, it should have the finalized version of the Book of Mormon for the time being.)
The scripture committee

Comments

- HuhWhatda November 30, 2017

Scripture Committee,

If I think you're saying what I think you're saying, I agree, lets wait upon the Lord together. What was stated that "you," means all of us... RESPECT! I believe mutual agreement is possible, and not by managing perceptions, but by doing the work of being mutually agreeable. And that will take more than writing the correct words, it will take "being" the correct words... WORD! That is why, I believe, Christ was called THE WORD by John the Beloved. If we are to be like Christ, our statement ought to reflect us, and we must be accountable to God for who we are becoming. Our statement to the Lord is our declaration, and ought to be our words, that are mutually agreeable to reflect us.

Yesterday my mother in law sent missionaries to find me. I am on the reservation, that has no address, in the middle of nowhere, and is boarded up. They walked into the front door, looking for me to "invite" me to come to church. They shared a message of the Book of Mormon, but they themselves were not the message, they were not the word. So, no matter what they quoted to me, it was doubt and confusion in them. Our statement cannot be that.

Thanks Scripture Committee for not doing as has been done before, marketing a position like the offspring of a pitch, ...or a son of a pitch!

Rob Adolpho

- Log November 30, 2017

"Simply put, even if we disagree, if we choose not to dispute, we have mutual agreement. For example, if someone insists that they will not accept any G&S other than their chosen version, those who do not dispute with them still have mutual agreement."

Yes, those who choose not to dispute among themselves have mutual agreement, but they do not have mutual agreement with the one that insists they will not accept any G&S other than their chosen version.

And if that one is a covenant participant, then no G&S may be adopted per the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement.

Recall: there is no provision within the text of the A&C authorizing any covenant

participant to excommunicate other participants.

I happen to be a covenant participant, and I will not agree to any G&S than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 30, 2017

Since you already know - all of you - that we, the covenant participants as a body, do not have mutual agreement to the Lottery G&S, further tallying of votes serves no purpose, since the document cannot be adopted per the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement.

If we abide the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, eventually we will have to humble ourselves and converse publicly and openly as equals, for how else can we come to agree between ourselves? You are all still invited to do so at a neutral form arranged for this purpose: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen November 30, 2017

HA! Rob...son of a pitch! This is why I always LOVE reading your comments. You have a gift for turning a phrase, my friend.

- MaryCella November 30, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- AdrianLarsen November 30, 2017

Mutual Agreement

This newly given definition of mutual agreement notes that it is our choice whether or not we dispute. This does not change the requirement that we come up with a single statement, adopt it by mutual agreement, and add it to our scriptures. But it does clarify that the path to mutual agreement is the choice not to dispute.

Though we all have our preferred statements, the Lord still requires that we mutually agree on one of them.

Documents

I wrote a blog piece in favor of the Lots document, and stated that it consists of the Lord’s words, so we ought to be circumspect about opposing it. I made this assertion, not because the Lord vouches for the document (though I believe He does), but rather because the document consists 100% of:

• Direct quotes from the scriptures we have covenanted to use as our guide

• Direct statements from servants sent by the Lord. These servants are limited to those who all covenant holders have already acknowledged as true messengers.

The only way to get any closer to the Lord's direct words is if He speaks at our next general conference.

In contrast, the August 5 document, thought it teaches many true principles and is very good in many ways, consists almost exclusively of statements written by men. In this quality, at least, the two documents are polar opposites.

If we can't mutually agree to accept our Lord's own words, how can we claim to be His people?

Process

The Lots process was voted on by the covenant body and approved by a wide margin. This is important because the Lord didn't require that we mutually agree on the process. Only on adopting a document at the end. The standard for adopting a process vs. adopting a document, are different, in my opinion. This is the only process the covenant body actually approved.

Further, the body had massive input into the whole process. The body voted to use the lots process. The body were invited to submit their names. The body were invited to submit their writings. I believe this represents the highest degree of participation opportunity of any of the documents.

Correctness

I disagree with the implication that some error is OK in our statement because the scriptures contain error. Are we not trying to correct all the error we can in our scriptures? Isn't that fidelity to truth the very reason the Lord offered a covenant? (Thank you, by the way!) Is it wise in word and kind in deed to provide others with a guide and standard that we know contains error? I believe we need to get this as correct as we possibly can. In the end, the document DOES matter.

Choosing Not to Dispute

Given the Lord's definition of Mutual Agreement, I would invite all to look again at the Lots document. Is there anything in that document that you dispute? If not, can you accept it as a true and correct statement of the Lord's direction to us? Even if you prefer another statement or process, can you dispute what is written in the Lots document? And if so, is the dispute significant enough that it is worth preventing completion of this assignment?

If so, please bring your dispute to the seven.

If not, let's mutually agree to adopt the document.

- AdrianLarsen November 30, 2017

One other thought about the Lord's definition of Mutual Agreement:

It doesn't actually change the definition of mutual agreement at all. Rather, the Lord's beautiful insight kindly provides direction about how to get there--by choosing not to dispute.

Mutual still means mutual. Agreement still means agreement. And adopt still means adopt.

- Keltroy November 30, 2017

In this statement “While discussions were going on about what to do, the Answer to Prayer for Covenant & Covenant were revealed, and suddenly the issue of whether this was even needed was put to rest, as we had a direct command to write a statement of guiding principles“ we believe a correction to the record might be important here.
The Answer was received on July 29th exactly one week before the August 5th meeting.
All are free to interpret this however they choose but we felt it important to see things as they were and as they are, even if we can’t seem to see them as they will be. :)

- Paul November 30, 2017

What is “mutual agreement”? The word mutual comes from the late 14th century Middle French mutuel, and from the Latin mutuus, meaning “reciprocal, done in exchange.” That which is mutual is freely interchanged, i.e., mutual love, mutual affection, mutual hatred, etc. (It can incorrectly be used for “common” as in our “mutual friend.” However, it’s ok to say “mutual friendship.”) The word “agreement” also dates back to the 14th century, meaning “mutual understanding,” from the Old French agreement, noun of action from agreer “to please, satisfy, to receive with favor, take pleasure in.” (from Latin ad “to” + Old French gre, gret “that which pleases,” from Latin gratum, gratus “pleasing, welcome, agreeable.” (See Online Etymology Dictionary, http://www.etymonline.com/index.)

A mutual agreement is a pleasing, satisfying, agreeable, welcome reciprocal interchange. It’s an exchange of ideas that is pleasing. It’s an understanding between parties. There’s no disposition to dispute.

An interesting thing happened between Joseph and Oliver in 1829. “During the month of April, I continued to translate and he to write with little cessation, during which time we received several revelations. A difference of opinion arising between us about the account of John the Apostle—mentioned in the New Testament, John, twenty-first chapter and twenty-second verse—whether he died or whether he continued, we mutually agreed to settle it by the Urim and Thummim, and the following is the word which we received: . . .” (RE Joseph Smith History April 1829 ¶18) They had a difference of opinion. We don’t know who took which side, but clearly they did disagree, and the one could not convince the other. They reached a stalemate or standoff. How did they settle it? Each decided that the only solution would be to seek outside help. It wasn’t through “sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger.” (“Answer and Covenant”) They “mutually agreed to settle it by” praying together (without disputing with each other!) and presenting it to the Lord through “the Urim and Thummim.” In other words, they were heeding the same counsel that we have received in July, “Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part.” (“Answer and Covenant”)

Paul D

- Log November 30, 2017

My reasoning for dissenting from every other proposal is public.

I have done nothing in secret councils, have not refused to humble myself and reason with all who wish as equals, publicly and openly, and have made these things public for all to see and weigh for themselves.

You are all still invited.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 30, 2017

Also, it is not given to the scripture committee in the A&C to interpret the A&C as to what qualifies for a G&S.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 30, 2017

That is to say, the scripture committee is not the arbiter of the means of production of the G&S.

Jared Livesey

- Log November 30, 2017

Neither is the scripture committee the judge of the content of the G&S, except in their individual capacities as members of the body, as every member is, to either agree or disagree with any particular proposal. We are either equal, or we aren't.

Jared Livesey

- Taggart November 30, 2017

Oh interesting. I never connected the timeline. So one could infer that the August 5th meeting met the Lord's requirements because all were invited to participate. The August 5th document was the one voted on with 91% acceptance, correct?

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Perhaps if the body had determined to slow down and obtain mutual agreement for a process first then some few could have been spared the suffering and accusations they are now enduring, which by the way does not exactly cause them to want to join the club. How do a group of people mutually agree without one or more of them being made to feel they are being pressured by peers to go along with the majority?

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

What I simply mean is that maybe it would have been wise of us a group to learn how to take baby steps of mutual agreements together rather than attempt to run before we are understand how to stand arm in arm together. Not everyone is ready for a marathon and hence need time to train.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Let me just begin with I am sorry for my part in what has happened here. Though I always spoke honestly and from my heart, I did not always measure my words as I ought to have, as I have been counseled by YHWH to do. For hurts and anger and frustration I caused, I am sorry. I hope anyone affected by my words can forgive me.

I still believe we can take the time we need to learn how to knit our hearts together in love. He truly is the Master Physician, the GREAT I AM. Nothing is too hard for Him, not

even the hardest of hearts among HIS FATHER'S children.

I still hope for true reconciliation for us as a whole, where we all mutually agree upon a guide and standard representative of HIM to the world and no longer strive to alter His meaning, intention, and words to justify our desires.

I submit this with no other desire than to repent for my part and share what I feel He has put into my heart. Today has been particularly difficult for me, but according to His many mercies He has shown me how to have peace in Him.

I do not have a voice in this world, so to speak. I do not have a presence anywhere that others would take notice or remember me for anything. I do not seek such. But I do desire to become His, and will bend to His will in all areas, even if that makes me look foolish because I have made poor choices and must learn from them.

I care about those He cares for and want to help Him in His work to save however many will come unto Him. I am only saddened that He has such a poor vessel to work through. I am unworthy of His notice in every way, yet acknowledge that notice me He has, and showered me with love, healing, and forgiveness in abundance. He has shown me how faithful He Is. Truly HE IS LOVE.

I share below what He brought up in my heart today, and ask that any who read these words inquire of Him if they are sent by Him and what He would have you do with them. God bless.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Prayer for Covenant:
Heavenly Father, it is I whom you named David, asking you in the name of Jesus Christ for your mercy and grace to be with those of us who seek to become your people. We hope to repent and return to your path and no longer be condemned and rejected as a people because of those who went before.

Take pity on us all and have mercy for us, as we acknowledge and accept the condemnation and rejection of the latter-day gentiles, and petition that we may overcome it.

We are mindful that in 1832 the gentile saints were condemned for vanity and unbelief because they treated lightly the things they had received and they were warned by you that they would remain under condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments, not only to say but to do.

You commanded the gentiles that they bring forth fruit meet for their Father's kingdom and if they failed to do so there remained a scourge and judgment to be poured out upon those who claimed to be the children of Zion.

They failed to bring forth the required fruit and were judged and scourged, and then violently driven out of Jackson County, Missouri.

You explained there were jarrings, and contentions, and envyings, and strifes, and lustful and covetous desires by them; therefore by these things they polluted their inheritances.

But they did not repent, and in their pride they threatened to wage a war of extermination against the Missouri citizens, heedless of your warnings.

But it was you who used the Missouri citizens as your hand of judgment to scourge the condemned saints, in your attempt to persuade them to repent and no longer treat lightly your word.

They still saw no Divine purpose behind their distress, and railed against their Missouri persecutors.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

Despite their suffering, they were not sufficiently humbled to repent, instead they breathed out threats and expressed hope to gain vengeance against the same Missouri mobs to whom you had given power to afflict the gentile saints to inspire them to repent.

Because of the hardness of their hearts, the gentile saints were again mobbed and slain and in 1838 altogether driven out of the State of Missouri, with Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith and other leaders cast into prison and condemned to die.

But you were merciful, and did not suffer Joseph, Hyrum or any of those imprisoned with them to be killed.

In your mercy, the surviving saints and the imprisoned leaders were able to obtain refuge in Illinois, whose people welcomed the saints, and a season of peace followed.

In 1841 you mercifully extended another opportunity to the gentile saints to repent and return, and you approved Joseph's offering and acknowledgements of the past failures of the saints when he petitioned you on their behalf.

You found the prayers of Joseph and the gentiles were acceptable before you and you granted to the saints another chance for you to recover them as your people.

As you stated to the former gentiles, there is not a place found on earth that you may come to and restore again that which was lost unto us, or which you had taken away, even the fullness of the priesthood.

You offered and intended for a house to be built unto your name in which you deigned to reveal to your people things which have been kept hidden from before the foundation of the world, things which pertain to the dispensation of the fullness of times.

You gave to them sufficient time to build a house unto your name warning them to complete the work or their baptisms for the dead would be unacceptable.

In those days you warned the people you will not perform the oath which you make, neither fulfill the promises which they expect at your hands, or in other words you would remove your covenant, if they failed to do what you commanded.

And you foretold what you would do unto the people if they neglected to do the work assigned them.

You warned: For instead of blessings, we, by our own works, would bring cursings, wrath, indignation, and judgments upon our own heads, by our follies, and by all our abominations, which we practice before you.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

From Yeshua’s Sermon on the Mount, NIV Matthew 7:
Judging Others
7 “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.
3 “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

- AdrianLarsen November 30, 2017

Though, if we're examining timelines, we should also note the vote on the Aug 5th document took place before the covenant, so it wasn't "His people" who voted.

- AdrianLarsen November 30, 2017

If we can't mutually agree on the Lord's own words, it's highly unlikely the body could ever mutually agree on a process. Such a hurdle is both unnecessary, and thus far, demonstrably impossible.

The only requirement for mutual agreement is in actually adopting the document. I realize some are very hung up on process, but in the end, it's ok if we don't exactly like the process. I've publicly stated the lots process was not my first choice. But it was an adequate way to choose the participants without bias, and it was a fair way to break the deadlock. So I feel no need to dispute about process.

Regardless of the process, we have an end product to examine. That is what is important at this point. Can we agree on the Lord's words, as His people? Or can we not?

- Cherryann November 30, 2017

Agreed. The Aug 4 document was not written or voted on by the Lord's covenant people, as the covenant had not yet been offered. The only document written by "his people" is the current Lots document that He has already accepted. To me, this issue couldn't be more clear.

- LoriTaylor November 30, 2017

I can respect your desire to not get "hung up on process," but just because you think and see things one way does not mean it is so or needs to be so for everyone else. Perhaps your strength is in the finishing up part. Perhaps mine is in the beginning. Should we not be seeking how to enable one another to use our individual talents to fulfill Christ's commands for the good of the whole?

How a person gets to a place is just as important as the outcome, if not more so, I feel. For the process requires and teaches a multitude of lessons and develops an equal number of attributes. One learns about the workings of his/her heart. You may only need six weeks to train for a full marathon while I would most definitely need a year. You may pick up on underwater basket weaving with the first lesson while I have to first learn how to dive without drowning.

And in the case of group work, process develops foundational relationships and trust. Bonds are grown that could not be created in any other way. What are we prepared at

this point to teach others of how to overcome obstacles in relationship building?

We cannot bypass process in this endeavor and expect love to develop and flourish. And if Zion is not built up by and through love, then I don't know what Zion will be. I don't even think I'd want to be there. God is love, yes?

It feels like you are saying to me, in essence, "Deal with it. We decided this. We know it is of God. We don't have time to wait for you to catch up. Accept it. Stop being difficult, stubborn, opposing, and otherwise disagreeable," though I would say I am none of those things. Is that what you are saying? Am I free to learn and grow at my own pace or must I learn to perform for others? Shall we tell others the best way to begin building up a Zion people is to make some force their hearts? Because until then, it seems people must be ruled and bossed around.

Perhaps it was once thought impossible by some that anyone could NOT AGREE with a document composed of Christ's words--A&C, scriptures, Denver. And when it was seen that some did still indeed struggle, things got weird, hurtful, and wrong because some did not know how to respectfully respond in love and patience. What it feels like for me at this point is that I have been painted into a proverbial corner where my agency is not being respected. Peer pressure is strong! I either join in or I am rejecting Christ's words. And that appears to be the pattern throughout the process. I believe if we had sincerely worked to mutually agree on smaller items beforehand, we could have easily accomplished the task.

Unfortunately for you all, I am a slow learner and require time and patience from others. I can only apologize profusely for that. Everything feels like peer pressure to me at this point. I do not believe others are genuinely interested in helping me, uplifting me, or strengthening me. Indeed, it sounds like some are perfectly okay if I were to go away. And some few others as well. If we only learn to love those who are easy for us to love, then is that really love—of the enduring, eternal kind? Is that the kind of love that moves one to give his/her life for another? Is that the kind of love Christ has for us?

I am just trying to help others understand my perspective. I am not burdened by an ego here. I am not hung up on thinking I am right and a know-it-all. But when I can see people not in agreement, I want to pause and understand why, then see how I can help. Unfortunately, I am one of those people, and I am unwilling to leave people behind who do not wish to be left behind. Christ has not told me to do so.

- TracyGiles November 30, 2017

Thank you to the scripture committee for putting this out. It answers a lot of questions I had and I appreciate the time you took to write it.
I do have a question though. So the vote for August 5th didn't count because it wasn't the covenant people. So what is stopping us from voting on it now? If that's the only thing keeping it from being accepted by the Lord, then maybe we should put it up for a vote against the newest version. The document with the most votes can be the official G&S.
I'm actually okay with the one put up for vote by the 7 Lotsters. It's definitely not my first choice, but I am at peace with it. However, I love my brothers and sisters in this movement and I think it's really important to consider all sides here.

- TracyGiles November 30, 2017

Sorry, I just realized that it was only in the comments that people are saying the August vote doesn't count because it was a covenant people. So here another question I have if

the noncovenant people comments aren't a real reason. One of the things that doesn't make sense to me is the last paragraph that explains why Jeff's document doesn't meet the criteria to be accepted by the Lord. Jeff's document was the only one that invited any and all to participate. All were invited to contribute 1) by sending a rep from each fellowship and 2) all invited who felt inspired to participate at the August 5th meeting. It's the document by the 7 that excluded all from contributing because it can only be scriptures or a prophet (that means it isn't written by "you"). I'm confused. This feels like a contradiction to me, but I realize I could be totally missing something. Please enlighten me.

- Log December 01, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I do not acknowledge Denver Snuffer to be "a true messenger," whatever that phrase even means. While I believe Denver Snuffer, I do not and will not serve as his prophet and therefore include none of his words in the G&S, without regard to whether the words Denver Snuffer speaks could possibly be from Christ or not. Denver Snuffer may speak for himself to whomsoever he will. Men need not confess Denver Snuffer, or "acknowledge" him, to be "a true messenger," whatever that phrase even means, nor even enter the covenant offered through Denver Snuffer, to be saved.

If men trust in Denver Snuffer to bring to them the word of the Lord instead of keeping the commandments of the Lord contained in the Sermon with diligence and obtaining his word for themselves, they are cursed of the Lord and remain telestial. Teaching men to trust in Denver Snuffer curses them, harms them, and misinforms them.

If we, unlike those who came before us, intend to honor the Lord's requirements - and to honor means, in this context, to obey - then you may cease from campaigning for your preferred G&S. This is a circumstance where the Lord has made it impossible for the majority to "win" so long as a minority exists, if all parties intend to honor the Lord's requirement.

I have formally given notice to one and all that I dissent from every G&S proposal save it be one - or, if you like, I dispute the adoption of any G&S save one. I have also given you the reasons, publicly, in prior writings, found here: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-to-rock-of-jesus-christ.html . Attempts at ostracizing me will not succeed in driving me off, and you lack the power to excommunicate dissenters in order to attain mutual agreement.

If you intend to honor the Lord's requirement, you will humble yourselves and come and discuss as equals, openly and publicly. I have procured a neutral forum for this purpose here: http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

Your servant,

Jared Livesey

- Log December 01, 2017

I suppose I should add: If you choose not to dispute with me over the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as our Guide and Standard, or Statement of Principles, then we're done.

Add The Rock of Jesus Christ to the scriptures and let's move on to the things which the

Lord may lay upon us next.

Jared Livesey

- TheBishopsWife December 01, 2017

I find it wonderful that Jeff Savage added his name in support of the proposal to use Lots. I think it the hand of God that Jeff's name was drawn by lot, which is statistically pretty amazing odds. I am grateful that Jeff wrote a beautiful post in support of the document written by the 7 titled "G and S Support-Jeff Savage". http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/g-and-s-support-jeff-savage.html

Today we find ourselves in a position to move forward in adopting a Guide and Standard for adoption into our scripture.

Today the question is: Can you vote to adopt the document written by the 7 chosen by lot to be included in the scriptures? voting ends today. https://surveyhero.com/c/9bc34d3f

- Brent December 01, 2017

The best part of this message was that this Statement of Principles will not be scripture, but as an appendix. That is how I had read it being a light thing, and so I was happy to see that wisdom come to fruition, even if it had to be from the Lord.

I still assert it should be called a Statement of Principles that will act as a guide and a standard.

- Inspire December 01, 2017

Jared,
Not included in your Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, but immediately preceding your opening text, is this commandment from the Lord, given in Bountiful:

"And there shall be no disputations among you, as there have hitherto been; neither shall there be disputations among you concerning the points of my doctrine, as there have hitherto been. For verily, verily I say unto you, he that hath the spirit of contention is not of me, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger, one with another."

And then He continues with the opening citation that you use in your proposed statement, which you claim to accept, practice, and teach: "Behold, this is not my doctrine, to stir up the hearts of men with anger, one against another; but this is my doctrine, that such things should be done away."

I don't claim to know why you are pointing out a paradox to us, but you go out of your way to use language which can be directly tied to His Sermon. So the question at hand is this: Can "The Rock" be established by using the methods of "the devil?" In other words, can a statement which holds to the doctrine of no disputations stand if it is established through disputations which you invite to take place? ("If you choose not to dispute with me...then we're done.")

The only solution I can find is given in the AC, where the Lord says, "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before

me I will tell you my part."

So if no one has asked you this, Jared, I "officially" do so now. Will you pray together with me? I know you said that if I do not dispute with you, then "we're done," but I'm hoping you are meaning that as if to say that "such things are done away," which is precisely His doctrine.

If that is something you are willing to do, please let me know and I will kneel with you, my friend.

--- Doug Larson

- Log December 01, 2017

Doug,

Do you and I have a dispute which requires praying over?

Jared

- TracyGiles December 01, 2017

Brent,
I am so grateful that the scripture committee cleared that up. That definitely made me feel better about things.

- Log December 01, 2017

Doug,

Let me put it this way: if you do not dispute anything I have said, then what is there to pray over?

Jared

- TracyGiles December 01, 2017

I promise I'm not trying to argue about anything. I really loved this post you all put out. It's just that very last paragraph about why the August 5th document couldn't be used that has me scratching my head a little. I truly would love to have someone from the scripture committee better explain it to me. I absolutely realize there is something I could be missing.
Best,
Tracy

- Log December 01, 2017

Doug,

If you disagree with me, come, let us converse together in humility as equals, publicly and openly, and see if we cannot resolve our differences. I have procured a forum where we may do this more easily than on this blog:
http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

If after that conversation you find yourself still disputing with me, then we may indeed pray together.

If, on the other hand, you are not disputing with me, then we have nothing to pray over.

The first step is actually talking: "Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger."

You'll notice I am not sharply disputing, neither am I angry, neither am I condemning any. I'm simply rephrasing my lack of agreement as "disputing" to comply with the verbiage in the post under which these comments occur.

After all, now the Lord has told us that, with respect to a G&S, silence may be taken as assent. Therefore I must actively speak up in order to be heard.

Jared

- Taggart December 01, 2017

Yea, so I guess I have a slightly different view. I'm cool with our different opinions though.

- Log December 01, 2017

So far, we have done everything except "coming together by precept, reason, and persuasion."

We have retreated to email echo chambers where the like-minded can avoid talking with those who don't agree with them.

We then rolled dice to avoid talking to one another, hence the Lottery project.

Now we propose to (and actually do) run to Denver, or the Lord, instead of talking first amongst ourselves.

Why don't we first do what the Lord has counseled before deciding our dispute - if such actually exists, once everything is explained - is unresolvable?

How can we ever be Zion - one in the Lord - if we fear and despise and consider ourselves above one another to the degree that we won't even talk first to each other?

Jared

- Inspire December 01, 2017

I have no dispute directly with you, other than being part of a group, which by your own words you have disputations with. There has not been any anger or accusation, hopefully on either side, but you have not "agreed quickly" with me or others, as is directed in the Sermons (although, for some reason, you did not include that part in your statement).

The paradox is that you will settle for nothing less than your thing. If it goes through the way you hope, then there will be others who have been compelled to mutually agree with you, as they will not settle for anything less than their thing. Is this how you want to

establish the Rock?

The Lord said not to have disputations. You said you have them. I'm part of the collective group you claim to have disputations with. You dissented ("or disputed, if you like") against my "idea," so apparently you have disputations with me.

But I will do as you request and head to the forum.

- Log December 01, 2017

Doug,

If we have no dispute, then we have no dispute.

Nobody's being compelled here. If we care about fulfilling the Lord's requirement, then we will act according to his requirement.

Jared

- Inspire December 01, 2017

But you said you dissent "or dispute if you will" with my idea.

- Log December 01, 2017

And you said you have no direct dispute with me. It seems then we're in agreement: there's no dispute.

My "dispute, if you will," with your idea is that your idea, a G&S that amounts to “We believe that there is truth in all traditions and methods if the ultimate purpose is to love and accept each other. Let all who have truth bring it and join it with ours, that we may learn together," does not fulfill the requirements of the Lord's assignment according to the plain and literal reading of the A&C, to wit, it provides neither a guide (direction for behavior), nor a standard (a measure of behavior). It makes no statement of principles (either rules of behavior or explanations for rules). Neither does it do anything to bless, nor benefit, nor inform those who are as yet unaware of the Lord's work now underway.

Since it does nothing that the Lord requests us to do, I dissent, or, "dispute," if you will, the adoption of your idea as the G&S.

If you believe I have erred in my reasoning, let us discuss. If I have not erred, then we have no dispute.

Jared

- Log December 01, 2017

You'll find, in the end, my dissent from each and every other proposal offered thus is based on the Lord's requests for the G&S according to the A&C.

It must provide a guide, or direction for behavior.

It must provide a standard, or measure of behavior.

(A law fulfills both of those requirements, as does commandments.)

It must be a statement of principles.

(Principles are, in my understanding, rules of behavior, OR [in another's understanding] reasons for the rules.)

It must bless.

(Therefore it cannot curse.)

It must benefit.

(Therefore it cannot harm.)

and

It must inform.

(Therefore it cannot misinform.)

And it must bless, benefit, and inform those who know nothing as yet about the Lord's work now underway.

Also, it is to be added to the scriptures, and it is for us to follow, as per the A&C, and therefore goes out to the world with our scriptures.

Therefore, this is a forward-facing statement from us to the world, and is for us to follow internally also.

Anything which falls afoul these things doesn't meet the Lord's request and I will not agree to a G&S proposal that fails to meet the Lord's request.

- Log December 01, 2017

And who can dispute that the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, as contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ, fulfills all of these conditions?

Let him stand forth and let us discuss.

And if none dispute that the gospel indeed does fulfill these conditions, then what have you against The Rock of Jesus Christ?

Jared Livesey

- Inspire December 01, 2017

At the end, I said that I didn't want to posit exactly what the statement was, with the hope that some would be willing to work through it together. I think there is an alternate possibility which satisfies the requirements and makes it so there can be "mutual agreement." Shall I continue on the forum?

- Inspire December 01, 2017

My main concern is that while the Lord speaks to the language and understanding of men, the "Rock of Jesus Christ" speaks to Jared's understanding, as well as some

others familiar with scripture. Just by insisting on describing it in the way you do, it will exclude those who do not speak "scripture-ese." It will therefore not bless them or benefit them, because it is not accessible to them.

I know many people who live the doctrine of Christ for the most part, but because of sour experiences with the previous care-takers of scriptures are repelled by the them. Their pre-conceptions will cause a presentation such as this to be a stumbling block, and will thus drive them away.

The only way around this is to employ the gifts of the Holy Ghost to inform, benefit and bless them, and your statement does not do that. It simply parrots what the Lord said and does not allow for the unique adaptation of understanding which is needed.

You may say that if they will not "come to Christ" through the language you understand, then let them go their way, but is this not cursing them? I refuse to leave them the behind, just as I refuse to leave you or any of my other brothers and sisters in this movement to the mayhem which is surely coming.

The way a person can learn the doctrine of Christ is through the power of the Holy Ghost, because the Spirit speaks everyone's individual language. "The Rock of Jesus Christ" speaks your language, but what about a disaffected exMormon or Christian? If it creates a PTSD response in even one person, then it can potentially harm them. If a person equates "Christ" with the things that so-called Christians do, or if one already has an erroneous definition of baptism or other points of doctrine, then it misinforms them.

The only way around this is the power of the Holy Ghost, which gives the gift of tongues, the interpretation of tongues, etc. It truly blesses, informs and benefits.

"And blessed are the Gentiles, because of their belief in me, in and of the Holy Ghost, which witnesses unto them of me and of the Father. Behold, because of their belief in me, saith the Father, and because of the unbelief of you, O house of Israel, in the latter day shall the truth come unto the Gentiles, that the fulness of these things shall be made known unto them."

- KevinGillman December 01, 2017

Jared, how does your proposal inform those who know nothing yet about the Lord's work now underway? It's just a copy and paste of two scriptural passages.

- Log December 01, 2017

Kevin,

The Rock of Jesus Christ, if believed and obeyed, brings the Holy Ghost, which shows all things that men should know and do. As per the A&C: "The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation."

How does the gospel do this? As per the A&C: "All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know."

This is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and is contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ.

- TaushaLarsen December 01, 2017

I find it interesting the wording the Lord used to define mutual agreement is: “As between one another, you choose to not dispute.”

In Christ's sermon at Bountiful we learn that the Lord expected there to be no more disputations among the peope! This is the first hurdle we must overcome for Zion to even begin.

To dispute means to disagree, argue, or debate. Discussing something heatedly could be construed as a dispute. There is a difference between disputing and disagreeing. disputing is when you are in competition. You are struggling or desperately trying to win something or be right. It is when you strive in debate or argument. The Lord has told us that it’s OK to disagree respectfully, that could be counted as being of one heart. But we cannot contend, argue or debate. Instead we need to gently persuade with love and kindness as stated in the A&C.

It is sad to learn that we as a people may not even be to the point of having no disputations among us. We are still debating with each other over the words the Lord used in the A&C, meanings, documents, and processes. We still have disputations among us. If we are to even get to the first phase of Zion, as the Nephites were required to do, we must have no disputations among us. According to the Nephites Zion, the next level after no disputations, is being of one heart. When we are of one heart, we do not dispute or argue. We love each other and accept that we may disagree on some things, but that is OK. We choose to disagree kindly. The third level, exemplified by the Nephite Zion, is being of one mind. This is where we all have the mind and will of God, so we are all in agreement.

It is important that we pass this first test, or obtain the first level of Zion, by being willing to have no disputations among us. That is why the Lord’s definition of mutual agreement, is that we "choose to not dispute." I believe this is one of the most important things the Lord needs us to learn from this first assignment as His people. The Lord gave us this assignment, using very specific wording and conditions for a reason. I think the Lord, through Denver revealing the actual meaning behind "mutual agreement," has unlocked an important key to bring us closer to obtaining Zion. We must have no disputations among us.

We, as a covenant body, need to show the Lord we are willing to not dispute so we can even begin Zion. This is the pattern taught to us by the Nephite Zion community. This Looks like another way we can take the Book of Mormon to be our guide and accept it as a covenant.

- Log December 01, 2017

Doug,

I want to make sure I understand your disputations correctly.

1. You contend that scriptures are useless in informing those who do not read them already because of language issues.

2. You contend that the Holy Ghost will not witness of the truth of what is written in The Rock of Jesus Christ; this can only be because we do not have the authority we claim to

have, and God will therefore not witness of what we say.

3. You contend that there are those who will not believe Christ's words because they have been abused by others, and, moreover, will flee from those bearing Christs' words as found in the scriptures, because, again, the Holy Ghost will not witness of their truth to them when we bring these things to them, which can only be the case if we do not have authority to preach these things.

Am I hearing you correctly?

It would be easier to discuss at the forum.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 01, 2017

It is more important to me that I have no conflict with the Lord than with his covenant people, among whom I number.

If the covenant people should press upon me to agree to that which brings me into conflict with the Lord, such as sending forth a G&S which would curse, harm, and misinform others, then I would rather be in conflict with the covenant people of the Lord than with the Lord.

Therefore, I make my disputes with your G&S proposals known. I will not agree to that which curses, harms, or misinforms others. Therefore I will not agree to any G&S save it be The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, which contains the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, which gospel blesses, benefits, and informs those who believe and obey it.

The correct way to resolve our conflict, which is the body pressing upon me to do that which is contrary to the Lord's requirements, is not to lecture, heckle, taunt, flatter, ostracize, call upon authority, nor any other such means of avoiding conflict resolution by swaying the majority to pervert judgement, but to actually reason together in humility as equals, openly and publicly.

I have procured a neutral forum for this conversation to occur:
http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

You are all invited.

Jared Livesey

- Inspire December 01, 2017

Heading there

- Blair December 01, 2017

Log, I have seen nothing on here that I would construe as lecturing, heckling, taunting, flattering, ostracizing, calling upon authority, or anything but trying to reason together in humility as equals, openly and publicly.

Others may interpret comments here differently, but the typed word is an imperfect form of communication and is easily misunderstood. I prefer to assume the best of intentions

exist among all those who have commented.

If we can't reason together on this blog, when why would we be able to elsewhere? I guess I don't see the point of moving to another forum.

Are you able to reason together right here? Is there anything else that you can add that you haven't shared already? Would you be able to share anything else at a different forum?

- TaushaLarsen December 01, 2017

Can we be right with each other and the Lord? I think so. This was the biggest message in the A&C. There is a balance. I believe the Lord expects us to find it.

- Log December 01, 2017

The forum, being designed for ongoing written communication and conversations, is more efficient at it. Plus, there is no moderation there, and anyone can start a post without having to go through this blog admin. Plus, you can edit your posts and replies rather than having to delete your comment. And so on and so forth. And you can use your arrow keys on an iPad without having to scroll up or down the entire page every time you press one.

- Log December 01, 2017

Yes, it is possible for us to both be right with each other and with the Lord. The balance is this: do not seek to bring me into conflict with God by asking me to break the law of God by agreeing to a document which will curse, harm, or misinform those who know nothing, as yet, concerning the Lord's work now underway. So long as I am being asked to do that, we will not mutually agree.

Jared Livesey

- Blair December 01, 2017

Of course it is more efficient, and I would certainly prefer discussing things like that in a forum. The problem is that this is the place where the conversation is happening. Your invitation has been extended several times, and I think everyone is aware of it. If I were you, I would say anything that you want to say here (and I believe you have) and encourage everyone else to say what they want to say here (which I believe they have). I don't think it is likely that many will take the conversation elsewhere.

In addition, I believe that the moderators here have exerted a very light hand. Any G&S proposals that people want to submit have been posted. Has anyone alleged that their proposal has not been given a place? Are we not all free to comment on them all?

- Blair December 01, 2017

I have read your explanations of why you think that all the other documents besides the Rock of Jesus Christ document you submitted will curse, harm, and misinform those who know nothing of the Lord's work now underway. I think we have very different definitions of what idolatry is. I accept Denver's writings quoted in the Lots G&S document as being part of the message that the Lord instructed him to share. I don't believe they lead to idolatry or depending on the arm of flesh anymore than Nephi's words do.

Remember, the scriptures that the G&S document will be published in (as an appendix, not as scripture) also include revelations received through Denver. Are you opposed to those as well? Do those lead to idolatry and harm others? If not, what is the difference? Do you sustain the restoration edition of the scriptures? Or just the parts that don't come through Denver?

I'm not trying to dispute, but understand. Do you see how your position can be confusing to others, like me?

- Log December 01, 2017

Blair,

Maybe we should focus on idolatry, then. What do you think idolatry is?

Jared

- Log December 01, 2017

Blair,

And do you agree that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord?

Jared

- Log December 03, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 03, 2017

Doug,

Your post was moved to the G&S discussion forum here:
http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewtopic.php?f=37&t=1085

However, to address your concern that you would not find The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles if it were the G&S added to the scriptures helpful in your outreach to people who hate the scriptures and hate those who are the custodians of the scriptures, it appears that the solution to your objection is simply this: do not use documents found in the scriptures in your outreach to those who are triggered by scriptures and triggered by the custodians of the scriptures. If you would like, I have an equivalent statement which you can use in your outreach, and it is cited in your thread on the forum.

Once seen in this light, your objection seems unrelated to the subject of whether The Rock of Jesus Christ should be added to the scriptures as the G&S. After all, if your target audience hates scripture and those who have custody of the scriptures, it would seem that you should not use documents found in the scriptures to reach them. The Rock of Jesus Christ complies with the requirements of the Lord, who has said to use his words as the standard for our faith (A&C, p. 12).

- Blair December 04, 2017

Log,
Sorry for the delay in responding to your questions. Weekends don't work out for me too well for continuing the discussion.

I believe that idolatry is believing saving power exists in anyone but Christ.

I agree that putting trust in the arm of flesh results in damnation.

The issue is determining exactly what this trust is and how we receive information from the Lord. Of course, the preferable way to get revelation and instruction is directly from the Lord. The Lord, however recognizes that this does not happen all that often. I believe He would prefer that method. The fact that we have any scriptures at all shows that He has other methods, which are designed to bring people unto Him, and He can give to them directly.

If I trust that the Book of Mormon is the word of God, does that mean that I am engaging in idolatry? It was written by men, after all. If I believe any of the revelations of Joseph Smith, am I putting trust in the arm of flesh? Perhaps someone could view it that way, but I don't.

Likewise with the G&S produced by the Lots group. Much of it involves quotations from Denver. If I believe that they are correct, does that mean that I am engaging in idolatry? You seem to think so, but I do not agree. I believe that they are the words that the Lord has sent to us in this day through one of His servants. They do not direct me to put faith in the servant, but in the Lord. They do not lead me to think or believe that Denver has any salvific power. They point me to Christ.

- Log December 04, 2017

I'm sorry, Blair, but I need an answer to the exact question I asked: do you agree that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord?

- Log December 04, 2017

Tell you what, Blair.

I really hit all the high points in these posts, and they should probably be read in this order:

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/where-it-all-went-wrong.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/but-if-it-be-not-built-upon-my-gospel.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/founded-upon-rock-of-jesus-christ.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/12/many-are-called-but-few-are-chosen.html

Let me know what you would like clarified.

Jared Livesey

- Blair December 04, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Blair December 04, 2017

For some reason my comment got posted under the main thread, and not here, so here it is, just in case you didn't see it:

Log, I gave you an exact answer in the comment above: "I agree that putting trust in the arm of flesh results in damnation."

I have read the blog posts you listed. In fact, I read most of them previously. I am well aware of what you have commented and what your position on the guide and standard is.

Now, since I have answered your direct question, please answer mine (answers to which I have not found in your writings): Since the scriptures that the G&S document will be published in (as an appendix, not as scripture) also include revelations received through Denver, are you opposed to the restoration edition of the scriptures? How do you reconcile the fact that you think the covenant offered through Denver is valid, but you don't believe that Denver's other statements are valid enough to be included in a statement that is not considered to be scripture?

I agree that we can go off the rails by putting our trust in Denver. But you seem to believe that nothing from Denver can be included, because that would be putting trust in man. By that same logic, no scripture can be accepted at all, unless it is given to you directly by the Lord.

Once again, I am not trying to contend, but understand. I find it confusing that you consider the covenant to be binding, but do not accept anything else given through Denver. I have read your statements, but disagree. I have prayed on the subject, and still remain unpersuaded that your proposal is correct. What would you have me do? Must I agree with you no matter what in order for the G&S to go forward?

- Log December 04, 2017

Blair, I have to ask, again, for the third time: do you agree that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord?

Because you have twice not answered this question, but have substituted "putting trust in the arm of flesh."

Please answer this exact question directly without substitutions, or else please tell me you intend to not answer the question I am asking.

Jared Livesey

- Blair December 04, 2017

Jared, I have tried to answer your question twice. If you didn't understand my terminology, it would have helped if you asked, or were more specific. I view putting trust in the arm of flesh to be the same thing as putting trust in men. I didn't realize that you needed me to use the same terminology as you in order to have a discussion.

- Log December 04, 2017

Blair,

Unfortunately, I have to be sure we are talking about the same thing, or else I cannot be

sure we are talking about the same thing.

The verse under consideration is 2 Nephi 28:31, which reads as follows:

[Thus saith the Lord:]
Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man,
or maketh flesh his arm,
or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

The use of "or" indicates if any one of these three seperate and distinct conditions is met, then the person who does it is cursed of the Lord.

Without equivocation and without substitution, do you agree that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord, as this verse says?

- Log December 04, 2017

We will also note the following verses which repeat this message.

Jeremiah 17:5 ¶ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 4:34 O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm.

Please note that the use of "or" in this last verse means if someone does either of these things, they are cursed.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Hey Log. But what about that part in 2 Nephi 28:31 that states "save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost"?

I interpret that to mean a man, such as yourself, may indeed speak a precept to others by the power of the Holy Ghost. Would that not apply to any man/woman, but more particularly Denver? Imma just seeking to understand.

Also, to my way of thinking, if I listen to another person's words I am not condemned. But if I do not go to Father in Christ's name asking for discernment and truth from the Holy Ghost, then I would be putting myself in a position of being cursed should I follow or act on what was said. That is how I view putting my trust in the arm of flesh. What say ye?

- Blair December 04, 2017

Yes, Log, I agree with that verse. Lori makes a good point--"save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost" is an important caveat.

- Log December 04, 2017

Lori,

Perhaps we could talk about it more at the forum.

Jared

- Log December 04, 2017

Blair,

If then we are agreed that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord, are we also agreed that being cursed of the Lord is a bad thing, not a good thing?

Jared

- Log December 04, 2017

In particular, are we agreed that being cursed is the opposite of being blessed?

Jared

- Blair December 04, 2017

Yes, we are agreed on that. I realize that you are being very careful to make sure you understand that we mean the same things, but your process seems excessive. It may go faster if you state assumptions and make your point, and allow me to correct assumptions as they arise.

- Log December 04, 2017

I already tried that by sending you to what I have already written wherein all my assumptions are laid out, and you have said you disagree without correcting any of my assumptions.

If you wish to go back through what I've written, and tell me where I make an assumption you disagree with, then that might go faster, otherwise, well, this seems to be the only way to go.

Jared

- Log December 04, 2017

However, I must be clear: as long as the assumptions and the logic are sound, then the conclusions, howsoever unpalatable, follow.

Therefore, I'm not asking which of my conclusions you disagree with - for they follow from the assumptions and logic.

Jared

- Blair December 04, 2017

I'm sorry that I'm not understanding your approach. I read what you wrote, and could not find the answer to these questions:

"Since the scriptures that the G&S document will be published in (as an appendix, not as scripture) also include revelations received through Denver, are you opposed to the restoration edition of the scriptures? How do you reconcile the fact that you think the

covenant offered through Denver is valid, but you don't believe that Denver's other statements are valid enough to be included in a statement that is not considered to be scripture?"

If you have answered those questions somewhere in your writings, I must have missed it. If you want, you can tell me which post (and perhaps a paragraph number) to reread, and I would be happy to read it.

I am not trying to be evasive or corner you. I just don't get how you can take the covenant and not accept anything else. You seem to believe that you have answered that in your many writings, but I have not been able to see it. I'm sure my own ignorance and reading comprehension is the problem.

- Log December 04, 2017

Blair,

What do those questions have to do with the truth of what I have said?

Which of my assumptions are you taking issue with?

Jared L.

- Log December 04, 2017

Because if you're not taking issue with anything I have actually written or said, then you are not speaking about what I am speaking about.

Jared L.

- Log December 04, 2017

I guess we go back to stepping through the argument.

We are agreed that those who trust in men are cursed of the Lord, and we are agreed that being cursed is not a good thing but a bad thing.

Therefore are we agreed also that teaching others to trust in a man is neither to bless them nor benefit them, but to curse them and harm them?

Jared Livesey

- Blair December 07, 2017

Jared, I don't know if I even want to start up this comment thread, but I do want to understand your point of view. Is there somewhere that we could converse, you and I? You can email me directly if you wish, blair.larsen@gmail.com.

My questions were not about your G&S proposal, they were about your seeming rejection of the messenger through whom the covenant came. I have trouble understanding how you think the covenant is valid, and yet you don't think anything else through Denver should be included.

- Anonymous January 06, 2018

Jared, didn't you say that you shouldn't be considered part of the covenant body here on your blog?

Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say “yes” when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer, they should consider me as not being part of that covenant.

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2017-10-04T06:23:00-07:00&max-results=7&start=7&by-date=false&m=0

And if you're not part of the body, what difference does it make if you descent? Can't the body meet the requirements of the covenant, and reach mutual agreement, without you if your not part of the body?

More documents

Friday, December 01, 2017

More documents involved in some of the G&S efforts have been added over the past couple of weeks.

VOTE RESULTS

Saturday, December 02, 2017

This link will take you to a view of the voting results.

Results of the vote on the G&S chosen by Lots

After the math, of 414 votes:

YES = 93%
NO = 7%

Comments

- BretNaylor — December 02, 2017

So is the next step to take this to the Lord and ask how to proceed? Will the 93% be sufficient or is there more to be done?

- Cherryann — December 02, 2017

Did something happen with the third question that perhaps is skewing the results? Out of 414 responses to the first 2 questions, I find it difficult to believe only 30 people responded to the last, and that 25 of them are against the G&S.

- Log — December 02, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 02, 2017

The vote results show that we do not have mutual agreement on the Lottery G&S, therefore per the A&C requirement for mutual agreement, the Lottery G&S is not to be adopted as the G&S.

Jared Livesey

- Karen December 02, 2017

Cherryann,

So how that worked is that the third question was ONLY answered by those who initially said "no" to question #2 (if one accepts and supports this GS for adoption).

If a person said "yes", to question #2, the survey was done. Thus, 381 people never went on to answer #3 because it wasn't pertinent given their "yes" answer.

If a person said "no," then they were taken to a second page in which they were asked, even though this is NOT your preferred document, would you still agree to have it adopted. Five of the 33 people who went on to answer that (because they said no to question #2) went ahead and said "yes," they agree to it. 25 people still said "no," and it looks like 2 didn't answer yes or no. Does that make sense?

Hope that clarifies how to read the results. It can definitely be confusing.

- BretNaylor December 02, 2017

I think it would be useful to take a new survey of those who said no to understand their concerns. Perhaps this has already been done. I am not aware of what they are. If there are valid issues that need to be considered and taken into account, it would be good to do so. I think it would be good if we could all understand what the concerns are before moving on.

- Cherryann December 02, 2017

Karen,

Yes, that makes sense now! Thank you for clarifying the "were there 2 or 3 questions?" mystery. So does this mean that anyone who answered "no" to the first question (did you accept the covenant?) were automatically prevented from responding to the subsequent questions, too?

- Log December 02, 2017

Bret, please see here for a detailed explanation of concerns which, as yet, have all gone unaddressed: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-to-rock-of-jesus-christ.html

There is no way to rescue the Lottery G&S.

Jared Livesey

- Karen December 02, 2017

Yes, it did. To my understanding, it took them to a landing page where they were thanked for their desire to participate and invited them to take the covenant and let them know they were welcome to return again during the five days of voting and vote continue the voting process if they did so.

Also, in my response above I messed up on my last sentence where I said it looked like 2 didn't answer yes or no. I misread the results on answer 3 when I said that.

- Cherryann December 02, 2017

Thanks, Karen!

- LoriTaylor December 02, 2017

Bret, some have already asked questions and expressed concerns in comments on the blog. I would not be interested in any surveys at this point. You are welcome to read what has already been stated. I'm curious about the fewer number of total votes this time, though.

- JimORullian December 02, 2017

Jared,

I have remained mostly silent on the many G&S posts in the past month but have read almost all of the comments made by you and others in dissention from the lots process and resulting documents as well as basically every other proposal or document. I have been most impressed in particular with your very kind demeanor and willingness to not engage in contentious debate but rather just invite/persuade others to visit your forum to discuss the matter. And I also have to respect your tenacity to beat a dead horse to a bloody pulp.

But I have to ask you and the other 25+ who may have voted in opposition to the final lots document what you intend to do in the event that your labor fails to persuade the vast majority of the main body of believers. Do you intend to continue issuing the “I dissent from this proposal” edict all the way through into the appendix of the RE Scriptures themselves where the GS will be placed, like a post-script notation at the end? Where does the dissention end and the acceptance begin?

In thinking this over, I’m reminded of the story of Mormon who knew that his people were all wicked and were going to die, but chose to fight by their side until the end. Assuming that you and the other 25+ people are correct in your understanding and your dissention justified, can you really not lay it before the Lord at this point and continue the battle by the side of all those who are deceived, knowing that all your words will be justified in the end? Or will you rather find a cave and wait out your days in solitary agony whilst lamenting….”O ye fair ones, how could ye have departed from the ways of the Lord!”

I ask these questions not in flippant sarcasm, but in an honest desire to know what you intend to do if a version of the G&S that you dissent from ends up being placed in the RE? Because it looks like that is a high probability and I for one would like to see those who continue to dissent lay it down at the feet of the Lord and find solace in the fact that you have done all that you could to persuade and will now lock arms with your people and move forward as one.

Jim O'Rullian

- Log December 02, 2017

Jim,

You're free to do as you wish. If you want to know what I plan on doing, I plan on giving the Lord what he has required and requested in the A&C, and staying the course, however long it may take.

And if we never do adopt a G&S by mutual agreement, but adopt it by any other means, then, as the Lord said: "you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands."

If I were in the majority and thought there was a high probability of a G&S which is known to have dissenters being nonetheless added to the scriptures, it would be distressing to me. I would not be speaking to the dissenters in order to get them to bend, but to those who have power to add things to the scriptures, and pleading with them to honor the Lord's requirement in the A&C. The Lord does not lie, neither does he vary from that which he has said, neither does he work in secret combinations.

"Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

"I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise."

Jared Livesey

- JimORullian December 02, 2017

So...Jared, if I understand you correctly, you are saying that if the main body moves forward with a G&S that you are not in agreement with, you will submit your own document separate and apart from the other? How does that fulfill the requirements of the A&C that we provide ONE statement of principles and not MANY?

Is there more to be gained in rigidly staying the course and being right than in allowing your brother and sister to learn from their own agency and experience that they were the ones in error? Would you rob them of that experience? Maybe we all need to pass through this experience to expose our collective ignorance and thus be condemned a people and you alone will stand as one who spoke truth....Or maybe....just maybe....you too must pass through this to expose your ignorance as well.

Either way, why not comply with at least one requirement in the A&C to provide just ONE statement of principles and not MANY and allow the Lord to know where you stand. I mean...you've certainly let the public know where you stand on it, so that base is covered.

Jim

- Log December 02, 2017

Jim,

If any G&S is added to the scriptures without mutual consent, then the requirement of the Lord has been dishonored. At that point, the only way for the people to repent of this dishonoring of the Lord would be to remove the illegitimately added G&S and add one that is mutually agreed upon.

Nobody's being compelled here, Jim; you have your agency: to obey the Lord, or agree with and obey another power. If you desire to be the Lord's people, then you will accept and do as he has required.

I am in no rush, and can afford to wait as long as it takes until the requirement of the Lord is fulfilled.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 02, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 02, 2017

Jim,

I suppose I should add: if The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles were mutually agreed to and adopted and added to the scriptures, you all may still exercise your agency and teach whatsoever you wish - within your own fellowships. You just would be unable to put me in a position to necessarily affirm your teachings within my fellowship, as I would have to if I were to agree to one of your G&Ss. After all, if I agreed to it, I would be stuck with it.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor December 02, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JimORullian December 02, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JimORullian December 02, 2017

Against my better judgement, I'll make one more comment:

As I understand the Lord's recent clarification, if we mutually agree that a vote was just taken and 93% of folks voted to sustain it, and also mutually agree that there are 7% that chose not to sustain it....and then we don't dispute the matter or the outcome any further (even if some would like to), we have mutual agreement as a body of people and can move forward in compliance with the Lord.

I participated in and voted in favor of the Aug. 5th document not because it was perfect but because I'm a reasonable person like most in this movement who places a higher priority on being agreeable rather than being right, after I have had the opportunity to persuade; I have participated in and voted in favor of the most recent document compiled by representatives of the main body chosen by lot for the same reasons, although I find this one much better overall. It is plain to all that the voice of the people in this matter is to finally put it to rest and move on.

As previously stated by the scripture committee, they have respectfully stepped back from the G&S allowing the process to be completed by the main body of believers providing no oversight or governance over the process.

“It is not the place of the scriptures committee to govern. This general assembly is a body of equals. There are efforts underway to develop an alternate statement of principles. Our committee does not claim any authority to permit or deny any such effort. Just as anyone can call a conference, so any group can undertake an endeavor that impacts many fellowships. That endeavor owns the responsibility to persuade the general assembly to accept that effort. This committee is willing to offer any reasonable help.”- Aug. 13th, 2017.

“The scripture committee has a responsibility to remain neutral in the Guide and Standard struggle. To maintain a distance from the work and discussions surrounding this effort…” - Oct. 1st, 2017

93% of the general assembly has been persuaded and has accepting of this most recent effort. There is nothing left to be done other than for the scripture committee to make formatting changes in keeping with the RE scriptures and include it for print. Anything further would constitute a blatant lack of respect for the overwhelming majority in this movement for the second time, turning the clock back to Aug. 5th, and demonstrating that we have learned very little from the struggle. The 93% now have the responsibility to reach out to the remaining 7% to entreat, invite and persuade with respect and kindness while choosing not to dispute.

Jim O’Rullian

- Log December 02, 2017

Mutual agreement is not "the voice of the people," which is otherwise known as "majority rules." Mutual agreement means we all - each and every single one of us - agree as one, with none dissenting, or else we do not agree.

Mutual agreement is not esoteric religious jargon, requiring learned exegesis, but a common English phrase whose meaning is not in dispute.

Some dissent means we do not have not mutual agreement.

If you desire to be the Lord's people, you will accept and do what he requires. He requires a G&S to be adopted by mutual agreement.

Otherwise, we will continue on in the venerable Gentile tradition of acknowledging the Lord's commandments and requirements with our lips while dishonoring and denying them with our deeds - that is, we will say and do not, just as the Church before us.

The choice of honoring the Lord's requirement, or dishonoring him, is up to you all.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 02, 2017

We have a chance to start right - to honor the Lord not only with our lips, but in our very deeds, by doing exactly what he requires, no more and no less.

Why waste this opportunity to please the Lord, and start the covenant participants in the right direction by obeying his words with exactness and honor, rather than dishonoring him by willfully acting contrary to his clearly stated requirement?

What is the harm in doing what he asks of us exactly as he has asked it of us?

Jared Livesey

- Log December 02, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 02, 2017

Jim,

Also, in this case, it is more important to me to be right with God and harmless to all than to be agreeable to the multitude. When we lead men astray by our teachings and precepts and bad examples before them, their blood comes upon our garments. Leading men to destruction is termed murder by Alma in Alma 36.

=====
12 But I was racked with eternal torment, for my soul was harrowed up to the greatest degree and racked with all my sins.

13 Yea, I did remember all my sins and iniquities, for which I was tormented with the pains of hell; yea, I saw that I had rebelled against my God, and that I had not kept his holy commandments.

14 Yea, and I had murdered many of his children, or rather led them away unto destruction; yea, and in fine so great had been my iniquities, that the very thought of coming into the presence of my God did rack my soul with inexpressible horror.

15 Oh, thought I, that I could be banished and become extinct both soul and body, that I might not be brought to stand in the presence of my God, to be judged of my deeds.
=====

When we mutually agree to a G&S, we also take upon ourselves, as individuals, the consequences of its effects upon others. We agreed to it, after all, and put it forth, when it would otherwise not have gone out save it be for our agreement.

Jared Livesey

- Cherryann December 02, 2017

Well said, Jim. This is the one document that the whole body was invited to participate in creating together since the scripture project began. The body was invited to vote on the process, and overwhelmingly voted in favor of it. The body was invited to submit their names into the lot. The body was invited to submit their own proposals for content to help shape the final draft. The 7 lotsters drew from all proposals and created, in essence, a document that is a beautiful summary of what all the other documents contained. And it was done in the Lord's own words, upon which we have all already mutually agreed by virtue of having accepted the covenant. And the body overwhelmingly voted to accept this version--even a higher percentage voted to accept it than those who voted in favor of the process!

I have read all the proposals and have read all the comments for and against each one. I am persuaded by this document. I can't dispute the Lord's words. I am persuaded by His acceptance of it. I am grateful for His guidance in defining mutual agreement. I

believe that if we can all put down our defenses and give our burdens, troubles, broken hearts, disagreements, and disappointments to the Lord and decide to stop disagreeing with each other, THIS is what the Lord is asking of us. THIS is the test at hand.

In the end, I don't believe the Lord cares so much about WHICH document is included in the appendix (this is a light thing), as he does about the hearts of His people being prepared for more. I believe the temple should be our focus. We need to move past this, though, to gain the greater light the Lord has to offer us. I believe this is what the Lord is patiently waiting for.

- JimORullian December 02, 2017

If 93% believed they were starting wrong, obviously they would course correct. Rather, they feel they are doing exactly what the Lord has asked and requires. What you are saying then, is that they are all is mistaken in this understanding. That of course is your understanding and opinion which none will fault you for. You have used respectful persuasion.
Likewise, others have respectfully used persuasion which appears to have been more effective, right or wrong.

Out of curiosity, do you represent more than just yourself in these opinions or is there a fellowship you speak for?

- Log December 02, 2017

Jim,

I have given reasons for my "opinion" which none, as yet, have addressed. When one knows one is doing exactly what the Lord has asked and requires, there is no fear, but confidence. After all, when the Lord gives one an assignment, he also gives one understanding and power to accomplish his task.

I speak for no other mortal than myself.

Jared Livesey

- Steve December 03, 2017

Jim,

What do you believe the Lord means by mutual agreement? Why do you believe as you do?

Steve Graham

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

Answer received and corrections made to Guide & Standard - Nonm...

Saturday, December 02, 2017

It has come to our attention that the Lord has responded to our prayer for Guide & Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs! *(Answer received November 28th, Posted here December 1st)* . {WEBMASTER: Please Include link to the Answer here} We praise the Lord for His mercy and kindness and also for His continued instruction that we might repent and become truly His people. This answer has come to us through another equal among us who has heard the call from Him to receive it. We have studied this answer and believe it to from Him and intend to act accordingly. According to His instruction we have made the correction/addition He has asked of us and we have reposted this new final Guide & Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs exactly as He has requested.
We have noted also that His instruction to us includes requesting a vote be taken over all the documents/proposals submitted. We believe all will need some time to review this work for the Lord and His Answer that each May receive their own knowledge of it from God. Therefore we are requesting that a vote be taken sometime in December with no rush or pressure to be ready or even to submit to such a vote. We believe the Lord intends all to be treated equally and so the vote is for all proposals/documents as equals. We believe He desires the covenant body to choose for themselves, and still all are free to accept any document/proposal they personally choose. Agency must be preserved and we each must choose without compulsion, including any pressure marketing on our part to accept. We have sought to do just that. We understand that a vote for the 'Lots' proposal, as we believe it is now being called, has been taken and recognize those desirous to move forward with that. This should not interfere with any of that and there is nothing from us that will prevent anyone from simply ignoring this request. We only seek to do as He bids us do. We cannot control anything and have NO desires to do so.
Please, if any have thoughts about the timeframe or current action. Please post them in the comments below so that all may be considered equally.
Again we thank the Lord!
Signed,
Some few equals of the covenant body

Comments

- Log — December 02, 2017

I dissent.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor — December 02, 2017

Well, at least some few are finally asking that all the proposals be included for consideration. I will consider reviewing what is offered here, though I have not clue as to what good purpose it would serve at this point. Thank you for asking. I cannot tell you how wonderful it is to see such a thing.

- LynneMcKinley — December 02, 2017

I do not recognize or accept this answer as the voice of Jesus Christ. It is a familiar spirit, but is not Him. The words are multiplied: the Spirit is absent.

- Mycornerofheaven December 02, 2017

I just read this, I do not believe this came from Christ, therefore I reject this answer, Margaret Brough

- YourFriend December 02, 2017

I typed a lengthy response that detailed my thoughts. Then I deleted it, and now I am repenting. There are just no words.
Thanks to all of those who agreed on the Lotster G&S vote. I appreciate your willingness to give the proposal a try. I thought it was awesome and it even left some room for inspiration, so as not to be compelled in everything. I am sorry that we could not all agree. Hopefully the Lord will guide and bless us for our continued patience.
Love, Your Sister, Lisa

- YourFriend December 02, 2017

And yes, I did not care for the above answer either, for the record. Thanks, Lisa

- AndEva December 03, 2017

I care for the above Answer and I accept and recognise the voice of my Lord in it. I also appreciated greatly, the prayer offered initially. This document contains revelation that aligns with Truth I have received myself from the Lord. Therefore I accept truth wherever I am blessed to find it given.

Eva Gore

- AndEva December 03, 2017

And, I am extremely grateful to all those who laboured and humbled themselves and sought an answer from the Lord that I may also grow and expand in Light and accept the Truth, His Doctrine and His commandments wherever they can be found in purity, even from the Lord giving through least amongst us. Praise God.

- Marv December 03, 2017

I totally AGREE...

- MandonFrancks December 03, 2017

I hear the Lord that I know in this answer. It addresses so many fears and concerns that I've had over this whole heart breaking yet huge lesson learning process. One of the ways I see the Lord is through His abundant tender mercies and that's what I find here. I've also had a personal witness that the Lord is well pleased with the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs Guide and Standard. I believe he has approved others as well and that he is very pleased with all of the efforts that have been made to compile and present the different proposals as well all of the extensive reading, searching praying, and deep caring that we have all done to try to fulfill this task. As a wise friend stated last night, the destination of Zion on the other side of mountain may have many ways to get to it. Especially as we all come from our own walks of life. I pray that as each of us continue to diligently search to know the Lord better, our paths with naturally align with each

other, hence like attracting like and light attracting light.

Melinda Francks

- PeterMartin December 15, 2017

I also hear God's voice in this document.

It looks like the link is missing above so here's the url:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IaYxFSd1v0Xv8NjqxVKEoBenF3qmBLdZ/view

Peter Martin

A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots-CALL TO ACTION (12/02/17)

Saturday, December 02, 2017

Brothers and Sisters,

We are grateful to all of those who have participated during the last two weeks in response to the proposed Guide and Standard , and for your recent input and subsequent vote in relationship to it. We received numerous suggestions, and have spent countless hours on the phone or through emails with you as changes have been made, edits done, footnotes expanded, and so forth. We thank you for your help in getting this product into the final phase. As we have declared from the beginning, and as explicitly said in our preamble to the Guide and Standard , as well as in our personal testimonies: we acknowledge the hard work of the many who preceded us. In honor of those who went before, we did our best to include that sacrifice in this document as we prayerfully sought the Lord's guidance in fulfilling our charge to create that which would be acceptable to the Lord. As a group of seven, we labored over the task for three days and three nights, then asked for feedback and listened to the voice of the people for another three days and three nights. As a result of that process, countless peoples' fingerprints are on this document.

After finalizing the document, then taking into consideration and implementing most of your recommendations, we presented it to the Lord on the seventh day, a day of rest and fasting, November 21st. Part of the answer that He gave us is as follows: "This document that you've presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them." We acknowledge and share this same gratitude for all the work that preceded and contributed to this effort.

In the Lord's answer to us we were instructed to present the final document to the people and to His servant. This we did. Some in the movement felt that since the seven had already received an answer from the Lord approving the document, that we had no reason to have another vote, and asked us why we did it. In the Lord's answer to us, we were told that we would know how to proceed. We had several purposes in proceeding with this last vote.

One was to allow all those who agreed with our proposal, but don't speak up publicly, to be given the opportunity to be heard in order to reflect their position on the matter. Very few people are comfortable commenting on the blog forums, and the few who do account for the vast majority of the comments that are made. This tends to skew the perception of

how the document is actually being received. It was important that all had the opportunity to be heard, and those who support this document have indeed spoken out by the hundreds. A second and more important motivation for holding a vote was for us to have the opportunity to discuss the issue with those who disagreed with the Lots Proposal or the document that came as a result. We have continually invited those who disagreed to talk with us. We wish it had been everyone, although we were very happy to hear from many. Those who did engage with us were so very impressive. They were kind, loving, polite, and expressed sincere concerns; some had heard incorrect rumors, or wanted greater insight into what exactly occurred. One didn't want to accept just one document; he wanted the freedom to follow many different guide and standard submissions. One disagreed with the age of accountability, and represented others who do as well. Some liked the document, but preferred a different option. Some decided to change their vote to "yes" (not reflected in the numbers given). Some remained with their initial convictions. We had very nice discussions, and spent hours on the phone or via email with these good people. The complete void of disputation and contention was wonderful indeed. We truly feel peace in our hearts and love for all. To those who did not want to talk to us, for whatever reason it may be, we hope you know that we have nothing but kind feelings and good will towards you.

A third reason we put the document up for a vote is to finish the work assigned to us as explained below.

On August 13, 2017, after division continued on the August document, the Scripture Committee made the following statement to clarify the end of their official role in the process of producing the Guide and Standard:

" It is not the place of the scriptures committee to govern. This general assembly is a body of equals. There are efforts underway to develop an alternate statement of principles. Our committee does not claim any authority to permit or deny any such effort . Just as anyone can call a conference, so any group can undertake an endeavor that impacts many fellowships. That endeavor owns the responsibility to persuade the general assembly to accept that effort . This committee is willing to offer any reasonable help." On October 8, 2017, the Scripture Committee helped clarify with the following in an update:

"When the body, or perhaps a body, can come to agree on the terms the Lord has set, and then fulfills those terms in adopting a statement of principles , we can gladly present the chosen Statement to the Lord for approval, and publish it in the scriptures if approval is received. We fully expect Him to answer."

This meant authority over the Guide and Standard was no longer in the hands of the Scripture Committee, but belonged to the body of believers to work out and move forward. Many in the movement realized they must set aside previous differences and work together. Without an "authority" giving directions, it would require the people to ask the Lord to show them the way to fulfill the assignment. This resulted in a significant group of people presenting and endorsing what ultimately became known as the Lots Proposal: A true grassroots effort that united people of all perspectives in the movement. As instructed by the Scripture Committee, this group of people " owned the responsibility to persuade the general assembly to accept that effort ."

In early November, 380 people of the body (87% of those voting) gave permission through their vote, to use the Lot Proposal to create a document to be taken to the Lord for approval and be adopted by mutual agreement. The full summary of that proposal can be found here. (http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/p/proposal-on-how-to-move-forward.html) As per the assignment outlined in the proposal and agreed upon by the people, we were required to do the following once the document was finished:

Public Input

- The statement written by the seven will be published online for review and comment by the body of believers for a period of 2 days. [We gave 3 days, to allow

for more input]

- If necessary, the document will be revised at the discretion of the group of seven, as they reason together considering the input from believers (this does not include ongoing discussion, dispute, and contending over content).

The Lord's Input

- The statement will then be presented to the Lord for His input and approval. It will be corrected to meet the Lord's requirements, if necessary. [we did this and received a direct confirmation of His approval]

Sustaining Vote

- The statement will be presented to the body for adoption by mutual agreement.
- If adopted, it will be added to the RE scriptures. (End of Proposal Summary)

The vote just completed was to finish out our assignment granted to us from the people, to obtain a sustaining vote to enable the document to be adopted by mutual agreement and submitted for addition to the RE scriptures. Each of the questions asked of those who voted involved agreeing to the document, and adopting it. Specifically it stated: "Do you accept this Guide and Standard and support its adoption?" Of the 414 who cast votes, 386 (93%) people expressed that they agree to the document and to its' adoption. Thus, 93% of the people of the people who voted signified that they adopted this Guide and Standard by mutual agreement. The vote now tallied is a great accomplishment toward a unity in the faith. The Lord did not ask for a unanimous, or a majority vote. If He did, He would have used those words. He said mutual agreement. The Lord has recently further defined that to be: "As between one another, you choose to not dispute." There has been some discussion on what that means. We can say that those who have voted in favor of accepting and adopting this effort, which acknowledges the work of many, is mutually agreed upon. Or, in paraphrasing the Answer to Prayer for Covenant: 'As between one another, you (we) choose not to dispute' and therefore are in mutual agreement.

Our work is done. We thank you for the opportunity to have served in this capacity on your behalf. We now turn over everything to the scripture committee to be included in the RE Scriptures, according to their previous statement that, " When the body, or perhaps a body, can come to agree on the terms the Lord has set, and then fulfills those terms in adopting a statement of principles , we can gladly present the chosen Statement to the Lord for approval, and publish it in the scriptures if approval is received... " .

We believe that we have fulfilled the terms required. We were given an assignment by the people, and we have completed it, step by step, as the Lord has shown us along the way and according to the agreed upon procedures. We have engaged with as many as possible to hear your voice. And then, you declared your voice as a people by way of a vote.

We have been repeatedly instructed as a people in this movement to rise up. We as a people voted for this system, we as a people voted to adopt this document by mutual agreement, and we seven, chosen by lot, testify that the Lord answered us as to His acceptance of this document. Therefore, we, as representatives of the people now ask the scripture committee, to accept what has been requested by the people and manifested through their vote. We, all of us together, have filled the full measure of our assignment.

Sincerely and thank you,

The Seven Lots

Comments

- YourFriend December 03, 2017

We could not have asked for any better representation that what these 7+1 brothers and sister have presented. I have felt love and a great desire to please the Lord through their efforts. I agree with their Guide and Standard and choose not to dispute any dissenters. I love you brothers and sisters in the Covenant and look forward to further efforts together with you all.
Thanks so much for all of your hard work and heart-felt sacrifice!
Lisa

- Log December 03, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 03, 2017

To the G&S / Scripture Committees:

1. The Lottery Project never had mutual agreement with the body, neither in method, nor in content, and still does not, and shall not.

2. The Lord means mutual agreement by "mutual agreement." To willfully adopt a G&S and place it into the scriptures knowing there is dissent to it is to willfully dishonor the Lord's requirement.

3. If the G&S / Scripture Committee abides the Lord's requirement that we shall adopt a G&S by mutual agreement in the A&C, the Lottery G&S is not to be placed in the scriptures.

4. If a G&S is placed in the scriptures without mutual agreement, then we as a people will be unable to accomplish tasks which the Lord will require of us, as per the A&C. This means he will tell us as a body to do things, as he has with the G&S, that we shall fail to do, as we will have done with the G&S, even while saying we have done it, as the Lottery Project is proclaiming above.

As a body, we now rely upon the integrity of the G&S / Scripture Committee to not violate the Lord's requirement per the A&C that any G&S adopted must be by mutual agreement.

The law of witnesses is fulfilled: you each know for yourself the Lord's requirement is not fulfilled by the Lottery G&S per the A&C.

Jared Livesey

- gregnorton December 03, 2017

Could you please post a link to the final draft of the lots G&S here?

- Marv December 03, 2017

I want to thank the "Lots" committee for the outstanding work and service that they have performed. Thank you for your time, talents, prayers, fasting and endurance in providing this Honorable task. I am glad that the Lord inspired so many people in this effort from beginning to end.

May God Bless each of you and your families!

Marv Bateman

- Marv December 03, 2017

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14Ha9oivbv4AbhOPfmxH-Q5Q0N7hUlVeF/view

- PeterMartin December 03, 2017

I think the Lots proposal does an excellent job of compiling what we have been given through authorized (for lack of a better word) sources. I think the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs preserves a lot of inspired words that might otherwise be somewhat forgotten. If I'm not mistaken, then God has assisted with and is pleased with both of these efforts. We wouldn't want to repeat one of the mistakes of the LDS by thinking that because God has spoken to us He must not be speaking to those guys.

God Bless you all,
Peter Martin

- Stevevanleer December 03, 2017

The Lord has spoken, the people have spoken. I accept the Lords words and the voice of the people. There is mutual agreement among 93 percent of the people who chose to be involved. This is in accordance with the Lords directive to us.

My commitment as one who accepts what the Lord has done, (this is His work not man’s), is to love, respect, live in peace, and cooperation, with every soul. Those who have, and do, oppose this statement of principles accepted by the Lord, I ask you humbly to remember that we can disagree and still be God’s people together. It’s ok to disagree. It doesn’t mark the end of anything between us. I commit to live together with you in peace and love and genuine cooperation. You were my brothers and sisters before this began, you are my siblings now. I think more of you now, not less.

More than any particular statement of principles our God wants unity and peace and love among us. We can now move forward with renewed focus concentrating on all else the Lord requires of us from the Answer and Covenant. Every other requirement contained in the Answer and Covenant relates to our feelings and treatment toward one another. Those requirements have taken a back seat way too long in deference to the least of His requirements which was for us to produce a statement of principles. Now that requirement is finished, let’s move on and learn to live together in unity and love and peace.

Al praise and glory to Jesus Christ our King

- Log December 03, 2017

We can disagree and still be God's people together.

We cannot disagree on the G&S and adopt it and add it to the scriptures as per the Lord's requirement in the A&C.

Jared Livesey

- JonSaunders December 03, 2017

I also thank the 7 who have spent their time and exercised faith in Christ to prepare this document. I thank everyone else who has exercised faith, fasted and prayed as well for the success of this work. Everyone's efforts have been a blessing that has benefitted me. I am in agreement with the created document. I have no desire to discontinue fellowshipping with anyone who may disagree with this document. You are all brothers and sisters to me and you all have blessed me by your willingness to associate with me. Jon Saunders

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

Would anyone from the lot group be willing to answer a question here on this forum? Okay, so two questions? (Alright, so it's five questions.)

Why were the seven/eight of you only ever willing to discuss things via email or over the phone?

Do you not think those answers and ideas would have benefited the group as a whole? Perhaps even helped people who were/are in disagreement?

Kinda makes we wonder why bother having a comment section on this blog even...I genuinely am wondering. I am not attempting to "dispute" or be contentious.

Thanks, should you choose to respond.

- TwoCents December 03, 2017

One of the greatest traditions I see in the LDS church is this idea of: "Oh God is referring to those people over there."

When Denver is talking, do you think to yourself, "Oh he is referring to the LDS people and not me." When Denver speaks about the Gentile nation, do you think to yourself, "I'm a covenant member now, so I am no longer part of the Gentile nation." Do you believe that since you said yes to the Covenant that He wouldn't require work from us to determine our hearts?

In the A&C he stated if our hearts were right this would have been a light thing. I heard some say, that if our hearts were right we would have listened to Denver and accepted Jeff's document. For me, I understood this to mean if our hearts were right we would let the Lord lead. The Lord has been trying to lead us, by way of His Voice. From the beginning of this GS work people heard the Voice of the Lord and were commanded to do certain things, for instance, I was commanded to tell the people this GS was to be our Standard of Liberty (Liberty only comes from making Christ our King). Those of us who heard the Voice of the Lord went to Jeff and told him, and for whatever reason he chose not to work with us. In fact, at each meeting he tried to cut us off. We practically had to beg him to keep us on board. Now, you can say that this is mean of me to say, but it's the truth. There are others who know this to be true, whether or not they will speak up about it, that's up to them.

To me, a light thing, is referring to Christ. This to me, has both a temporal and Spiritual meaning. Temporally, this could have been easy, so to speak, because the Lord can do all things with those who will trust Him. Spiritually it means this is Christ's work. Christ is trying to do a work. He wants to provide us with more light.

Joseph Smith tried to accomplish this work during his time, but the people rejected the

work. He tried to teach them about the Holy Order.

What is, "my work now underway?" I think Denver answered this in his paper, Holy Order, when he stated:
The Lord really is trying to restore the original fullness and Holy Order.

Denver also said,
This generation does not seem to value the truth enough for the Lord to reveal what will save them. God truly does have things that the eyes of man have not seen, nor have the ears heard; nor has yet entered into the hearts of man. God sends knowledge into the world for the meek and humble, and He perpetually keeps great things hidden from the strident, vulgar, proud, haughty and foolish. Whether the Lord completes His work and fulfills His promises in this generation, or in a future generation, will be decided by us. We must repent and offer a broken heart and a contrite spirit if we hope to please God. Pg. 45

In my opinion, "This generation" is referring to us. I take this as a warning. Denver's last couple of pages, sound like a warning to us. This whole paper is talking about what work is underway. Interestingly, he gave this talk at Jim's place with most of those who came up with and supported the lots proposal.

I don't understand why you think that this document doesn't matter as much, and that we can leave it to God to fix. Like it stated above, Whether the Lord completes His work and fulfills His promises in this generation, or in a future generation, will be decided by us. Our decisions matter.

The Lord has laid the foundation, the last seven years, and gave us an understanding of the original fullness and Holy Order. What do we understand?

To me this document was a way for the Lord to test our understanding of what was taught to us. Part of this Holy Order is being able to hear the Voice of the Lord. There is a great deal more that needs to be restored as Denver stated in his Holy Order talk. But if we don't understand or accept what has already been given, will He give us more?

Q

- Karen December 03, 2017

Lori,

This is Kirk Strong. I share my wife's account so I'm sorry it says her name.

We (the seven) just wanted to be more personal. For me personally, I do not email and am not comfortable on computers and typing my thoughts. I much prefer speaking with people and find it to be more intimate and find greater understanding when I can talk to an actual person and hear their voice.

It was not an attempt to avoid answering to a larger audience; We all just felt it was a more loving and genuine approach to treat each person individually and believed those wanting questions answered would contact us.

If you email your phone number to thesevenlotsters@gmail.com I'd be happy to talk to you at your convenience. I enjoyed the conversations I was able to have with others during this process. Some still held to their views and I found that I still came to enjoy getting to know them, understand their perspectives, and have no ill regard for them.

Kirk Strong

- Inspire December 03, 2017

Lori,
If you would like to see every bit of interaction I had with the seven (what I have record of), I would be happy to send it to you or anyone who wants it. I have also been open about a different idea previously presented.

As for the other 7, they did their best to work within the given bounds and be true to the trust which had been placed in them. I can't speak for the group, but my experience was that they wanted to be united and communicate in ways which worked for everyone. Could it have been done "better?" There always is a better way, I'm sure. But I never doubted that their hearts were in the best place.

- Stevevanleer December 03, 2017

The Lord has said:

(D&C 59)

21 And in nothing doth man offend God, or against none is his wrath kindled, save those who confess not his hand in all things, and obey not his commandments.

How can we not stop at this juncture and express gratitude to our God and confess His hand in the many miracles that were evident throughout the process that has now resulted in mutual agreement by 93 percent of the people. The voice of the Lord proclaiming, mutual ageeement is, “as between one another, you choose not to dispute.” We accept the Lord’s words, we accept the combined voice of the seven we accept the hand of God throughout this process and have no disputation among us, we mutually agree.

Our mutual agreement would be selfish if we did not at the completion, confess the hand of the Lord in all things as He has required of us. There have been miracles evident that could only have been the hand of our God from before the beginning of what has come to be called the Lots proposal. I freely confess His almighty hand in it all. If I confine that confession of His evident hand in just the aspect of the drawing of lots, there were miracles that could only have been the hand of our God. There were too many to enumerate here. Consider just a few.

First, a husband was chosen along with his wife. The odds of that happening were something on the order of 33,000 to one. That is the hand of God. I confess his hand.

If you now consider the probability that the husband and the wife would be drawn one after the next, the odds go from 33,000 to one, to a number that has something in great excess of this many zeros 1,000,0000 to one. That is God’s Hand, I confess His hand. There is another layer of extremely unlikely probability that shows God’s hand in the fact that that couple together with one other, were present with the original group who met first on October 7th when the Lots proposal group first met and the movement/idea began in earnest.

Consider that our brother Jeff Savage was the last name chosen. You can ask God the probability that could happen. I don’t know that it can be calculated. I receive it as a message that could only have come from our God. I confess His almighty hand in it.

The miracles resulted because there began to be unity among the people who resolved to combine faith in the Redeemer. Our combined faith received the attention of our Lord. He responded with miracles that follow faith. He can only work according to the faith of men. And He did. I confess His hand in it all. This has not been the work of men, but His work. His hand. I confess it and stand in awe of our Lord and His power to bring to pass His work and His will.

If we have soft hearts and eyes willing to see, there are many many more miracles God has given throughout the process to this point. We should all confess His almighty hand.

I pray that we can now move forward and live together in peace and unity and love as He has required of us.

All glory be to Him our king and Redeemer.

- Log December 03, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 03, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- PeterMartin December 03, 2017

Right on! I would have written something like that but I wasn't sure how to word it. I especially like that last paragraph. Looking back at it again there is also some things in there I hadn't though of like the meaning of "light thing". Thank you Two Cents

- Log December 03, 2017

Steven,

As long as there is dissent to a proposal, we do not adopt it as a G&S and add it to the scriptures, per the Lord's requirement in the A&C.

Therefore the Lottery G&S is dead, being unacceptable for reasons that have been fully explained and not yet addressed.

A vote which shows any dissent is an admission that a proposal has not met the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement.

You are invited to humble yourselves and come and converse as equals, both publicly and openly, in a neutral forum provided for this purpose:
http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

Jared Livesey

- Steve December 03, 2017

I am wondering what the Lord's requirement of "mutual agreement". I first saw it discussed on To The Remnant and the authors indicated that to them it meant even greater oneness of heart than a unanimous agreement.

The lots method was approved by 80+% and their guide and standard was okayed by

93%. Does that constitute mutual agreement?

In Zion if 7% of the people disagreed, how would such be handled:
1) Please get in line with the vast majority
2) If you don't agree, why don't you just leave?
3) ???

Remember the movie about the 12 jurors. The majority just wanted to find the accused guilty and go home to their families. But they listened to the lone dissenter and eventually were swayed to his opinion. Are we willing to do the same? 1 out of 22 is quite close to 7%.

Does this impasse indicate why Zion is so very hard to accomplish: It seems nearly impossible for us to arrive at an agreement. Why is that the case?

Steve Graham

- Jay December 03, 2017

Lori,

I know you like to keep the conversation out in the open and public. I agree this is a good thing. Please understand (and don't judge) if others are not comfortable with that approach. There is a diffrent dynamic at play when you know your words are on public display.

I think Denver's observation about prayer may be relevent in some way here as well, "I've given opening prayers in a lot of settings and I have to tell you, when praying in secret, I don't have to worry about what anyone else thinks about my vocabulary, content, incomplete sentences, dangling participles, or stupid notions. I don't have to worry about any of that. It is between me
and God. But when I'm standing on the corner, or at the pulpit, or before people and praying, (you may be better than I am), but I have never been able to pray in public in those settings, without at least some concern about the words coming out of my mouth and their effect upon the audience. I have always felt like I was delivering more of a sermon than a prayer to God. That's a weakness I have that you may have too." (DS, Talk #8 - A Broken Heart and Contrite Spirit)

- JimORullian December 03, 2017

I cannot speak for any family other than my own, but in the 3 1/2 years we have been in fellowship with others families, there is one true principle that has stood out to me more than all else.

When working together to find solutions to problems, the act of finding agreement even when we have had differing opinions has developed bonds of love which have brought out hearts and minds into alignment. First came the desire to be united in all things with a willingness to concede our views for the sake of the family, then came the oneness of our minds and hearts. It would not have worked in reverse.

At this point, there is very little we don't see and feel the same about and I would give up all that I own for just one chance to live among them in a city of peace.

- JonSaunders December 03, 2017

Steve,

This is just my personal point of view concerning mutual agreement based on my own limited understanding and experience.

With the revelation from the Lord showing His definition of mutual agreement to be that we do not dispute with each other being the key to mutual agreement, my understanding is that we are all afforded our own point of view before God and as long as we do not dispute with each other.

Even if our points of view are different or in other words we disagree we are still mutually agreed.

Again, this is just my opinion based on my own personal point of view but my understanding is that the mutual agreement can still exist in any disagreement if both parties are mutually agreed that any lack of understanding can and will be corrected by Christ as long as both parties are truly filled with charity for each other as they work towards a common goal.

So, in my mind the mutual agreement lies in all parties exercising faith (agreeing) that Christ will fix the problem because we are all profoundly blind as the Lord has said.

Again, in my opinion only Christ can truly fix a problem or a challenge faced by those involved in the labor in His vineyard. He said He will work alongside all who labor.

Our part of mutual agreement is in walking in His path which is in truly obtaining charity for all our brothers and sisters. He promised in the answer that if we would love each other and return good for evil He would give us light and knowledge that we can get in no other way.

I have been a pharisee for so long in this life and I remember so many times that I have disputed when I heard something I thought or felt was at odds with truth as I know it. I remember the feelings of my gut tightening up and judgment entering my mind and a desire to attack the "offending" belief of another in my perceived attempt to keep the doctrine pure, correct false ideas, and destroy darkness.

Seriously, these were the thoughts on my mind. I felt completely justified in my actions. I was blind to the destruction I was guilty of because of my vanity, believing I was a warrior for the Lord.

I have come to see in the last few years that everything I thought I knew may not be so. There are so many things that look so different than I ever thought they would look.

I love the Lord's definition of mutual agreement because it preserves, in my opinion, individuality and an absolute ability to fellowship in spite of a difference of opinion. It promotes the power of the Lord to correct and do His own work with all of us imperfect mortals, each with unique points of view according to our own life experience. It allows all of us to continue to hear the voice of the Lord in the unique individual way we each hear His voice yet still be able to contribute in our own way to His work now underway again; hopefully moving together toward a common goal.

I can totally see Zion existing among people who have such a desire even though every single one is a unique individual and hears the voice of the Lord in their own way.

Just my opinion.

Have a great evening.
Jon Saunders

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

To Kirk Strong: Thank you so much for answering here and explaining. That is what I needed. I just needed to be given understanding. I agree that emails/phone calls are definitely more personal, and can readily understand why you, as a group, made that decision. And I understand that this online method is not for everyone. It fits some of us more naturally than others, so perhaps multiple methods must needs be used?

But with comments in other places here stating that emails and the like were being used to speak ill of others, I was even more leery of moving into a private form of communication. Plus I really do believe it would simply be helpful to let others "hear." Thank you so very much for taking time and coming out of your comfort zone to answer me. That means a lot to me.

Inspire/Doug: Thank you, too, for answering. I don't have any wisdom how to work through this process with people spread all over the globe and yet blog commenting tending to not be the ideal. Even emails can leave one feeling like you are choking on a hair ball. Maybe I just wish there had been more balance? Perhaps someone who is comfortable with online communication could have been "appointed" by the group to share and respond? I really, really, really do best when I am communicated with, rather than left to figure out what people are thinking or why they are doing such and such. I hope that makes sense. But I also know that there were only seven of you and you all had much to do as it was.

And I don't doubt the sincerity of any of you. I don't doubt your desire to serve Christ and help the group as a whole. I don't doubt the love you each feel. I was initially okay with doing lots. It was not having come to mutual agreement on the outlined process that I found disconcerting. It was not having my concerns resolved that lead to festering. Maybe that is on me alone. But as I stated in another comment elsewhere, for a body of equals it sure does look like there is a Great and Powerful Oz at work somewhere...For sure there are many different ways we could accomplish this task. The challenge seems to be in coming to a satisfying mutual agreement.

But back to topic. It is through interactions like this that I am able to discern a person's heart. Every time a person speaks, either vocally or through writing, he/she has put a spotlight on his/her heart. I apologize for the crazy passion I have in mine. Lots of fire.

To Jay Ball: Thank you, as well, for taking a moment to respond. I completely agree there is a different dynamic online. And I also know that there are some things one would not or should not speak in such an open place. Christ has told me He doesn't sneak, so I am viewing everything from a place of being honest and open. I feel it is important to keep myself accountable to this group and to Him. It is also why I have not deleted any of my comments. But that does not mean He would not tell someone else to hide behind "anonymous" or not chat online. I can accept and respect both ways.

I am not judging others who do not want to bleed out loud as I do. I hope I was not coming across as judging. I am sorry if I was. I think I would have just liked to see a

balance between both online and private communicating. Perhaps there is no ideal. But I am a through and through idealist, so Imma always be looking for that sweet space.

I remember hearing Denver speak those words about prayer. I live from and through my heart, so it is not in me to be hidden, even when I speak or pray. I just get sick with fear or worry over what others might think. But He has given me many opportunities over the last few years to show whether I will fear Him or fear others. I could write a book. Geez. Looks like I just did. ;)

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

Steve, I find it interesting that this version was created by 7 and there were 7 (%) who refused acceptance. A sign, or an omen?

I have had similar thoughts to yours. It would not matter the task, my heart would still be looking to include those on the outside, especially if they have expressed a desire to come in. How could I not be willing to widen the door, or move a window, or sell everything to cover the cost? I don't know if that is how it is supposed to be or not. I only know I am not okay leaving anyone behind, unless they move themselves away or He tells me to let go. So far neither of those things has happened. As to what I want or believe is best, I can let it go. But others who are also my Father's children? Christ died for all. I would want to work to include all.

I recall Denver saying that Zion is unlike anything we currently have, so I believe it will be extremely difficult for us to think outside the box enough to begin aright. We truly need Him--His Mind and His Heart, to figure this all out.

Jon Saunders, I know you are not addressing me, but if I may?

I like how you expressed yourself. I feel I need greater understanding on what disputing looks like and what disagreement looks like. Do we not point out errors in thought or decisions? Is it all simply how we say something or also what we say? And what about a task such as creating a G&S together as a group? Should everyone become a yes man/woman to one person's ideas?

I just feel like I have no concrete examples to look at. But I think there are probably some excellent books, like Bonds That Make Us Free, which could really help give clarity. I guess I need to read that one again!

I can see how we oughtn't to judge. I can see how we oughtn't to use labels or name calling. I can see how we should exercise restraint in quoting Christ as though we can pronounce curses and blessings. I don't see how one or more can dissent openly without becoming ignored or shunned. In essence, I wish I had a vision for what you are describing. I like it and do agree with it.

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

Jim, can you help me understand where love actually came into play in your experiences? Were the bonds of love developed as a result of, or beforehand, or during--needed every step of the way? How did you build relationships? And what are some examples of things that required this desire to be unified with a willingness to acquiesce one's own ideas/opinions/desires, and then created the oneness you speak of? Where do you see this group as a whole on this continuum? What do you feel is needed most right now by every person in the group?

- JimORullian December 07, 2017

Hi Lori,
I prepared the following response to your question and went to post and found out that comments were disabled. Now that they are re-opened, I just wanted to post if for you. Thanks,

Jim

When our fellowship initially formed three and a half years ago, it was just three families who wanted to try the tithing experiment. We generally had the same view of tithing but somewhat different ideas of which things to get involved with and which things not too. But the families were desirous first and foremost to be agreeable to the purposes of the endeavor, which was to learn from the experience how to work things out together. As various projects came along, we used the common consent principle and took many votes. Some were unanimous and others brought days of thought and prayer. But always, when the votes were tallied and there was a majority, the minority voiced their opposing views and then acquiesced for the overall principle of being united in heart and mind if they were not sufficiently persuaded. As new families expressed interest in uniting with us in fellowship, we explained how we chose to handle the tithing process and if they were not in agreement, did not mandate that they join in the tithing effort or they would not be allowed to fellowship with us. Instead we allowed them to do as they felt inspired while also joining with us for worship service if they so desired. Over time, those of us who paid tithing together began to see things the same and soon our minds became united with our hearts in this thing. That is not to say we agree on ALL things ALL the time, but we have a profound sense of love and respect for each other that has developed over time to the point where I KNOW I could live in peace with them with no contention and a good many laughs.

What I feel is needed most right now in the movement as a whole is to simply try the experiment that we did with tithing and let it extend out from there into all aspects of fellowship. We need to agree with one another up front that we will respectfully voice our opinions and use measured words to persuade one another with the overarching understanding that after doing so (for a reasonable period of time), we will unite as a body around what the majority feels is best and allow our victories and failures to inform us. We cannot endlessly force our views upon others. The Savior never taught that way and neither should we. He simply spoke and then left us to ourselves to figure it out. I know that there are many who think this is some kind of Gentile approach that has never worked, but I can tell you from experience that it does indeed form bonds that very quickly lead to the uniting of both heart and mind for those who subscribe to the process. If you fight and disagree with the process, then no, it will not work at all.

It's my believe that if we can indeed unite in heart and mind but are wrong in what we unite over, the Lord will account the feelings of love and friendship we have for one another to our righteousness and make up the difference. He has told us as much in his answer to the prayer for a covenant.

This really is not that hard. Just be agreeable and be willing to let your brother or sister be right even if it goes against everything you think you know is right. If you think the voice inside of you that tells you to endlessly debate with your brother or sister until they see it your way is of God, then perhaps you are listening to the wrong voice.

- Stevevanleer December 07, 2017

Mutual agreement as used in the Answer to Prayer for Covenant, means:

“As between one another, you choose to not dispute.”

93 percent initially, and now more than 95 percent of those who chose to be involved mutually agree. There is harmony and no disputation among nearly 400 souls regarding this proposal amd the document proposed by the seven chosen by lots. This is mutual agreement between them because all of those souls do not dispute between them concerning this thing.

There are some who choose not to agree, and they are perfectly free and welcome to disagree.

Those who entered into the covenant in Boise agreed to:

“...accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?” (Answer and Covenant page 10 item second)

Mosiah 29:

“Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law--to do your business by the voice of the people.”

I ask you, what constituted “mutual agreement” in the first councils in Heaven? Was there unanimous agreement among the body there? No. But, there was a faction of souls among whom there was no disputation as to the Father’s plan. They mutually agreed. There was no disputation among them. They were united in their acceptance of the Fathers proposal. “One third” on the other hand, disputed the plan and did not mutually agree. They disagreed with, and disputed the plan. They chose to go their own way. Never the less, there was mutual agreement by a faction of the body.

I point out the mutual agreement that resulted in the first councils as an example only. By this, I do not suggest or mean, that those who disagree with the Lots proposal, (or any other proposal put forth in the GS process,) are evil, or making a choice in opposition to God. I do not believe that is even remotely the case. I point out the mutual agreement that resulted in the first councils for no reason other than to show the best example available to us of the eternal law involved when people are asked to mutually agree. You know you have it, (mutual agreement) when two or more come to a place of agreement where they do not dispute between them concerning the matter. And, as pointed out from the Book of Mormon, “...it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right;...therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law--to do your business by the voice of the people.” (Mosiah 29:26)

Continued

- Stevevanleer December 07, 2017

The Lord is patient, and kind, and full of empathy for each soul. He will allow a time for persuasion and for His spirit to teach and lead Every soul who’s heart may be soft and open to gentle persuasion and according to true principles. If a soul is not persuaded to see, and embrace a principle, that does not mark an end. It simply means the soul has not yet mutually agreed to the principle. That soul’s right to believe differently is

according to a sacred and inviolable eternal law. We honor and revere that law. No soul is compelled to mutually agree to any principle, idea, (or document) they choose not to. Yet, we remain equals, and we commit to live in cooperation and peace and harmony together with every soul who chooses to do likewise. Any soul's choice to believe differently however, does not impinge in any degree upon the mutual agreement of any two or more souls. Their right to mutually agree between them and not dispute is also inviolable according to eternal law.

If the words of the Book of Mormon are correct and true (and they certainly are,) then, we ought to conduct our business according to the voice of the people realizing "it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right;"

We do not claim that because the voice of 93 percent of the people who choose to be involved has spoken, that is evidence the people are right. God will judge that matter. We bow ourselves to His assessment and judgement and do not claim to rule or dominate any person or soul. We choose to unite in our Redeemer and live peaceably together with each soul regardless of any person's choice to believe whatever they choose. We desire only to serve, and please, and glorify God.

We invite each and every soul to join in unity and harmony at the feet of our Lord and Redeemer. He has said He accepts the statement of principles produced by the seven chosen by lots. We ask you to prayerfully consider both the statement and the testimony of the seven and those involved in following the Lord's instruction to attempt to unite the body. We do not question His acceptance or His direction in this regard. We wish to bring glory and honor to Him only.

WHICH ONE WOULD SERVE A STRANGER THE BEST?

Sunday, December 03, 2017

Sisters and Brothers,
This is going to be a long explanation. Whenever we try to be brief, we wind up regretting it due to the complaints about lack of details.
We are grateful for all of the work, prayer, and thought that has gone into developing a statement of principles that can be accepted by the people (The Lord hasn't required His stamp of approval on it, simply our own mutual agreement). Because the committee has been learning as we go, we have done the best we know how, but we've come to realize that the task isn't finished yet. As the title of this post implies, there is a choice to make.
The most recent challenge that we are faced with is what to do with the acceptance votes for the August 5th version of the Governing Principles. That document was put on hold and wasn't published into the scriptures because of the mutual agreement issue. The helpful understanding recently received from the Lord has released that hold. The August 5th document received as strong an approval as the recent Lots document and therefore is just as deserving of consideration. So now what? And what about any other documents that meet the criteria set by the Lord?
Discussion within the committee and with others makes it clear that the scripture committee is not the body to decide which version fin ally goes into the scriptures. That is up to all of us. We recognize that many are tired of votes that are not final. A formal request has been made to the committee to vote on all versions that have been put forth. In turn, we have a responsibility as the scripture committee to ensure that whatever is adopted into the scriptures meets the criteria established by the Lord, and then to actually

publish them. As this call for a vote on all documents helps us fulfill our responsibility in preparing and publishing the scriptures, by bringing the people to make a decision on which G&S to adopt and publish, we agree with and support it. Because some of the submitted documents cannot be considered for adoption, we propose that it be a final vote on all qualifiedversions of the *Guide and Standard / Governing Principles*. This is the only fair means of resolution we are aware of. The top ranked version will be the accepted *Guide and Standard* included in our scriptures.

In the *Answer to Prayer for Covenant* the Lord has given us the criteria that a G&S document must meet to be included in the vote: 1. *You are not excused from writing* – "I, the Lord, say to you: You have asked of me concerning the scriptures prepared on behalf of all those who seek to become my covenant people, and therefore I answer you on behalf of all the people, and not as to any individual...I answer you as one." This means that "You" at the beginning of this criteria point is inclusive - the writing of the statement must have been open in some way to participation by anyone and everyone.

2. *a statement of principles...* – "a" indicates that we must produce one statement, not a collection; "statement" indicates that it will include views and explanations, not simply a list; and "principles" indicates that it can't be a set of rules, but rather must provide underlying understanding of why something is said or done.

3. *to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people...* – "Adopted" indicates a voluntary willingness to abide by what is stated. Because the statement is to be adopted by "my people", it is covenant holders who vote to adopt it. Those who eventually receive the covenant will likewise be adopting the same statement of principles.

4. *Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them* – The intended audience is "them," not the current covenant holders. It is a *blessing* to have help from others who are on the same path and who have already struggled with how to begin living what the Lord has given. The *benefit* is the basic framework and understanding shared that allows newcomers to hopefully start off on the right foot. The *Guide and Standard* gives them the fundamental *information* on practices that anyone would ask about. As steps are taken to become one with the covenant people, they have the Holy Ghost to "show unto [them] all things what [they] should do." Additionally, the question used to title this post is the crux of the entire project: Which one would serve a stranger the best? The question turns the focus from inward – our preferences and biases – to the outward perspective that requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves, and calls on us to serve, like our Savior.

5. *— so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write...* – What we are proposing involves the most wisdom and kindness we can muster. We acknowledge that there has been unkindness and foolishness throughout the process and ask the Lord to forgive such as we come together to complete His commanded task. The following versions meet these criteria and will be included in the voting:

- August 5th *Governing Principles*
- *Guide and Standard* Chosen by Lots
- A version of the original *Governing Principles* that was open to public participation.
- If there are others, we are not aware of them and invite correction.

FAILED VERSIONS:

- The original *Governing Principles* – though this was originally acceptable to the Lord, it was rejected by many people, and then once the new criteria were introduced in the *Answer*, this document failed because it was not open to being written by everyone - it was written by Jeff Savage and edited by the scripture committee.
- All other documents proposed as a *Guide and Standard* were written by only one or only a few people and were not open to all to develop, including: *The Rock of Jesus Christ*, *Nonmancaaf SwhafugsGuide and Standard, A Different Idea From One of the Lots Group, A Proposal to Bridge the Gap, Amalgamation of G&S Versions, Adolpho Guide and Standard, Chandler Guide and Standard, Statement of Principles, Anonymous1,* and *Simple Guide*

and Standard. Regardless of any other reasons, this alone disqualifies them. We likewise propose that there be a time of preparatio n – this month of December – so that everyone has the opportunity to read and study the various versions, and to discuss with and persuade others. All qualified documents will be posted with no names or dates, in order to reduce authorship bias. The vote will then be taken over 3 days. The manner of voting will be a ranking of the versions in order of preference, just like we did once before. The version that has the highest ranking will be the one that will be included as our *Guide and Standard* in the scriptures: "When you have an agreed statement of principles, I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow." There is no suggestion or requirement that the Lord approve the document.

The argument that mutual agreement requires unanimity is a flawed perspective. Because the Lord's explanation of mutual agreement points to dispute and not disagreement, it is clear that people who disagree can still be in mutual agreement. So any regular vote that we have experienced, even presidential elections, conform to this perspective. We vote, and if our choice isn't the winner, we acknowledge that and move on. Mutual agreement acknowledges the voice of the people and majority rule (see Helaman 1:1-2). Those who choose to dispute such a result, though they may be part of the community, choose to deny the choice each of the others has made. We have a responsibility to hear what they have to say and to endeavor to persuade them. We are to love them and treat them kindly, but they do not have a right to prevent the outcome of the vote to be adopted. In our case, if they refuse to accept the version of the G&S selected, they are free to go print their own version and to continue worshiping with the rest of us, but they do not control the choice. We must likewise remain open to respectful disagreement. Also, to claim that continued disputes means we do not have mutual agreement likewise shows a misunderstanding. Human nature is such that there will always be a few who choose to dispute. The choice to dispute self-selects a distancing away from the body of believers who choose to not dispute; it does not hold the main body hostage until the disputes are all resolved. The Lord requires mutual agreement, therefore He requires that we choose to not dispute. Disputes and efforts to control the decision-making process can't exist in Zion.
Just as important, we need to see the G&S for what it really is – a Quick Start guide to be found in the appendix. It isn't canonized scripture, it isn't a revelation, it is simply an effort to help investigators and newcomers get their feet under them. We need to complete this task so that we can move forward and hopefully receive further light and knowledge as promised.

The scripture committee

Comments

- Log December 03, 2017

Dear Scripture Committee, Guide and Standard Committee, et al:

The following statement was posted here: http://guideandstandard. blogspot.com/2017/11/ committee-g-update-answering- questions.html "Also, the criteria for an acceptable statement of principles changed when the Lord gave us the Answer: the statement of principles must be written by "you", meaning all of us. Any document not open to contribution by the entire body does not meet this requirement. The original version was written by Jeff Savage and edited by the committee, so it fails that requirement and cannot be considered as an acceptable version by the Lord."

It is the case that anyone may dissent from any proposal on the personal belief that this is the proper interpretation of the A&C, and we may then discuss whether this is the only, or even a reasonable, interpretation of the A&C, but nobody is authorized to set forth binding interpretations of the A&C. None of us is the boss of any of us. The Guide and Standard Committee lacks standing to issue any interpretation as binding upon the covenant participants. If someone wants to make a public argument along those lines as justification for dissenting from a proposal, let them do it in a forum where the proposition may be examined and addressed publicly. I think that such a person will find it hard to explain why their interpretation of the A&C, if applied consistently, wouldn't require each and every covenant participant excepting Denver Snuffer to actually contribute materially to any given proposal, such as everyone typing in a letter, a space, or a punctuation mark to fulfill the condition mentioned in this paragraph. After all, that's where this argument leads, and would, if consistently applied, lead to the rejection of any existing proposal, not merely Jeff Savage's original.

Unless the Guide and Standard Committee is dropping its policy of neutrality, I request you modify that post to render it value-neutral in these disputes by removing that paragraph, and the corresponding material from the present post.

Otherwise, we have a dispute about the Scripture Committee, and the Guide and Standard Committee, usurping authority.

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents December 03, 2017

Adolpho Guide and Standard? What are you talking about? Rob and I haven't written a document by ourselves. The first one we wrote was with our fellowship (this one we submitted June 9), then we wrote one with the help of others (Fargos, Hornings, O'Rullians) which was submitted along with 6 others to be voted upon, then we wrote another one with our fellowship again before the August 5 , then one with Adrian Larsen. So not sure which one you are referring to as the Adolpho Guide and Standard???? Q

- Log December 03, 2017

Remember: we don't have mutual agreement as long as we have dissent, and I dissent from every proposal save it be The Rock of Jesus Christ.

If therefore you usurp authority and place the most popular G&S which yet has dissent in the scriptures, you, the Scripture Committee and the Guide and Standard Committee, will have not fulfilled the requirement of the Lord, but will have done something else, and we as a people will be unable to accomplish tasks the Lord will lay upon us, as he said in the A&C.

Your choice, of course.

Remember, the thing which has always brought the cursing of the Lord upon his people: "they say, and do not."

Jared Livesey

- Log December 03, 2017

"The argument that mutual agreement requires unanimity is a flawed perspective."

It is not an argument: it is the meaning of the phrase "mutual agreement." The argument that mutual agreement does not mean mutual agreement, but something else, is therefore contrary to the A&C.

Thus we begin again to go aside from the clearly stated requests and requirements of the Lord, and into the time-worn Gentile paths of willful disobedience.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 03, 2017

"Also, to claim that continued disputes means we do not have mutual agreement likewise shows a misunderstanding."

The misunderstanding is not had by those making the claim: where there are disputes, there is not mutual agreement.

Disputing / dissenting / disagreeing is not mutual agreement.

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents December 03, 2017

Will you help me understand how Helaman 1:1-2 talks about majority rules? Will you also help me understand where in the BOM it talks about voting? I don't see that in there, where are you seeing that? I can only find it in the D&C and interestingly enough it appears for the first time in D & C 20. To me, the Voice of the People refers to mouth to ear communication, not a vote.
Thanks Q

- Log December 03, 2017

"Those who choose to dispute such a result, though they may be part of the community, choose to deny the choice each of the others has made."

Nobody is compelled by adhering to the Lord's requirement of mutual agreement, which is the point of mutual agreement - you don't get to make me accept what I do not accept.

But now, with majority rules being willfully substituted for the required mutual agreement, the minority is being compelled in accepting that which they do not agree to, and prevented forcibly from fulfilling the Lord's requirement.

This is not the way to Zion.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

Q, though I am not part of any committee, I'll take a gander, if you are okay with that?

They are equating majority rule with the voice of the people in verse 5, where after a contentious process, one of the late Pahoran's three sons was "elected" to the chief judgment seat. Three sons, three brothers had each wanted to be chosen. Pahoran "won." One of his brothers gave up his desire for the seat and united with the people (vs.

6). But the third brother never relented and was given a death sentence because he stirred up so much rebellion among the people; a rebellion which could have overthrown their whole government. Eventually it would, because this is also where the Gadianton Robbers have their beginning. It is a curious chapter to reference at this time during this process to find a G&S.

The term "voting" is not used in the Book of Mormon, that I am aware of, but instead we hear of the "voice of the people" or people gathering together in various groups to "cast in their voices." Mosiah 29:39

Perhaps our way of voting is akin? We are not given the specific details of how those during Book of Mormon times actually expressed their voices as a people. I don't believe they were without advanced means to vote in a dignified and orderly way. But maybe they gathered and raised hands with someone appointed to note it and report?

It is also worth noting how equality is depicted in that same chapter 29 of Mosiah. And too, how choosing judges was described in terms of reigns.

I don't know if I helped at all, but that is what I see and understand. I feel it would be helpful to agree that majority and voting is the way to decide the G&S as a group first. Baby steps in mutual agreement.

- Log December 03, 2017

"The choice to dispute self-selects a distancing away from the body of believers who choose to not dispute; it does not hold the main body hostage until the disputes are all resolved. The Lord requires mutual agreement, therefore He requires that we choose to not dispute."

The Lord requires that the majority not enslave the minority by imposing upon them that which they do not agree to, but that we all come together as equals and discuss with pure knowledge in meekness, patience, kindness, and long-suffering until we agree as one. For this purpose did he require of us mutual agreement, and to see if we were willing to do all things whatsoever he requires or commands of us.

We are declaring as a people right now that we are unwilling to abide his requirements and commands, even though we know and understand exactly what he asked for, for he gave it to us in our own language and to our understanding, and we are going contrary to that which he has plainly required of us.

This action by the Scripture Committee and the Guide and Standard Committee lays the foundation for our failure as a people to attain Zion.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor December 03, 2017

I am a bit taken by surprise with this development. My heart feels for those who accepted by vote the lots version. I imagine there is no small amount of hurt and anger. I'm sorry for that. Truly I am. There is too much hurt going around.

Thank you, mysterious scripture committee, for taking the time to speak these words. I especially was moved by your willingness and acknowledgement in point 5 that there has been "unkindness and foolishness." Surely there must be some way to decide matters, even small details, and to mutually agree on each or everything without

doing/saying things not in harmony with Holy Spirit.

But I also have questions. My experience thus far in asking questions has born little fruit, but I'll ask anyway. I do best when given understanding. I know that requires time and patience from others, but if you could understand what the view is like from the outside, perhaps then you would see my perspective. I really do feel out of all the loops.

"...we've come to realize that the task isn't finished yet." How did you come to this realization? Did something happen? What?

"Discussion within the committee and with others..." Who are the others?

"...we propose that it be a final vote..." Does use of the word "propose" mean you are asking for input *before* any actions are taken? Because that is how I interpret that word. It seems, however, that to say one proposes something really means "this is what we are going to do now." And the "we" are some unknown individuals akin to the Great and Powerful Oz.

A previous posting mentioned Denver being given the definition of mutual agreement from Christ. Did someone ask him to inquire? How did you all come to receive the definition from Him?

And Log asks a question I, too, would like to know how everyone answers it. Who decides what is meant by various statements in the A&C? Are we all in agreement that what is expressed here is sound and correct?

- DKay December 03, 2017

What about the statement of principles on ComeServe? That was written by all. Also, will these statements be posted? Thanks.

- Ash December 03, 2017

How can we be unified in something when unity has not been brought to the attention of the whole and come to some consensus of such?

What about Natural Law or God’s Law?

A group, of any sorts, to obtain unification: They have unity in acts, thoughts, and emotions. When all three aspects of consciousness are unified and not in opposition or contradiction to each other, the universe will respond in kind to that kind of unanimity or energy.

If and when those of Light, or those for the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, use the collection, focus, and directions of energies they will be able to accomplish great things –as a group. Our acts, thoughts, and emotions need to Become ONE. This is Zion.

I would love to see an open discussion about *these* things. For without one you cannot have the other, not in a group, that I can see anyways. Not for what has been asked of us.

Thoughts?...

- TysonHunt December 03, 2017

I could guess at a few answers but realize they may not be entirely factual. Having talked with different people.

""...we've come to realize that the task isn't finished yet." How did you come to this realization? Did something happen? What?
"
There have been multiple people who have asked them to allow a vote of the Aug 5 document to see if the approval would be equal to or greater than lots case at this time. There were 25 who voted no on the Lots case (at least 5 of those said even with their no they would not dispute moving forward with it). And even among the No, Yes, I know some were OK with it but preferred something else.

""Discussion within the committee and with others..." Who are the others?
"

From those who have emailed, talked over phone, and includes their respective fellowships they reside in which i know have talked some of their "ears" off with many different ideas.

"Who decides what is meant by various statements in the A&C?"

While they stated they are up for correction, they did make this statement in the post.

"we have a responsibility as the scripture committee to ensure that whatever is adopted into the scriptures meets the criteria established by the Lord, and then to actually publish them"

I'm sure they could clarify far better than I. This is just from what I have seen myself.

- Log December 03, 2017

Now is the time for any who wish to honor the Lord's requirement that the G&S must be adopted by mutual agreement to make your views known to the Scripture Committee and the Guide and Standard Committee.

If these committees accomplish their intentions as they have announced them, then the Lord will give us as a body assignments we will be unable to accomplish, as he has said in the A&C.

Remember, remember: the point isn't to meet a deadline. The point was to see if we would do exactly what the Lord said, no more, and no less.

Therefore if you intend to perform all that the Lord requires as he requires it, even if it means your personally preferred G&S does not get adopted, then make your voices known.

Otherwise, how can we ever come to Zion when instead of reasoning in plain humility publicly and openly as equals until we agree as one and move together freely, we instead unjustly impose the will of the majority upon the unwilling minority?

And if we don't care about doing all things whatsoever the Lord has commanded us, for what purpose did we enter into this covenant?

Are we willing to forgo Zion so we can get our scriptures completed a tiny bit sooner than we might have otherwise?

Jared Livesey

- TBM December 04, 2017

The Rock of Jesus Christ--the DoC and the Sermon--for some reason, has been omitted from the next round of voting. I think this is done in error.

Just because Log is a bit...intransigent about this doesn't mean that his proposal should be automatically disqualified.

It fits the criteria:

1. Log has repeatedly invited input on it at http://www.remnantofjacobforum.com/ . It isn't just Log's statement--my wife and I, and I imagine others, have given input.
2. It is a statement.
3. It has just as much mutual agreement as any other G&S, which is to say, it doesn't.
4. It is the most important stuff for a newcomer to know. Additionally, it is parsimonious--it says the most important stuff in the fewest words.
5. Except for two introductory sentences, it is entirely made of the words of Christ, and the most important ones at that. What could be wiser than the words of Christ?

I'm not saying that the DoC and Sermon absolutely has to be the only possible G&S, but it would be Bold AF to say in the fewest possible words that the DoC and Sermon is who we are striving to be.

I'm willing to bet a thousand dollars that *The Rock of Jesus Christ*--the DoC and the Sermon--would get at least 33% of the votes if it was put to a vote against the Aug 5 document, the 7 Lotsters' document, and the original Savage version). It should be included in the voting process.

If Keith Henderson is willing to act as Central Bookie, I offer this bet.

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/12/which-one-would-serve-stranger-best.html

- BrianZangTheZangFamily December 04, 2017

We forget that the scripture committee is offering a service with a project that nobody in the body of believers owns. They have read the A&C and have interpreted it their own way to apply it to their own efforts. They seek to persuade the body they are doing a good job interpreting the answer and opening up things for outside involvement. Nothing they do imposes on the body. The body is free to accept or reject their work product. To state otherwise sounds like unrighteous dominion from members of the body. This isn’t anybody else’s project but the scripture committee’s. Any group in the body can start a separate project afterwards and do as they please. It’s easy to lay down weapons of war and stop disputing when you realize this project only belongs to the rest of us as the scripture committee feels like including others. In other words, ultimately it doesn’t. When they offer a finished product, people in the body are free to accept it as theirs.

- TBM December 04, 2017

Aye. Props to the scripture committee. When Jeff Savage was asking "anyone wanna help revise the scriptures?" about a year or so ago, I was all "pfff good luck with that dudes." They've done a helluva work that I was too lazy to do.

December 04, 2017

- LoriTaylor

True, but hopefully our goal is not to passively let that happen? We want all in, no? (Yes, I am an idealist. Somebody has got to be the crazy one here.)

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Thanks, TysonHunt. Your response has been helpful. There really are a lot of folks talking to one another elsewhere. Hopefully some few will be okay with sharing here so peoples like me are informed and included.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

I agree Natural Law would be an important subject to learn together. That is where true power is created.

What are your thoughts about whether oneness within each individual is required before oneness of a group can be achieved? I know it is important for me to learn how to achieve singleness between my thoughts, emotions, and behaviours. I lack much concentrated power until I do. And what is the object of my thoughts, emotions, and behaviours? Would it need to be the same as part of a group? Is that where mutual agreement comes in? We all agree together on a goal/goals to focus our collective thoughts, emotions, and behaviours upon? And are then enabled to formulate a plan mutually agreeable? Good, important stuff.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

I'm cool with all you've shared except the Central Bookie thing, if it involves using the book where names of those who have been baptized is scandalously used to background check people. No bueno, in my little opinion. I would prefer not to see such a thing ever again, or will have to echo Log's words of requiring a direct revelation from God to agree so.

But yeah, the Sermon on the Mount--what a great foundation to build a life upon. Sadly, it was only given a little blip in the lots' version. I will have to review the other versions again to remember them. There have been too many documents for me at this point.

I would definitely love to see it given greater emphasis, especially as it is His Law and the principles flow out from it.

- LynneMcKinley December 04, 2017

(Lori, a "bookie" is someone in the gambling business who keeps track of wagers and pays out on bets, not someone who keeps sacred records.)

- LynneMcKinley December 04, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

So, is anyone...ANYONE...willing to discuss Log's proposal with him? Or any version in comparison? He has been asking over and over again. Is anyone willing to discuss his thinking and interpretation of scriptures with him sans a desire to convert him? And also willing to ignore the more incendiary things he has said that upset you? Does anyone

have faith in this process and one another still yet? This pause or whatever it is would be an ideal time...

- TBM December 04, 2017

Thanks Lynne.

- Blair December 04, 2017

Lori, I have seen several people on this blog discuss Log's proposal. I have done so myself. Log remains convinced of his position, and, as for myself, I remain unpersuaded that his proposal is the right one. I presume that others are also unconvinced. I'm also unconvinced that his proposed forum is the right place to discuss it. If we can't reason together in these comments on this blog, I fail to see how we can in a different forum.

I also think it is important to be careful interpreting comments here or anywhere else on the internet. I have not read anything here that I deem to be offensive, and I assume that all are commenting in sincerity and a desire to gently persuade others. Of course, people often misunderstand and prefer to impose ill intent on others words, but we need to guard against that.

I have no problem with the discussing this elsewhere, I just don't think that the remnantofjacob is the right place to do it.

- Log December 04, 2017

For those who are interested, here is a good selection of writings which ought to fully inform about my position.

They should probably be read in this order:

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/where-it-all-went-wrong.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/but-if-it-be-not-built-upon-my-gospel.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/founded-upon-rock-of-jesus-christ.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/11/answers-to-questions-about-founded-upon.html
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/12/many-are-called-but-few-are-chosen.html

Let me know what you would like clarified.

Jared Livesey

- TruthSeeker December 04, 2017

If it's not simple...it's not God.

https://awakeandariseandgoforth.blogspot.com

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Blair, I understand if you do not feel discussing elsewhere will work for you. I am not attempting to throw shade on others, but I have witnessed accusations and outright invitations for him to just leave. And not just him--a small group (minority) have been labeled opposition and said to be rejecting Christ's words. Log has not been affected by that as I have. I have felt ready to say, "Buh-bye, y'all."

I do not believe anyone has an evil heart here, but there lacks simple caring at times, which is not impossible to convey in written word. I have needed to recognize that as much as anyone. Maybe learn how to handle frustrations when we disagree? Are we used to doing that? Or are you used to surrounding ourselves with those who are "like-minded?"

I realize during discussions things can become strained, even heated. Maybe that is part of the natural process for now. We hardly know what to do with the freedom to express ourselves, given the traditions we are coming from. I don't believe it needs to be or will always be so.

I am simply suggesting we learn to communicate without an agenda to change anyone else. I would also like to hear what folks are thinking can be done at this point? Is it felt Log is challenging people? I don't feel that, but I could see why others would think so. I choose to give him the benefit of doubt, like others want me to do for them.

To me, a person still willing to talk has an open heart and mind. His saying he will only accept his own proposal is what I mean about ignoring something in order to maintain open, frank discussion. Maybe it comes from the fact that most proposals have been ignored while one somehow got pushed ahead for voting? It does seem odd to me that only now some/one is saying, "Hey, let's have a real choice with options." Because only one proposal is not really a choice.

Jared is still here. He is still inviting people to talk to him. How shall the majority choose to respond? What is Christ saying to you in your heart? If I am able to learn to forgive and let go of perceived hurts and slights and frustrations from this process, may I ask others to do the same for Log's sake?

This task was never meant to be easy, but it is doable. I don't believe Christ intended for someone to stand in September and then leave three months on. Perhaps that is why He wisely did not give us a deadline. Learning to respect agency, for a group and for each individual, is a challenging work given our whole way of life revolves around compulsion and force via rewards/punishments.

- Blair December 04, 2017

Lori,
I completely agree with your sentiment. We should all learn to communicate without an agenda to change anyone else, and I believe that all posting here are striving to do that. I have given Jared the benefit of the doubt as well, which is why I have asked questions and attempted to discuss the matter.

I am frustrated, however, that there are so many voices in opposition but very few proposals of how to move forward. Jared has offered his, but he is the only one. The scriptures committee is trying to do their best to move forward, but gets criticized for even trying.

I don't think that Log has hurt or offended anyone. I think they are simply frustrated by the whole situation, and by anyone who presents a rigid, non-negotiable demand. Right or wrong, such a demand rubs people the wrong way. As you said, only one proposal is not really a choice.

So, Lori, how would you like to proceed? Do we all get on some forum and hash this out? What can we do (besides praying and seeking understanding from the Lord, which I believe everyone has been attempting this whole time) to unite our hearts with each other (which seems to be the whole point of this exercise anyway)?

- Blair December 04, 2017

I should add that my views are based on my very faulty point of view, and I welcome any corrections to my statements.

- DanielRogers December 04, 2017

Can we get a link to the Aug 5th doc? I couldn't find it on this website. It might be nice to linkify the post above for the various proposals. Thanks.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Hey Blair. You're good. I would say there are not many voices in disagreement, only that we few tend to be noisy. That is probably not a compliment for us few.

I've never had an agenda per se for content of the G&S. I've never felt inspired to author or co-author one. I've gone along like a well-behaved gal for most of the process, even choosing to not make noise about how my family was never represented in previous efforts. (We just are not in the know or have connections.)

I chose to stand still at one point when I saw that some voices and ideas were not being acknowledged, heard, or responded to, and when I could see agency was not respected. Again, my perspective, which is not in the know all of the time. It may be that people were being included, but comments seem to say otherwise. And everything felt forced, without true choice. Then people, fellow covenanters, were given dehumanizing labels to make it easier to not care. Brene Brown talks about this in her latest book Braving the Wilderness. I'm not a sideliner, so cue my speaking out.

Ex. Who decided a vote was the best way to go? Who then decided majority would carry the decision? I never saw this discussed, though surely it must have been somewhere. But that makes me feel like there is a hidden committee. Is that true? There was only one outline for one proposal in the lots stuff. Was that really honouring agency for both individuals and the whole group? How can that be okay with God when His way involves a choice between two opposite choices, rather than one option and the minority suddenly get labeled opposition? I could have understood that process better if something like the original were put up with, say, Log's offering for a vote. Those two documents appear quite different to each other.

No one would say electing a president for the US is true choice if there were only one candidate. Isn't that what dictators do to brainwash the people into thinking they are free? We go through a process of steps as caucuses where one or more are weeded out, then have conventions to find the final two, or more. But there is always at least two to choose between. Perhaps that is why the "losing side" are able to accept it (generally) instead of moving to Canada and renouncing their citizenships. They understand everyone has freedom to choose and one or more supported candidates will not "win."

And that is why these last two votes felt neither fair nor right to do. I knew what I was feeling in my heart but really struggled to get it into words, especially since there were hurtful things being written in response. I felt like I never had time to figure out what the heck I was witnessing. I hope we can all learn from this experience.

cont'd

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

It helps me tremendously when I can express concerns or ask questions and get some resolutions to them. I may not agree with the answers but at least they are answers; I can then understand why things have been done, said, or decided upon. Hopefully I am not viewed as being contrariwise to everything. I really am not. I do feel like my concerns were never addressed and my questions have gone unanswered previous to the last vote. I feel in the dark in terms of who is deciding what and why. Nothing feels like a group effort by equals here except maybe doing a vote.

I am coming from the place of desiring unanimity because I believe it will give us the best foundation for the future. I still have a lot to learn though. Like the apparent contradiction between not disputing yet when I believe something is wrong/off, how do I address it or point it out? And what should I do if no one ever responds?

I would like to know what my part is. I would like for all to feel included and involved in whatever way they desire to be. I would like to see more time given to get more input instead of some few deciding what proposal(s) gets pushed ahead. I suppose that has already been happening. If some feel a need to hash things out, then I'm good with letting them do that. Some of us need time to learn how to communicate. Others here could help with that through teaching and example.

I like where the scripture committee is trying to go. Finally I experience peace and hope again. I would simply like to see more baby steps of mutual agreement before we take a step that is not true choice where people have to choose between one G&S or rejecting it. If we need to agree on a group of people to oversee something, then let's put our heads and hearts together to figure how to do that. If we need to just use what we already have, then let's decide together to do that. But choice must needs require more than one option, or it isn't choice at all.

Process is everything. This whole life we are each living is THE PROCESS for what we each have professed in our hearts we desire—to receive the Heavenly Gift and become Zion. We cannot take shortcuts or dodge important lessons, individually or as a group.

PS—I want to acknowledge that I have seen you try to converse with Log and understand his views and ways of thinking. I hope he will address your questions with equal openness as you have his. Sometimes responses get missed when one is commenting on several posts. I believe you both have good hearts, and desire to follow and serve Christ.

- Taylor December 04, 2017

Log,
Thanks for posting that series here. I'll check them out. Comments sections are tough to get a sense of someone's position, so I look forward to understanding you better after reading more.

Peace
Taylor

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

I hope this comment will find acceptance here. This is off-topic yet oh so applicable. I was listening to this podcast while preparing dinner for my family. So much goodness and light. It has given me much needed perspective on Christ's Heart and Work today, and so I felt to share it with you all. I was particularly struck by the statement that you can tell a lot about a community by how much love is there. The person being

interviewed is Greg Boyd, a Jesuit Priest known for his work with gangs in LA.

http://www.podbean.com/media/share/dir-djdh8-3290d50

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Guess we all know I know zip about gambling. At least I got that going for me???
Thanks, Lynne.

- LoriTaylor December 04, 2017

Edit: Greg Boyle.

- JackHinkle December 04, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 05, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 05, 2017

"And if thy brother offend many, he shall be chastened before many. And if anyone offend openly, he shall be rebuked openly that he may be ashamed." RE D&C 66:7

To fulfill both this and the law of witnesses, I post this here, and note that I have sent it via email to both the G&S and Scripture team, as well as others.

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/12/many-are-called-but-few-are-chosen.html

Your Servant,

Jared Livesey

- Sarah December 05, 2017

A proposal for your consideration:
I propose that the body be given the opportunity to vote on all documents, then the top 3 with most votes are added as our 3 part guide and standard. I want everyone to feel happy and represented in the end, and for there not to be division if someone's choice doesn't make the cut. I think allowing 3 documents could end up feeling all, or mostly all inclusive. I wonder, would Jared feel ok/satisfied if The Rock was chosen as one third of the final statement? I would be happy if it was, but especially happy if he was also.
Thanks for your consideration.
Sarah Hyde

A CHANGE OF PLANS

Tuesday, December 05, 2017

"In the work you have performed there are those who have been Satan, accusing one another, wounding hearts and causing jarring, contention, and strife by their accusations. Rather than loving one another, even among you who desire a good thing, some have dealt unkindly as if they were the opponents, accusers and adversaries. In this they were wrong." (*Answer to Prayer for Covenant)* It is apparent that we need to give the Lord some time to work on our hearts before we proceed. Until we produce a printed copy of the scriptures, this blog will remain silent concerning the *Guide and Standard.*

The scriptures committee has been asked to administer another vote to decide finally between qualified documents and announced yesterday that we would. However, it is apparent from the feedback on the blog, as well as from emails and phone calls, that there is still too much contention between advocates of the several documents, albeit a vocal minority. Until we have a body of believers who will be willing to accept a final *Guide and Standard* and agree to not dispute between one another, the scripture committee declines the request to administer another vote or participate in the *Guide and Standard* effort, believing that by doing so we may just add fuel to the fire.

When the assembly can persuade both the assembly itself and the scripture committee that a reasonable solution to the contentions and the *Guide and Standard* issues has been developed, we will be happy to discuss how to carry that forward.

You can comment again

Wednesday, December 06, 2017

Turning off commenting has created a big problem. Persuasion cannot continue in a venue many have been counting on. Commenting has been turned back on.

Comments

- Log — December 06, 2017

You are all also invited to come to a neutral forum established for this purpose, where we may converse in humility as equals openly without moderation:

http://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

- Donald — December 06, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LynneMcKinley — December 07, 2017

Flying independently, with agency, moving together as part of a unified whole - perhaps we can learn something from these little birds:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QOGCSBh3kmM

- Taylor December 07, 2017

Comments sections and forums to practice persuasion...
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Po4adxJxqZk

Pardon Our French

Thursday, December 07, 2017

We apologize for our poorly worded post. Our intent was to explain that this committee is not in charge of the G&S process and that we are going silent about it. Instead, it sounded to some that we were shutting down the G&S efforts. Not at all the case. Any legitimate posts that need to be made by those working to resolve the G&S issues and bring us to mutual agreement on a single document will be put up.

Comments

- LoriTaylor December 07, 2017

I appreciated the cyber-slap on the hands. It was needed, I think; a good splash of cold water in the face. Perhaps not the ideal way to grab attention, but maybe we needed a reminder of who and Whose we are? I actually felt it was good for all to take a breather. At least I found it a good thing for me. Other avenues for discussing might have been discovered or used.

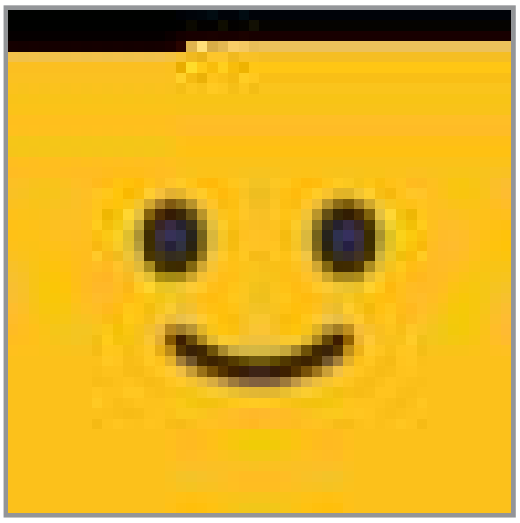
I'm still kind of feeling a desire to step away. It is Christmas time. It has felt hard to have any cheer, joy, and love with all that has gone on. I want to remember the gift that friends are on this journey, and become hopeful once more that all here actually want to be friends. As the world will grow ever darker, we will need to have safe havens among us. And if a few hundred souls who have been given so much light and truth are unable to find solidarity in their friendships and beliefs, then how can we expect to help show others scattered around the earth the Way?

Merry Christmas all. I pray you will have a blessed, beautiful Christ-mas.

Nonmancaaf Swhafugs - Guide and Standard (11-16-2017, updated 12-12...

Monday, December 18, 2017

As a reminder, we actually believe in the principles underlying this document’s title, which is the “Nonmancaaf Swhafugs” meaning “Non Opposing, No Marketing Added, Non Compulsory, All Are Free. Simply What He Asked From Us G&S.”



We restate this because we believe this to be true and want to be clear about our beliefs and intentions; we are not, and indeed cannot, impose anything on anyone else.
~~~~~~~~
It has come to our attention that the Lord had more to say regarding the Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs. Accordingly, we have made His requested corrections.
Additionally, for simplicity sake—and to remove any unnecessary attention directed at this particular labor (especially above any other)—we have compiled all of the related documents into one single PDF and asked to have the pages on the sidebar consolidated into one page.
The linked PDF on the bottom of this page is a compiled document that contains (in order):
1 The fully updated Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs 2 The introductory post submitted on the G&S Blogspot 3 The Summary History for Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs 4 The Lord's requested Prayer for Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs 5 The Lord's Answer for Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs (fully received in 2 parts dated 11-28-2017 and 12-3-2017)
We love you all and hope this information (in one file) is helpful as we work to finish doing as the Lord has directed. (Sometime in the next few weeks we will request/perform a general vote including every document offered to date EQUALLY and UNPREJUDICED as per the Lord's invitation to us)
(Link to the PDF document 'Nonmancaaf Swhafugs---G&S-Intro-History- Prayer-Answer')
Also available in booklet form on Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1981643656) for $5.38. (Turns out, it is cheaper to print a booklet than on paper at our local library!)
All 'Nonmancaaf Swhafugs' information will also continue to be housed independently on www.preservingtherestoration. com

Comments

- Log December 18, 2017

I dispute the adoption of this proposal for reasons which have been laid out fully elsewhere.
~~~~~~~~

Jared Livesey

- MaryCella December 18, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LoriTaylor December 18, 2017

I agree with the idea of a process whereby all proposals may be "voted" upon. Perhaps a listing of them all by preference? That has always felt like an excellent way to respect the work of others and protect agency.

- Anonymous December 18, 2017

Thank you for your work! I believe this covers the basics that have been given to us at this time and it would be a good guide for those who are just beginning. I wonder if this would get more support than that produced by the lots. I think there are many who would support and vote for several of the documents that have been produced.

- Anonymous December 18, 2017

I can see this method fracturing the group even further. This method seems to divide and NOT UNITED. Otherwise, if we have four G&S proposals and we vote on each of them, then there is a possibility that each G&S proposal receives 25% of the peoples vote. Also, the winning vote could be less than 50%. Again, this seems to divide rather than unite.

Anonymous II

- LoriTaylor December 18, 2017

I am choosing to respect what others are feeling led to do. I wonder if we as a group had taken time to discuss each proposal on its own merits for one to four weeks at a time, to allow those who put each one forward for consideration to share their inspirations, their visions, their hearts as the rest asked questions and discussed, then at the end allowed the body to show their overall preferences as a list from which to determine how best to proceed, perhaps the current struggles would have been avoided? As a whole we have not shown that kind of consideration and respect to one another. But I can understand your perspective. As long as some feel led to continue to work on a proposal, I will listen.

- Anonymous December 18, 2017

I find the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs document to be excellent. I am glad I took the time to read it. I wish for it to be adopted as our Guide and Standard.

I support the "Lots" document, also, but I find the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs document to be superior on almost every point.

Gary Gibson

- Anonymous December 18, 2017

When you look at one of the highest priority ingredients in a Zionistic community, is EQUALITY. In solving the G&S problem, EQUALITY must come first. If we are to become a group of EQUALS in Zion, we must learn the process of EQUALITY. The

ONLY document that qualifies using EQUALITY as its base is the Lots G&S document. It was open to ALL of those who wanted to participate into the process. People VOLUNTARILY agreed to the process. ALL of those who wanted to be on the Lots' committee submitted their names VOLUNTARILY. Those whose names were submitted by other people could choose to accept or decline. ALL were invited to submit their own version of the G&S, even if not selected. ALL of this was done VOLUNTARILY and EQUALLY. The Lord chose who He wanted to be on that committee, and honored the work and contributions of ALL others along the way. The body of equals then voted to accept the document; every person's vote carrying equal weight and respect. I am sure there are more steps to the process, but you get the picture.

ALL other documents were written by an individual, representatives of fellowships (which did not always represent the individual views found within the fellowship), or self-appointed small groups acting without the prior agreement of the body and were then presented to the entire body for a vote. These methods did NOT afford the same degree of EQUAL opportunity to EACH individual in the body. This is significant! This is NOT being EQUAL to the body at Large. This is the same pattern as most of us came from. We MUST be different.

ALL other ways were voluntary ONLY to a small group but NOT to the body at large. This is why, as a group of EQUALS, we failed. This is why we keep on failing with each document being presented because ALL other documents have NOT the common element of EQUALITY. Everyone wanted EQUALITY but could not figure it out until someone came up with the idea of a Lots system. The ONLY ONE that truly qualifies is the Lots G&S because it was VOLUNTARILY and EQUALLY accepted by the body. Because we have both wheat and tares in the group, there will always be problems. It is very difficult to be EQUAL but it is a learning process. In a Zionistic community, this Lots system may not matter but until then the lots system is, in my mind, the ONLY equality-based system we have.

Question: How can we have so many people or groups of people receiving REVELATION for THEIR particular G&S - claiming to be guided by the Lord or claiming theirs has been approved by the Lord? This is very problematic in my mind. Other than the answer Shalyce received from the Lord accepting the G&S on behalf of a body of EQUALS, ALL others have received something based on their OWN accord FOR the whole group. It seems very questionable and unconvincing that there could be some people saying that the Lord has given them authorization to write a G&S when the Lord has ALREADY APPROVED the Lots' G&S. This makes no sense to me and it makes the Lord sound like a confusing GOD, giving His stamp of approval on this G&S proposal. He seems to be contradicting Himself in His methods or is it people NOT having Authority speaking for Him? Jesus is NOT a God of confusion. I hesitate to think that the Lord is the author of all this confusion among His children that are seeking Him.

I ask that you seriously consider the foundation of EQUALITY that was used by the Lots proposal - that this EQUALITY-based process gave to justify the seven Lots members to approach God to get an answer in behalf of the entire body - still allowing for each individual to go to God for their own confirmation and express that through a common vote of EQUALS.

Again, in my opinion, the ONLY document that qualifies as REPRESENTING the WHOLE group as INDIVIDUALS EQUALLY and has been approved by the Lord is the Lots G&S.

Anonymous II

- TwoCents December 19, 2017

I believe, the voice of the people means letting your voice be heard among the people. To me, it's declaring what I believe. You can believe it means it is a vote/majority, that is up to you. I will do as I say, by letting my voice be known. You may say that I am disputing because of how you define disputing. I don't define "dispute" as you do.

It seems what I am being told is that I need to be quiet and just accept what you believe for the sake of not disputing-I don't see eye to eye on this with you. I am not voicing my beliefs to convince you to be on my side. I don't believe my side matters in this. To me, what matters is what the Lord needs to be done for His plan to work. I will act according to what I am commanded to do. I voice my beliefs to you, in hopes that you might get a glimpse into how others, not from your Nation, may see things. I realize I am only one piece of a million-piece puzzle.

I am a remnant of Lehi, I don't simply have the blood DNA of this line, but I have lived it. I am not saying this makes me better than you, I just know what it is like to be one who has experienced oppression because of iniquity. Iniquity to me means inequality. To me, equality means that everyone has the same opportunity to hear the voice of the Lord and come unto Him. Does this document portray that? Think of people who have been abused, oppressed and told they are dark. I'm not trying to pull a race card, like some have accused me of doing. All my intent has ever been, when I talk about these things, is to help, help you understand how you could approach the Native people of this land. You have, by way of your experience with the GS, have experienced what it is like to be a minority, to lose your freedom, to not have a voice, and to be abused by those who are in control. I am asking you, begging you, to think of that and ask yourself, "does this document bless, benefit and inform those who have lived in this state?"

If Denver approached you and said, "I am a covenant person and I have the truth that will save you," and then proceeded to tell you how to perform ordinances, would you have listened to him? Instead, Denver started off by informing us of our potential and opportunity. When I read the Second Comforter it felt like FREEDOM. Freedom to have an individual relationship with God. Freedom to receive revelation directly from Him. Freedom to come into His presence. It was freeing to know that I didn't have to wait till some white person told me that I was righteous enough to have a connection with the Lord. It is freeing to know that I have an equal opportunity to hear His voice.

I realized by way of the BOM, what the Lord is offering. It was definitely good news. It gave me hope. Since I was young, I have had a great love for my people and my culture. I have a great desire for my people to have the opportunity to hear about the fullness of the gospel, and to be once again free to have a connection with our Creator without some institution telling them how to worship. Remember what Isaiah prophesied of the Gentile Nation and their role (1 Nephi 21 and 22)

In particular:
1 Nephi 22:8
And after our seed is scattered the Lord God will proceed to do a marvelous work among the Gentiles, which shall be of great worth unto our seed; wherefore, it is likened unto their being nourished by the Gentiles and being carried in their arms and upon their shoulders.

What is this marvelous work? Are you saying you articulated that in your document?
Q Adolpho

- LoriTaylor December 19, 2017

Q, I know you are not addressing me specifically, but that verse from 1 Nephi 22 you have shared has deeply moved my heart. I began thinking of the tenderness and love that must be grown out of this...whatever this is, I don't have words for it all yet, in order to fulfill that prophecy.

I felt this potent nurturing as I read that scripture. I thought of myself as a mother and remembered what it was like to hold a little baby in my arms, to carry a child with me everywhere I went, and the joyfulness of seeing my husband put a kidlet on his shoulders as we walked together as a family. I was consumed with love for my littles. It was natural, and I desired to hold them and carry them at times.

That is what I feel is being spoken of in that verse--the kind of love and tenderness felt as a mother and father for their family. So I ask myself now what kind of document to be included in scripture would teach me and others to develop that level of nurturing and compassion and love and joy for your people and for all of God's children? Those are the words I want for a guide and a standard.

- Anonymous December 19, 2017

That is of great importance Q. Is that what the guide and standard is? I am confused now, because I thought it was more of a suggestion for gathering after people accept all that you accepted and have been baptized. I don't see this as a missionary tool. Of course, if something phenomenal or extraordinary were produced, it could be used as such. In my mind, the Doctrine of Christ supercedes everything. I see this document as a suggestion for a loose structure for fellowships, with some important revelation given to Denver for organizing that has been revealed previously. I don't think it is so important that it should be waved above everything else at all. I believe that our Savior in His Loving way wants us to work for this and agree, just to have some commonality between us and a guide so we don't completely derail over some trivial organizational matters that this may be helpful in solving.

I do not think you should sit down and just accept. We all should be engaged and work together. I do not believe that your voice nor anyone else's is insignificant. We all need to be patient with each other and be willing to hear from everyone. One may receive vital pieces of revelation, another may have different pieces, and yet another may have more pieces to contribute before the puzzle is completed. (I think someone already made this comparison. Sorry if I am copying it!)

I believe that if you feel you have knowledge that will help Native peoples, you should write it. You could publish it in booklet form like the above has been. There is no need for anyones permission in my mind, except the Lord's. If he gave you an assignment, I feel you should do it no matter what people write here. I would love to read it and learn. I think this governing principles/guide and standard has become way to overblown, almost as if some want to put it in out in front of the Book of Mormon and Jesus Christ in importance, and that is not a good path to embrace. This is also what may have led to a lot of strife.

- Anonymous December 19, 2017

Anonymous II,

I love the "Lots" process and supported it. I think it was indeed inspired. We used a similar process in choosing speakers for the Saturday session of conference on September 2nd. I voted in favor of the document and I still support it. However, I think only giving them a week was a disservice to them, but it is sufficient. Has anyone asked

the Lord if He has given a timeline/deadline? I have.

I just believe the result to be an inferior document in quality to the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs document. I have read both. I would just simply prefer to have a superior document. That's all, quality matters to me.

With that said, I support any document that meets a minimum standard.

However, I do reserve the right to judge and compare the quality of the documents themselves, regardless of the source and clearly state my preference. I expect no one to care about my preferences, but I do believe I should state it in this case.

I look forward to future candidates. I suspect there may be better ones presented.

Gary Gibson

- Anonymous December 21, 2017

I believe that this document is wise in word. Those who will have to be taught what is relevant to this dispensation are not just those who are descendants of Lehi - but ALL who have not had truth or lost truth.

I, too am a descendant of Lehi. I support this document. I support people's ability to choose. I oppose none, but feel that I alone must do according to the dictates of my conscience. This document is the one that is the MOST complete of ANY I have read. I see it's wisdom. I feel like I can teach others who know nothing of the requirements of this dispensation OR about fellowships using THIS document.

May the Lord help us all is my plea. We CAN disagree without harsh words. We CAN and MUST move forward trying to be obedient to the Lord's words as much as possible.

For those who question the equality of this document, I don't see that at all. The history of the document is extraordinary in my opinion.

Peace everyone!

SEEKING INFORMATION

Thursday, December 21, 2017

From a few laboring over a Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs:
To All Our Sisters and Brothers, (12-21-2017)

" *When a choice is offered, it must be freely offered with no compulsion used to coerce compliance… No document should be forced upon the people. It is pleasing to me that a choice is offered to the people by vote. They must be able to freely choose. Know this, that if a people choose righteously, it will be of great worth to go by the voice of the people. If they do not, those who recognize the dangers of the voice of the people who have chosen unwisely, must act according to the dictates of their own conscience and choose light over darkness. The Guide and Standard is given by wisdom, not by command. Do not use force, compulsion or coercion to seek compliance and feigned unity. I ask you to be one. Be one with me first. Seek not the council of men, but seek to know of my way and abide in that. Great care should be taken regarding which path is chosen. One leads to further light, the other leads to a darkening of the mind and a false*

sense of security...Present all of the documents to the people and let them choose for themselves. Let it be according to the voice of the people, while allowing people the freedom to choose for themselves... " (From the Answer received over Nonmancaaf Swhafugs pp. 15-16 & p. 19)

Believing these to be the words of the Lord, and in order to be faithful to the Him, we have opened a general vote equally over all the various Guide and Standard versions.

The vote will be open for 40 days; from Thursday, December 21, 2017 through Tuesday, January 30, 2018 .

Vote here: https:// freetochooseaguideandstandard. questionpro.com/

We freely invite all to labor over the matter and to vote their conscience without prejudice or fear of reprisal. The Lord alone is judge over this matter; therefore, we invite all to vote as though you were going to have to explain to Him how and why you voted the way you did.

The information gained from this vote will be shared publicly and may be used to assist us all in gaining a greater understanding of each other in order to move toward greater mutual agreement as defined by the Lord. All are free to accept, reject, or use this information as they see best. This includes the scriptures committee as they seek to fulfill their labor for the Lord. **The results of this vote should not be construed to mean any individual, document, group or the like are obligated in any way to accept or use these results. They are offered as pure knowledge concerning the desires of the individuals comprising the covenant body.**

In the vote, each G&S version will have five options:
- I ACCEPT this as my guide and standard before God.
- I would be WILLING TO ACCEPT this as my guide and standard for the sake of unity.
- I am OKAY WITH THE BODY/ANY OTHERS ACCEPTING this as their guide and standard.
- I RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE with and/or I DISSENT from this guide and standard.
- No opinion.

You are free to select any of these answers for any or all (or none!) of the G&S options.

In voting, we highly recommend keeping the Lord's original direction in mind:
" *...It is not enough to say you love God; you must also love your fellow man. Nor is it enough to say you love your fellow man while you, as Satan, divide, contend and dispute against any person who labors on an errand seeking to do my will. How you proceed must be as noble as the cause you seek...*

Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger. Take care how you invoke my name. Mankind has been controlled by the adversary through anger and jealously which has led to bloodshed and the misery of many souls. Even strong disagreements should not provoke anger nor to invoke my name in vain as if I had part in your every dispute. Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part.

You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require

a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.

Do not murmur saying, Too much has been required at our hands in too short a time. If your hearts were right it was a light thing I have asked. You hinder and delay and then you say I require too much of you and do not allow you time, when, if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves you could have finished this work long ago. Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required. " (Answer & Covenant p. 2 & p. 8)

We also recommend studying out with the Lord each of the Guide and Standard versions. These are made available in easy collections on the www.statementofprinciples.com website (http://statementofprinciples. com/proposals/).

Information is also available on www.guideandstandard.blogspot. com

All the various Guide and Standard versions (of which we are aware, including a 'write-in' option) are included in this survey, to be voted upon by name (using the same name and in the same order as listed on the Statement of Principles website to facilitate referencing the documents as they are displayed there; however, the order during the vote will be randomized by the survey tool to facilitate equality). This list can be found on the web page announcing this survey (at www.preservingtherestoration. com) and will also appear in question 2 of this survey.

Guide and Standard versions:

1. Jeff Savage Original
2. Jeff Savage Original w/ Edits
3. Alt Guiding Principles
4. DOC Fellowship GP
5. June 10th GP
6. July 2nd GP
7. Alternative GP 1
8. Alternative GP 2
9. Alternative GP 3
10. Alternative GP 4
11. August 5th Guide & Standard
12. Amalgamation of G&S Versions
13. LZ's Salty Fellowship Guide
14. Covenant Approach to GS
15. Taylor Child's Post It.
16. Anonymous GP 20171027
17. The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles
18. Simple Guide and Standard
19. Revised Statement of Principles
20. Eternal Progression
21. Eternal Progression (Modern English Version)
22. Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs
23. A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots
24. ComeServe Principles

25. Doctrine of Christ
26. Other (write in)

Link to the vote:
https:// freetochooseaguideandstandard. questionpro.com/

Comments

- Anonymous December 21, 2017

Why doesn’t the few laboring over a guide and standard identify themselves?

- notinopposition December 21, 2017

Striving to stand as equals in the covenant, we simply desire to get out of the way and feel that any truth would stand on its own and all are free to ask the Lord what is His. Though we personally expect to be held to account for our actions before the Lord, we don't feel that including our names here is necessary or even helpful.

(If any want to reach out directly, we can be reached via the 'contact us' page at www.preservingtherestoration.com)

- Log December 21, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log December 21, 2017

My position and the explanation thereof are known, therefore I decline to participate in this vote, which does not and cannot provide any usable information.

All are invited to come and discuss in humility as equals, publicly and openly, in a neutral forum provided for this purpose:
https://remnantofjacobforum.com/viewforum.php?f=37

Without humbling ourselves to discuss as equals one with another and coming out into the light and speaking publicly and openly, we will find it exceedingly difficult to agree one with another.

Fulfilling the requirements of the Lord in this is not a matter of going along to get along, nor is it a matter of popularity, nor is it a matter of rolling dice or casting lots, nor is it a result of campaigning, nor is it a matter of majority, nor is it a matter of foisting one's revelations upon others, nor is it a matter of making sure everyone gets a chance to participate.

Jared Livesey

- LynneMcKinley December 21, 2017

Dear God, I am just so tired of all this. Seriously, gentile-folk, all the time spend obsessing and arguing over this could be spent in direct service to our fellow beings.

- Anonymous December 21, 2017

I have to say that I agree with the lack of identifying yourselves publicly. When we work

in this covenant body, we should work in the light; not in secrecy, and not in the dark. It's fine to work in groups of those you know to begin an initiative, etc. But when your work is presented to the body, the time for anonymity is over. Names should be known...not just to those who request it in private, but to everyone, PUBLICLY. Requests have already been made privately to know who has written this and been ignored (by two different people I know of). People should stand behind their ideas and efforts that are being imposed upon the body. (And this is an imposition to ask us to vote on 26 documents). Unlike the last major proposal, who did everything with all names associated from beginning to end, this is being not being done in the light.

I am particularly concerned with the lack of openness, as this effort has a "revelation" (answer) associated with it that suggests that prior efforts could lead to great error. Quote:

"Great care should be taken regarding which path is chosen. One leads to further light, the other leads to a darkening of the mind and a false sense of security."

What are we supposed to understand from that? This revelation counters other revelations received by people who have attached their names to their revelation, and the answer the Lord gave them gave credit to all the work that had been done. Now we have a revelation saying that revelation was wrong, yet we have no person who is willing to take responsibility for this revelation.

When a person declares a revelation, then they need to stand behind it. This is how things were modeled by Denver in the messages he delivered. From day one, he identified himself and did not hide. He allowed false accusations, judgements and persecution to come as they may, but he did not hide. He took full responsibility for the message he claimed came from the Lord and then let people determine for themselves whether they thought the message authentic.

If a person is confident enough to impose their revelation upon the body, resulting in asking for a vote (yet again) and implying some path to darkness is being taken otherwise, then make yourself publicly known. That request is for both those who are behind this effort (writing the document and getting all of this stuff posted), and the person who received the 20 page revelation (answer) saying that we have to have another vote between every document ever written.

I ask all behind this effort to identify yourselves for the benefit of the entire body and to keep things in the light.

- Anonymous December 22, 2017

Did you know that there are "Post Mormon" groups (ones who have left the Church because they don't believe in the scriptures, or Joseph Smith, or even in Jesus Christ) who are coming together in their version of fellowships (also called support groups) helping each other out, and laughing (or crying) a lot along the way? Did you know that some of them are trying to reach out to "active" members to give a peace offering in love and hope for acceptance and community? All the while, here exists much arguing and dissension as we speak of Zion.

Would we rather have His "law" written on a document or on our hearts? I think those on the highways can teach us a thing or two, because while they might appear loathsome on the exterior, many of them are actually "blessing" their adversaries.

The wedding is being furnished with guests even now. If you (meaning anyone reading

this) want to be one of them, instead of waiting for some phantom "mutual agreement" to come together, simply go live His doctrine or be left behind.

- MaryCella December 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Donald December 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda December 22, 2017

Control and chaos are opposing philosophies, but both are used to forward the plan of the adversary to generate apostasy. Communism reflects control, while liberalism reflects chaos. Both are extremes and utilized by the adversary.

We bring to this movement false traditions of unbelief, all of us. At the peak of each apostasy both mindsets of control and chaos are not only present, they are dominant. And, just as in Joseph Smith's day, it spills over now. Control comes in different packages: coercion, unrighteous dominion, managing perceptions, etc. The chaos of liberalism also can be packaged in freedom to do whatever I think is right and screw everyone else. Parents live in both extremes: controlling and liberal. Controlling parents believe that truth is unchanging, and that it justifies governing truth with an iron hand (I was raised this way). Liberal parents believe that truth is ever changing and we must be free to explore all the possible falsehoods, to see if they are not truths. Both are founded upon "partial truths," ...truth doesn't change (exactness) and people must be free to choose (agency). In our darkness (ignorance) both are tainted with the philosophies of men requiring us to compensate for being darkened in our minds.

Consider how both truths can exist, while removing the philosophies of men from our apostate condition, and you will find something that the old LDS temple ordinances instructed. Agency and discipline are the marks of a true disciple. To the Knights Templar and the Free Masons, the compass and the square were marks of true disciples of Christ. Discipline required truth to be unchanging and exacting like a framers square. However, the square did not ascend higher than the mark of the compass. Agency requires freedom to follow your inner compass in an undeviating path leading to progression and eternal life. Both marks are required if we are a people who are able to wrestle from God a promise of Zion. And that is the work before us, to wrestle this out with God, not one another. Israel literally means to wrestle with God, meaning wrestle from God a promise that extends beyond this veil of sorrow, into the treasures of the heavens.

Zion is a restoration. It will require a hunt for the truths, peeling away the false traditions of control, unrighteous dominion, manipulation, justification and coercion of apostasy. It will require self-discipline to use your God given freedom to live the life within the bounds the Lord has set, rather than following any people wearing white outward ceremonial robes, into darkness (1 Nephi 8:5-7).

Joseph Smith struggled trying to separate people from their traditions. He constantly fought the traditions of people's past experiences. Each and every turn we have made with this G&S process has been tainted with the marks of the traditions of apostasy, in opposition to the marks of a disciple. Truth is unchanging and exacting, but agency must not be offended. Until the work is done for both agency and exactness to come together, we will not be mutually agreeable. When that work has been accomplished, mutual

agreement will be a natural byproduct. Going to a vote avoids the work of obtaining the marks of discipleship.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous December 22, 2017

This is the voice of God???

"Know this, that if a people choose righteously, it will be of great worth to go by the voice of the people. If they do not, those who recognize the dangers of the voice of the people who have chosen unwisely, must act according to the dictates of their own conscience and choose light over darkness."

Dangers of the voice of the people???? ALL THESE DOCUMENTS ARE BASICALLY SAYING THE SAME THINGS PEOPLE!!! WHAT DANGERS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT HERE??? THE DANGERS OF THE USE OF A PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE OVER A DANGLING PARTICIPLE?

This Sounds more like an out clause if the survey/vote doesn't turn out the way the sponsors or supports of the Norman Schwarzkopf document are hoping for so they can split off. Haven't all these documents already been considered and voted on? Is the G&S really the make or break issue for everyone? Can't we just let this one go already? In the grand scheme of things, I really don't think the Lord intends for this to be the time or place to be divide His people. Usually that happens after people are trying to abuse and kill one another.....and I don't think an Appendix qualifies....

- JuliusQVernon December 22, 2017

I have no idea who is behind this standard. Frankly, I don't care who is behind it, I care about the content.

I especially like this approach of not trying to use a hammer to finalize a version. Data gathered from a vote can't hurt. As the statement says it's not binding in any way.

Have people read the standard? It's pretty good. But this vote allows for people to determine what we could mutually agree on. I think it's worth a shot.

- Anonymous December 22, 2017

Never assume a person is motivated by a corrupt heart when their actions can just as easily be explained by stupidity.

http://denversnuffer.com/2017/12/motives/

- DanielRogers December 22, 2017

Thanks Mary. I was going to say that I helped with the statementofprinciples.com website, but that there were several other people who did a LOT of the work. I want to give them the freedom to bring up their involvement on their own.

We have all been pretty open and accepting of anyone that would like to help out. We kind of see it as a place to gather and document everything that has been going on. So please reach out if you find mistakes, additional info, or just want to contribute in any other way.

As far as the NONMANCAAF SWHFUS group. I don't know who they are. I think it is interesting though how people get different tones from the same words. I thought they came across as sincere.

- JuliusQVernon December 22, 2017

I agree Dan. I read this as very kind and heartfelt. It seemed like a breath of fresh air versus some of the stuff that has been said in this process. But then some people read it as compulsory. So I'm not sure what to conclude about that from this.

- TysonHunt December 22, 2017

I am not sure what you are getting at. That comment was a general principle being expounded upon which seems to be consistent with the BOM.

26 Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law—to do your business by the voice of the people.27 And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time he will visit you with great destruction even as he has hitherto visited this land. (Mosiah 29: 25-27)

- TysonHunt December 22, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TysonHunt December 22, 2017

(deleted previous as posted wrong link)

... wait a minute????

I'm confused.

https://imgur.com/Adsc1Il

- JuliusQVernon December 22, 2017

A friend sent this to me. I thought it worth sharing here:

http://denversnuffer.com/2015/06/disputations/

- AntauLJn December 22, 2017

I like this. It is presented without taking a side, and for informational purposes only (nothing binding; simply a fact-finding mission). There is also enough time to vote, enough time for the word to get out that there is a vote.

I also like the fact that these people are anonymous, considering the great amount of contention over who is who (and who isn't who). Not knowing who is behind this cuts out a huge chunk from the "I do/don't like this because I do/don't like/trust/etc. so and so."

And I did vote, though I don't know anything about many of these, so voted "no opinion"

on them.

Toni

- Anonymous December 22, 2017

Amen...

- AndEva December 22, 2017

Thank you to all those who truly labored over this document (Nonmancaaf Swhafugs) and who are now reaching out to all to have a voice. I believe many hearts have been humble and have true desires. I and gladdened to see so many who care so deeply about the same things I do. I am grateful to all who have expressed those things which mean so much to them and me, our common beliefs. I am grateful for those who care so deeply about ordinances and helping those who might like to have a guideline...know who to proceed. I am grateful for the beautiful simplicity of those quoting the sermons as a guide and standard...and I am grateful to those of other nations and peoples who will teach me of their ways according to the Lord and truths that I do not yet understand...but I desire oh so much...to accept truth where ever it comes from if it leads me to Christ and His Doctrine. Thank you all for laboring with me.

Eva Gore

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

I have already emailed this to those I think might be part of this (hard to know for sure since they remain anonymous). Nothing happened with my request, not even a response that they would consider it, so since I might have sent it to people who are not involved I feel I have to post it here for those over this project to see it and to consider it.

On July 2 a group of fellowship representatives gathered in the Salt Lake Area to further edit Jeff Savage's original document under Jeff's direction. At this meeting it was presented that we might begin anew. We broke off into smaller groups to work on the sections of this document that we felt inspired to work on. I went with a group of 8 other individuals to work on the section on fellowshipping. After many frustrating hours and much prayer and petition to the Lord for His help in overcoming our differences of opinion, etc, we received a group revelation. It was one of the most profound experiences of my life and I will be forever grateful for it. We titled that group revelation “A Standard for All Fellowships”.

Since that day I have come to believe, more and more strongly, that while it was indeed a group revelation it does not meet the Lord’s requirements for inclusion in scripture. Scripture is written by prophets and about prophets. I will publicly state that I do not fit the Lord’s requirements of a prophet/prophetess yet. I have not stood in the presence of Jesus and received the testimony of Jesus from Jesus. I have not been in His presence and sent with a message from Him.

For those interested in what the Lord’s requirements are for any document to be printed in scripture, read Preserving the Restoration chapter 1. Our dedicated Scripture Committee along with their dozens of volunteers have spent countless hours cleaning up the scriptures and getting back to the most extant revelations from Joseph Smith and Hyrum Smith. Interestingly enough, the SC does not consider the words of Hyrum for inclusion in scripture until AFTER Hyrum received words of eternal life from the Lord (until after Hyrum had risen up and come back in to the presence of the Lord). Why

would we today put anything INTO the scriptures that does not meet the Lord's same stringent standard?

Since I do not fit the Lord's requirements of who can be in scripture I cannot give my consent as one of the authors of the group revelation titled "A Standard for All Fellowships" for it to be included in the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs document and respectfully ask that it be removed.

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

I have been pondering on what I wrote above, and out of love and the deep respect I have for the other 8 individuals involved in the group revelation titled "A Standard for all Fellowships" if all 8 are in agreement that it should be published I will consent out of love for them. I still want it publicly stated and added to the history, in case this Guide and Standard is included in scripture, that I do not believe it fits the Lord's standard since we are not prophets.

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

In case it helps, it seems any guide and standard will be added as an appendix so that might resolve the concern about scripture. According to the scriptures committee in their post 11/30/17:

"...the Guide and Standard (whichever one is ultimately adopted) will be placed in an appendix at the end of the Teachings and Commandments. While in the scriptures, it need not be viewed as scripture and "binding" (whatever that means)."

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

I can actually see exactly what Anonymous at 9:24 a.m. is saying. The comment referenced by Anonymous 9:24 from the 20 page Nonmancaaf "answer," was not actually supporting the message of Mosiah 29 in the way it may appear at first glance, IMO.

Why would I think this? If their comment were actually supporting the principles conveyed in Mosiah 29, then this group of people would be willing to allow the Lots document to remain adopted without attempting to unravel and rehash that which has already been done. Remember, the Lord asked this work to be accomplished by "My People." The Lots GS only moved forward after finding a scriptural resolution, and then first asking permission of the people and receiving an 87% approval to proceed with a lot system choosing seven to represent the body through the will of God being manifest by choosing the lots. Then their final GS received 95% agreement for adoption (plus even more support since the vote occurred). The concept taught in Mosiah 29 is that if the people determining a matter are striving to be righteous, then we can have confidence that the people WILL choose that which is right (all involved in every aspect of the Lots were covenant holders, so this BofM principle should generally apply for their situation). Thus, the principles connected to Mosiah 29 have already played out among the covenant body on this matter. Thus, any who really believe that what Mosiah taught is applicable to determining our GS situation; would be willing to accept the voice of the people already manifest in this matter, as something clearly acceptable to God.

Yet, we see that the supporters of Nonmancaaf clearly do not accept what happened with the majority as being a manifestation of them "choosing that which is right." The reason is that they personally feel God really wanted their document. Bottom line; they believe the majority has chosen wrong, contrary to what Moisah taught would be the

case.

Some will say they are wanting this re-vote on everything because the covenant body didn't get a chance to vote on every single document and that's all they are wanting. It's true that Nonmancaaf was not up for a vote simultaneously with the Lots GS, but that was for two reasons. First, the 87% vote was to get permission to use the scriptural lot system; therefore, the resulting GS was the focus of the final vote for adoption because that had already been laid out in the process upon which people initially voted and agreed to. Second, Nonmancaaf was not a document that resulted from a process that included an equal invitation to everyone, as required by the Answer, in fact, we don't even know who wrote it, or who prayed about it. Nonmancaaf was, however, invited to be one of the documents from which the seven drew information and inspiration, as were ALL the other documents available that are currently up for the proposed survey/vote. Interestingly, these other documents do not fit all the parameters we have been given since the Answer either. Not even the August GS, which I supported, fits the degree of inclusion and equality represented by the Lots method, nor was it written by a people under covenant ("My People"). This very explanation was a key reason the Scripture Committee didn't hold to the 91% vote it got in August.

continued below...

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

part 2....

In the end, their 20 page "answer" justifies Nonmancaaf supporters potentially needing to ”leave” the body if a document such as the Lots document ends up making its way into scripture (because it uses quotes of prophets, rather than claiming to come from one of us rising up to claim revelation)...Getting a document like the Lots Gs, would then be perceived by those who believe this 20 page "answer," as a test to see if they could discern the darkened path the majority were then taking if they continue to stick with the Lots document.

I do NOT believe that any ill intent is meant by what they are doing.(Though I do believe division is going to result and it will not heal the divide they are saying they care about) I believe them to be sincere and devoted to their perspective. I think they honestly believe their document is coming from the Lord and is the ONE that should be used, and are trying to figure out a way to (as kindly as they know how), get an opportunity for their document to receive a majority approval, and simultaneously allow all of us to be judged by God as to whether we can see what they can see or not. I think that they feel that if they do all they can do, and still end up in the "minority," they will use their "answer" to justify separating, (however that may look), feeling it is the higher road to light expected by them from the Lord. I make these observations after having discussions with some involved in supporting and originating this, and reading the 20 page answer several times.

I'm not finding fault with their intent; but I do not want to skirt around the realities that this effort is NOT about a group that is just trying to allow for the will of the people to be exercised as in Mosiah 29 (where there is trust that the majority will usually choose that which is right), because they are ALREADY rejecting that notion by rejecting the voice of the people that has already been manifest by a 95% Lots vote, with God’s had being clearly manifest for all the body of believers to witness unitedly, and nothing being done in the dark.

- AdrianLarsen December 23, 2017

A Remarkable Opportunity: Part 1

I think in many ways, we're missing the most important point of the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs effort. It's not the document. It's the other stuff.

The Anonymous Nonmancaaf Swhafugs couple make the following significant representations to the covenant body:

1. They have published a prayer at the Lord's invitation, consisting of some 2501 words. For the sake of comparison, Joseph Smith's longest published prayer—the dedicatory prayer for the Kirtland temple—was 2585 words. Denver's Prayer for Covenant was 2758 words. Both Denver and Joseph stated their prayers were given by revelation. I don't know whether the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs couple stated their prayer was given by revelation; they state it was given at the Lord's invitation, and invited all to pray the prayer in hopes someone would receive an answer.

2. Someone else has anonymously published an answer to that prayer in two parts, consisting of 11,761 words she claims are the direct words of Jesus Christ. Again for reference, Joseph Smith's longest published revelation (Section 124 LE/49 RE) is 5,478 words. Denver's Answer and Covenant is 6,296 words. All three of these documents claim to be the direct, first-person words of Jesus Christ.

Here are the most important implications of the above facts:

The two-part answer to the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs prayer is presented as the direct, first-person words of Jesus Christ. It either is from Christ or it is not.

If it is, then we ought to be dancing with Joy at the Lord's counsel, directions, edits and acceptance. We ought to immediately do as He directs.

If it is not, it is a work deception unequaled thus far in the restoration. Putting Christ's name on words He did not speak is a significant act, amplified by the sheer volume of the work.

Note that I have not taken a position either way. I'm only pointing out the situation in plainness. What is before us is unique.

If it is genuine, the two-part answer to the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs prayer is a revelatory achievement unequaled in this dispensation. It has more direct, first-person words of Jesus Christ than any other single document in existence. Neither Joseph nor Denver ever published such a lengthy and detailed direct quote from Jesus Christ. To the best of my knowledge and available records, this achievement is unparalleled in history.

If it is not genuine, the answer is a lengthy and detailed attempt at deception. Unfortunately, such an attempt would not be unprecedented, and is actually rather common in restoration. More fake scripture has been published than true scripture since the restoration began with Joseph Smith.

- AdrianLarsen December 23, 2017

A Remarkable Opportunity: Part 2

This answer calls for a vote among all documents by the covenant body, and suggests that various groups can accept various documents. This vote is either the direct will of Jesus Christ to unite us, or a deception designed to divide us.

In the end, it is one or the other. As Denver put it in Lecture 2:

“You should have to choose. And your eternal peril should hang in the balance as you make that choice. That is a perfect conundrum, in my view. Grow up. Accept the burden. Find out. Learn about God. Or be damned by your carelessness, by your indifference, by your refusal to go forward. It ought to be so. And it ought to be put to you plainly. And you ought to have to choose. And you ought to have to choose every time you hear someone get up and offer something to you and conclude in the name of Jesus Christ. Because they are either offering you something from Him that will save you, or they are offering something that they hope will damn you, because they're signing you up on the wrong team. It ought to be so. Everlastingly, it ought to be so.”

This is one of those times, and the choice couldn’t be more stark. Is Christ the author of this answer or is He not?

Likewise, the Lots group published the Lord’s answer to their inquiry. Again, it is represented as the direct words of Jesus Christ, consisting of 216 words. And again, it is either genuine or it is not.

The two answers appear to contradict each other. And so, we face a choice. What started as an exercise in producing a statement has now become an referendum on hearing and recognizing the Lord’s voice. This is vital. This is crucial. I can’t overstate the importance of what is before us.

Have you read both answers? Where do you hear His voice? How much do you trust your ability to discern? I ask because I’ve seen many in this movement deceived by false scripture and false revelation before. Fool’s gold looks genuine to anyone not familiar enough with real gold.

In closing, I want to again note I have not taken a position in this comment for or against either answer. I’ve only pointed out the uniqueness and importance of this situation. I do not doubt or call into question anyone’s motives. I believe all involved in both efforts have the best of intentions and truly desire to serve the Lord and serve the covenant body. This is an interesting choice the Lord has placed before us.

By their fruits ye shall know them. Indeed a perfect conundrum.

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

I agree with Adrian totally. I want to add a comment about the second paragraph of the above "SEEKING INFORMATION" post which says "Believing these to be the words of the Lord." There is a BIG difference between BELIEVING they are words from the Lord and KNOWING they are WORDS from the Lord. Additionally, in a few paragraphs below that it says "The Lord alone is judge over this matter; therefore, we invite all to vote as though you were going to have to EXPLAIN to Him how and why you voted the way you did." (emphasis added) I do not know what the intent of this phrase is supposed to mean or do but I feel like I am being threatened, controlled or coerced into voting. Something feels very wrong...

- HuhWhatda December 23, 2017

We must all judge. If they contradict, they can't both be right, but they can both be wrong. I say this not to put any of these efforts down, but to continue working toward

something that no one need tell the next person it is right, they will be able to recognize truth, just as they have recognized the efforts of Denver as truth.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous December 23, 2017

In the Answer and Covenant the Lord states, "When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow." Whether or not the Guide and Standard is in the body of the scriptures or in an appendix, the Lord still requires His people to follow it.

- Karen December 24, 2017

Wow, Adrian. This was compelling. More than compelling even, it's imperative to understand the significance of what is at stake in how we discern this matter. I realize the answers to the questions you posed should affect my present course of action.

I was probably going to participate in the survey/vote, out of fear of not having my voice be heard if I did not, and because of a feeling of being obligated as a covenant holder to keep working with people and their requests in this matter. But your comment made me realize something I hadn't yet considered in determining IF I would/should participate any further in voting and polling over this GS matter. There's a much bigger responsibility I have, and that is to focus on obeying what the Lord has ALREADY given to me as His will in this matter, and not continuing to respond to every voice calling endlessly "lo here and lo there," unless the request is truly coming from the Lord.

Your comment made me realize that IF the Seven Lotster's answer IS from the Lord, then He has already accepted their work and the subsequent vote of the body to adopt it that occurred. If their answer was authentically the voice of the Lord speaking to them, then their work is done except for the "one last assignment to reach out" for a time to those few who did not vote, or who were in opposition to the Lots document. If their answer is authentic, then we already have a document that serves the Lord's intended purposes and meets the standard for mutual agreement that He mercifully defined during the very vote for its adoption.

So I had to ask myself after reading your (Adrian's) comment: If the Seven Lotster's answer is truly from the Lord and I have received that confirmation and already voted to adopt it because I knew it met the Lord's approval, then why would I participate in a course of action (continued surveying) that advances undermining or casting doubt in the matter? Or an effort that is rooted in and promoted by those with an uncertainty that the Lord had been involved and participated in the seven's work and desire to see it rejected; Or participate in an effort that denies the reality of the hand of the Lord that I have personally witnessed in the creation of the United and Lots proposals, as well as the manifestations of God's hand upon the seven in carrying out of the assignment? Why would I participate in a survey/vote that serves to set us back in the work, creates confusion and frustration among the body, seeks to undo what the Lord just miraculously brought to pass in dozens of ways, and encourages separation and division that was almost completely resolved by the work I witnessed the Lord had already inspired?

These are questions I will now ponder. It isn't the sincerity of the people behind this 25 document survey that I question, but it is the source of the inspiration and motivating spirit behind this course of action. If the voice calling for this vote/survey is purported to be the Lord through a revelation, but it is NOT actually the Lord's voice, and I participate in giving credence to that voice...where does that put me? Imperative things to ponder!

Thank you for making me think deeper.

- Log December 24, 2017

When Laman and Lemuel were disputing over the meaning of Lehi's vision, Nephi gave them the key to inquiring of God and receiving an answer.

Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

As the Lord has said, "I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise."

Without believing Jesus Christ's words as a little child would understand them and therefore without keeping his commandments as delivered in the Sermon, all is unsure and unstable. The majority may seem to provide a safe and supportive haven, but they are unable to save you.

There is safety upon The Rock of Jesus Christ. Begin to do what you agreed to do in the covenant by doing the works you have been commanded to do in the Sermon, and call upon the Lord in mighty prayer to receive the Holy Ghost. Learn why the answer is what it is.

Jared Livesey

- Cherryann December 24, 2017

Adrian, Karen, and at least one Anonymous,

Thank you for giving voice to what is also in my heart. Thank you for pointing out the conundrum that many of us silent covenant holders recognize is before us. This test has eternal consequences, indeed! Can we hear the Lord’s voice or not? For me, the litany of voices crying “Lo here and Lo there” could not be more stark. I have heard the Lord‘s voice and seen His miraculous hand in the Lots document. If I reject what He has already given me by continuing to search beyond His mark, I risk offending Him and the Holy Ghost and therefore risk becoming darkened in my mind and confused. It is the Lord who I care about offending. Therefore, I believe that my participation in further voting, surveys, or promotion of other GS ideas is detrimental. How we individually choose to proceed absolutely matters. What an incredible test, indeed!

- notinopposition December 24, 2017

Dear family member (Anonymous 4:24 AM),

Part 1:

We feel to reply to your particular request and are grateful for your thoughts and perspectives. You are dear to us. We know you and you know us too. As we had indicated in our posted Summary history over the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs, we too were present when the ‘Standard for All Fellowships’ was received. We echo your sentiments about the profound experience had there. You see the veil of anonymity is not so very

thick as some have imagined. We only hope it is thick enough to liberate others to scrutinize the content on its own merit but not so thick as to avoid accountability. We know that are accountable for what we do.

We appreciate your concern over what is being put in scripture and since this is only an Appendix (as reiterated by another anonymous poster above), the concern may be moot. However we do want to share some thoughts on the point of our own. After rereading chapter one of PtR we did not come to the same conclusion as you did—what that boiled down to for us was that it affirms how great things the Lord has and will do... "Joseph's credential was that he possessed Christ's words...Joseph had the only required credential...Everything that happened or will happen in the restoration comes back to James 1: 5. Ask God who giveth to all men liberally."

We certainly cannot supplant Words established through Joseph Smith, but also according to scripture, "...I speak forth my words according to mine own pleasure and because that I have spoken one word ye need not suppose that I cannot speak another for my work is not yet finished neither shall it be until the end of man neither from that time henceforth and forever wherefore because that ye have a [scripture] ye need not suppose that it contains all my words neither need ye suppose that I have not caused more to be written for I command all men both in the east and in the west and in the north and in the south and in the islands of the sea that they shall write the words which I speak unto them for out of the books which shall be written I will judge the world."

And again, "all scripture given by inspiration of God is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

And best of all, "this is the ensample unto them: that they shall speak as they are moved upon by the Holy Ghost, and whatsoever they shall speak when moved upon by the Holy Ghost shall be scripture, shall be the will of the Lord, shall be the mind of the Lord, shall be the voice of the Lord, and shall be the power of God unto salvation." 73:1 and this spoken to men who had not stood in the presence of God.

- notinopposition December 24, 2017

Part 2:

As it pertains to the 'Standard for All Fellowships,' we—as a group—asked and we received and we—personally—would offer that it (if it is indeed the very words of Christ) is scripture.

So either way the addition of the Standard is viewed we choose to honor what was asked of us, personally, to offer what was given of Him as a gift to all (the title 'A Standard to All Fellowships' was [as you may remember] also given as it is as part of the revelation—indicating to us some of the Lord's intent for it being given to us as a group).

One last thought, in the scriptures committee post called "explanations" they clearly delineate that the original, penned by Jeff Savage, had met the Lord's requirements and that the scriptures committee, including Denver, had unanimously agreed upon it and that is why it was then placed into scripture. Jeff also has publicly declared he does not meet your definition of a prophet.

We love you. You truly are dear to us and we hope we can continue this conversation together but felt to respond at least this much here. Please know that we do not post this to dispute or debate in any way. We hope that what we have shared illuminates our understanding of the Lord's work that has resulted in this Guide and Standard (or, as

some are annoyed that it has been dubbed, the ‘Nonmancaaf Swhafugs’—which is not the ‘name’ but a ‘description’ of how we choose to proceed with this Guide and Standard when a reference-title was needed).

- Mark December 24, 2017

There seems to be an insinuation in this particular effort that appears to relate that if you now accept any other G&S than what was originally given - regardless of whether you originally supported it or not - then you are now decieved and rejecting what God already gave (even though the assignment changed when the Lord gave the Answer). They seem be saying accepting the original or Aug. 5th version is the only path forward and everyone else is being deceived who believes God gave somethine new. It's a good thing this group included the following statement in their G&S to help us understand. Do they still accept this idea???

"To avoid deception, study the thoughts and impressions you receive: if they fill with pride, vainglory, laziness, an ambition to control and lead, or suggest that you alone are faithful while all around you are in error, they are not of me, but are of the devil, saith the Lord. Yea, I say unto you, the humility and meekness required for those who would be my servants is hardly found on the earth. Repent, therefore, and adopt the ways of your Lord."

- Anonymous December 24, 2017

I feel the comment about the voice of the people not being heeded if it goes against light and truth (or God's words) to be wise. I don't think it is a cop out or out clause. I will give you an example why I think this. Personally, I am a minority in the voice of the people when it comes to the issue of homosexuality. Though it is a law in this land (and therefore legal) and more and more people support it, I can not. Therefore, I have to teach my children and conduct myself according to the dictates of my own conscience. We all have to. This would be no different, though admittedly these are not the same thing but hopefully it helps illustrate the point.

If I feel like a document is devoid of revelation or is not inspired, is not what I want to guide my life by, or use in my fellowship, why should I be compelled to? Why should you be compelled to? If I am okay to allow others agency, I can only hope that in time we will become one when we all know God.I think many of the documents are good. I like this one the best.

I personally think we should be seeking unity with God, not with each other. When we are one with God, we will naturally be one with each other.

I do NOT believe ANY involved with any of the g&s documents desire to purposefully deceive. I reject that comment or insinuation. I think they are all good in some ways.

I do not believe the lots group is the only document that meets the requirements though many do. I personally feel there has been a redefining of terms and conditions and people have already thrown out the other documents that likewise had mutual agreement and a voice of the people. I am only stating what I have seen.

I believe them (the author and the groups whoever they may be) when they say they are not trying to compel or coerce. It is true that we have to decide. Why not just identify what you think about the different documents? I felt in the past and still feel a responsibility to read all of the documents. I feel a sense of accountability to choose. I approve of this non binding vote even though I am tired of all of this.

I don't expect to be of the same mind with all of you because we are all not one with God, but I hope many of us will soon be of like mind. Until then, may we be gentle with each other? I like this approach. It is refreshing.

I have to ask a question. If we are all supposed to be equal, hear the voice of the Lord and KNOW the Lord, how does producing a document that is cut and pasted from Joseph, Denver or the scriptures, help us be equal? Doesnt it make us rely on Denver or Joseph or...? I am NOT saying we shouldn't give heed to his words or the words in the scriptures. They should be our litmus test. I do think we may be darkened in the mind for relying on him. I personally rejoice at the many who are seeking the Lord.

I understand the frustration at all the voices crying lo here and lo there (as someone already stated). I have felt that myself. It is hard. I see some things that covenant people say and it gives me cause to think. I don't agree with some of the things being taught and shared. I feel frustration at times with how hard it is to stay the course or even discern sometimes. I ask so often if I am wrong. I have to think about it frequently.

A friend and I were talking about the anonymity of this and the answer. We were grateful. We could read the words devoid of prejudice.

- linniemaloo December 25, 2017

The reason many of us have received different answers on the proposals is because the Lord often gives us just what we are asking for. If we want less, He gives us less. If we want more He gives us more. I suspect that the more we strive to rise up to Him and less we expect Him to lower the standard for us, the answers we recieve will change.

I also want to add that I believe that the Lord is pleased with us. He is pleased with our willingness to learn and grow and our attempts to align ourselves more with Him. I know He is a patient God. He will continue to work with us as long as we are willing.

- TaylorChild December 26, 2017

Adrian: The way you put the question is brilliant.

- KenJensen December 28, 2017

How important is it that we CHOOSE ONE version to the exclusion of the rest? All I can say is that if I were forced to make a singular "exclusive" voice to one particular G&S version, that I would be willing to whole-heartedly endorse, it would be the Lots Version. (For many of the reasons Adrian outlined above and elsewhere, including the fact that I have my own concerns and doubts with the several of the other versions including the NONMANCAAF SWHFUGS)

BUT,

Can we string all the dozens of versions together sequentially.. and then introduce them with something like:

"Here are the various G&S versions produced by the believers in 2017... you will need to choose what best fits your according to the portion of the Holy Ghost that you have been able to acquire."

... then sequentially list all the versions including the version that can fit on one single post-it note (thanks Taylor).

This is only going to go into the appendix of the Commandments and Revelations (or Pearls of Great Price or whatever). After all, people will apparently do whatever it is they want to do, regardless; but this way some of the key ordinance preservation factors will be preserved, and all will be built upon the Rock of Jesus Christ.

What do you say? slaughter me, if you will--just don't simply dissent or dispute (for reasons that have been laid out plainly elsewhere).

- DanielRogers December 28, 2017

:) A Statement! A Statement! We have got a Statement, and there cannot be any more Statement. :)

I have been most persuaded by the examples I have seen from those who try to do their chosen statement of principles. There is something admirable about that, even when it comes from a statement that I may not personally be enamored with.

- Log December 28, 2017

Ken,

The requirement for a singular statement of principles which we are to follow, and adopt by mutual agreement, is in the A&C.

An appendix is actually quite an important thing. As an example of how important it can be, simply look at the trouble caused by the uncanonical text associated with Official Declaration 1 in the LDS D&C. Properly speaking, that text is merely an appendix, and a source of many problems both then and now.

Jared Livesey

- KenJensen December 29, 2017

Right. What I mean is to string them all together into one singular statement. Just an idea that would inform all options without excluding any. Freedom and agency intact.

- Log December 29, 2017

That would not fulfill the Lord’s requirements for the G&S as listed in the A&C, as it would not bless, benefit, nor inform, giving no actionable direction, neither would it be a guide and a standard, but rather would be the opposite; it would merely confuse and mislead those who have not yet received the Holy Ghost.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 29, 2017

See, here's the problem.

1. The G&S is only for those who have not received the Holy Ghost, for those who have received the Holy Ghost have no need for any mortal to teach them. We have nothing to

say to them.
2. The only way to bless, benefit, and inform those who have not received the Holy Ghost is to give them what is needful or expedient for them to receive the Holy Ghost.
3. It must be specific and actionable or else it is useless as a guide and a standard.
4. Hence, the G&S can only be the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ - for there is no other way nor means to receive the Holy Ghost except it is by obedience to the gospel - the doctrine, law, and commandments - of our Lord Jesus Christ, and without the Holy Ghost, men cannot understand the Lord's work now under way
5. That's why the G&S can only be The Rock of Jesus Christ.

Anything more or less than this does not fulfill the Lord's requirements.

Additionally, concantenating a long series of G&S proposals into a hodgepodge and telling everyone to choose for themselves the one they like best by whatever spirit they list to obey does not bless, benefit, nor inform those who have not received the Holy Ghost, as it does not point out the narrow path nor the strait gate by which men must enter, neither is a hodgepodge of statements principles, since not all of us will be observing all of them, neither can a hodgepodge of statements serve as a guide, because a hodgepodge of potential paths provides no direction for behavior, neither does it serve as a standard, since there is no measuring by a hodgepodge of statements.

Jared Livesey

- Log December 29, 2017

Presenting a hodgepodge of statements is akin to the room of chalices in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade - "You must choose. But choose wisely, for as the true Grail will bring you life, the false Grail will take it from you."

The Lord didn't ask us to present multiple options, with most leading to death, and bid the reader to choose. He asked us to bless, benefit, and inform those who have not yet received the Holy Ghost, by providing them with a guide and a standard. Therefore, let us provide them with the real Grail, that they may be sanctified by the blood of Christ, they may obtain life.

Jared Livesey

- Stevevanleer December 29, 2017

I am grateful to our God for His patience and kindness toward us. I am grateful He has spoken and accepted a document presented by the people as a statement of principles to guide us. The peace and comfort that comes with His voice and witness is remarkable, and desirable above all other things.

Taking God’s name in vain is among the most reprehensible acts mankind can undertake where our God is concerned. Unless God specifically instructs and commissions a person to make a statement in His name, proceeding to do so, is most offensive to God. Most often, the foolish and naive speak, supposing to do so because of some knowledge or understanding they have that they suppose allows them to speak in God’s name, but, without specific and direct instruction from God’s own mouth to do so. This kind of act is reprehensible to God. He has said,

D&C 63:

“60 Behold, I am Alpha and Omega, even Jesus Christ.
61 Wherefore, let all men beware how they take my name in their lips
62 For behold, verily I say, that many there be who are under this condemnation, who use the name of the Lord, and use it in vain, having not authority.” (D&C 63: 62)

The mirror image offense to taking God’s name in vain, that is, speaking as if He had provided instruction to speak on His behalf, when in fact, no specific instruction from Him has been given to do so, is the offense of not giving God credit when He has put forth His hand to do a work among mankind. Taking God’s name in vain is a very serious offense. Confessing not His hand is a very serious matter as well, both offenses should be shunned.
He has said:

D&C 59:21

“And in nothing doth man offend God, or against none is his wrath kindled, save those who confess not his hand in all things, and obey not his commandments.”

Joseph Smith, after speaking face to face with God, encountered all kinds of abuse, ridicule, and persecution, for the claims he made about God, and speaking with God. Joseph said:

Joseph Smith History 1:24-25

“it was nevertheless a fact that I had beheld a vision. I have thought since, that I felt much like Paul, when he made his defense before King Agrippa, and related the account of the vision he had when he saw a light, and heard a voice; but still there were but few who believed him; some said he was dishonest, others said he was mad; and he was ridiculed and reviled. But all this did not destroy the reality of his vision. He had seen a vision, he knew he had, and all the persecution under heaven could not make it otherwise; and though they should persecute him unto death, yet he knew, and would know to his latest breath, that he had both seen a light and heard a voice speaking unto him, and all the world could not make him think or believe otherwise.
25 So it was with me. I had actually seen a light, and in the midst of that light I saw two Personages, and they did in reality speak to me; and though I was hated and persecuted for saying that I had seen a vision, yet it was true; and while they were persecuting me, reviling me, and speaking all manner of evil against me falsely for so saying, I was led to say in my heart: Why persecute me for telling the truth? I have actually seen a vision; and who am I that I can withstand God, or why does the world think to make me deny what I have actually seen? For I had seen a vision; I knew it, and I knew that God knew it, and I could not deny it, neither dared I do it; at least I knew that by so doing I would offend God, and come under condemnation.”

Contd...

- Stevevanleer December 29, 2017

Contd...

God’s voice is clear and discernible. I have heard His voice concerning the document produced by the seven chosen by lots. I have eeard His voice concerning the testimony of the
Seven chosen by lots to assemble the document presented to, and accepted by, the Lord. I could no more deny God’s witness to me concerning these things than could Joseph Smith have denied his experience with God.

By this, I do not claim to be a prophet, I do not claim to be a spokesman for God or for anyone. I do not claim to be anyone, or anything extraordinary or special. I am nothing. However, I know God’s voice. I know when He speaks. All of His people should know when He speaks. We need to know His voice, it is a requirement, an imperative. I do not doubt His voice. When He speaks, I dare not offend Him nor kindle His wrath by questioning, or doubting Him or confessing His hand. He is the Redeemer and King. I confess His hand in all I have heard Him say and all I have seen Him do. I am not dissuaded by the words or testimony of men to the contrary. My testimony is my own. I stand by it. I have heard God’s voice clearly and do not deny it nor dare I do so.

I have heard many say they have had similar experiences of their own that don’t coincide with my own experience and testimony. I simply say, if you think you have heard God - Stand with Him. I intend to do so because I don’t dare do any other thing. I know it, and so does He.

I am willing to accept, and live in unity, peace, and harmony, with all who feel differently than I do on any topic. I hold no offense, Ill feelings, or grudge, with any person regardless how they may feel or believe concerning the statement of principles or any other topic.

Nearly four hundred of you heard, and/or felt what I heard and felt from God concerning the process and document produced by the body, now called the unified Lots document. Do not waiver. This work is done as soon as the Lord has provided, in His sole determination, an adequate time and opportunity for even the very last soul whose heart may be soft and willing to hear to be able to do so.

Let us unite in the Lord our God. Let us cast aside any and all differences, and kneel at the feet of the Redeemer Jesus Christ our Lord.

- HuhWhatda December 29, 2017

Ken,

I don't think that the work has been done to be unified, and by collecting all the documents into one great whole of an appendix would be a testimony of our failure to do that work of being one. I recognize the intention is good, respecting the spirit working with all the other efforts, but it is still an incomplete assignment until we find unity.

Just my two-cents,
Rob Adolpho

- LynneMcKinley December 29, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LynneMcKinley December 29, 2017

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous December 30, 2017

In one of my fellowship meetings there was a discussion on the idea that when anyone receives a revelation from the Lord people tend to think they have something, like “I got something from the Lord you should listen to me because I know what the Lord has given me....” and so on and so forth.
I know i’ve done something along those lines at least once in my life. But what if it’s only a tiny piece of a bigger puzzle and the Lord is saying “great now continue to ask and I will give you more”? Maybe we should stop assuming we know it all with one little tiny bit of info heaven bestowed upon us.
I don’t like the idea of someone or a group of people consistently insisting that everyone needs to listen to them because they got something from the Lord. It feels very much a compulsion but under the guise of persuasion. Much of what I have seen with the Lots group & those who voted for that proposal is this need to defend their position. Why? Why do you need to defend the voice of the Lord if indeed He spoke to 7 people and proclaimed that G&S is the one? It should speak for itself and no one need defend it if it’s truth and comes from God.
There is this idea that some of us don’t apparently know the voice of the Lord, well maybe that’s true for some and maybe some of us are still trying to discern and I would be one of those but I do have a basis for comparison. I know Denver has preached truth I can’t deny what he often speaks are the words of Christ. The answer he received in July from the Lord I KNOW came from the Lord I had my own witness. Those are things I have to use to compare what others say come from the Lord, things I cannot and will not deny.
To be honest as I read the answer given to the 7 from the Lord the tone was not the same as what Denver has received. To me it had a tone of flattery and “you guys are doing a good job, no worries keep up the good work” kind of tone. If it appeals to our pride and vanity, etc... then I have to question it. Where in heavens name is there unity with the body, pray tell? Steve you seemed to define the body as those 7 people who put the Lots G&S together but that’s not how I define the body. It is all of us particularly amongst those who have accepted the covenant not just 7 and not all of us feel impressed upon to accept that particular G&S but i’m not saying you have to accept what I accept. We should be allowed to choose and not be compelled to go with the one G&S 7 people put together.
Steve you say you know the Lord’s voice. I’m so glad you do but I think all of us are receiving different pieces of a bigger puzzle and the Lord is trying to bring us together His way not man’s way.
I read the answer given by the one who loves the Lord and the tone was exactly the same as the answer Denver received. I could hear the Lord’s voice as I read it just like I heard His voice in the Answer and Covenant, it was the same. So am I wrong? I don’t believe at all the person who received that answer is seeking for any notoriety and is trying to deceive. Rather just the opposite. I believe that person labored extensively to get that answer because I’m learning slowly that those kind of things do require much labor and prayer. It came from the Lord, is what I personally know, but everyone else is free to dispute.
Many of us have received our own answers pertaining to the G&S and they are not all coinciding with each other. Why? I don’t know but God does.
Please don’t assume that everyone who voted for the Lots proposal did so because they received a witness from the Lord. Steve did you ask every single person? And how many people are a part of the covenant? Do we have an exact number? I kind of doubt it.
Please go with what the Lord directs you to do and let me do the same. The Lord has not told me to stand and defend the Lots proposal and if I’m wrong then I’m only accountable to God. I will unite with Him and Him alone the byproduct being I’m united with everyone who is also united with Him.

May God bless each and everyone of you!

~ Paula Hurst

- Stevevanleer December 31, 2017

Paula,

I accept and will live peacefully and in harmony with every soul among us regardless of their choice of principles to guide them. I am absolutely indifferent to the statement of principles accepted by any person for themselves. All of the hubbub and to do about the statement of principles for nine months, to me is foolishness and wasting of our precious time. Allow every person to think and believe as they may. For me the process is over. I have received an answer from God. I have moved on. What others choose to do is for them alone to choose and Persue.

I believe we can unite in the Savior regardless of any person's choice of statement of principles. I have determined for myself, that is what I want to do (unite) because I believe that is what the Lord would have me do. I accept every person's position for themselves and do not dispute it. Let every person be free and choose for themselves. That should pose no impediment to our unity in Christ. You are persuaded by the 11,000 plus word statement of one, I am not persuaded. That's ok. If you feel God has spoken to you, stand with it. I am unaffected by your claim and You should be unaffected by mine. But we can love and respect and live together in peace and harmony.

My claim to hear the voice of God is a claim that should resonate from every one of God's people for themselves. It is a bit difficult to be God's people, a son or a daughter if we do not hear His voice. I believe that every person involved in God's movement has, and does, hear the voice of God at varying levels. That's why we are where we are. Hearing the voice of God is imperative for a people who think they desire Zion. Hearing the voice of God does not mean any two people will be taught the same thing. I love that. I accept that. I do not think anyone needs to believe or see things just as I do. However, when it happens that many see things the same way, it's a beautiful thing. When we don't see things the same way, I believe the law requires us to allow others to feel and believe whatever they wish without retribution, Ill feelings, or a requirement to change views to align with our own. Agreeing is not the foremost requirement. Charity, kindness, patience, and unity are the priority requirements given by the Lord. From the beginning of the statement of principles process we have reversed the essentials. We have conducted ourselves as though agreeing together is the foremost requirement even at the expense of allowing charity, unity, and peace among us to be sacrificed.

I understand some feel the process to find peace in the statement of principles process is not over for them. I pray they will find that peace in the matter. I have found mine. It came to me because God spoke to me. We should cast aside jealousy and fear and rejoice when any one of us receives blessings from heaven. My claim to have received blessings and communication from God is not an accusation (or insinuation) that anyone else among us has not. I expect we all have or will.

I am committed to our individual freedom to think and act because, like Mosiah, I believe it is a true principle that the greater part of the people will not choose that which is not good. If we are wise as a people we will consider every true principle to guide us.

Let us all allow each to conduct our lives and our relationships with heaven in whatever manner we see fit. Let us rejoice when any receives from heaven. Let us be filled with charity and love toward one another even as He has loved us.

I will use your closing remark but change one word.

May God bless each and every one of US!

Thank you Paula. I hope this response clarifies what I think and feel.

- Stevevanleer December 31, 2017

If we join hands together in a great circle because we jointly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, His doctrine, and His Law; My hand need not break with yours if we go around the circle and confess which statement of principles each chooses to like the best for themselves and their family. If you declare your choice of one, I another, Our hands remain joined in Unity and Charity with one another. The circle remains unbroken because our unity in the doctrine of Christ and His Law, remains unchanged. The Lord expects us to unite, allowing the welding link of His doctrine and His Law to join us with a link that remains unbroken. We can disagree about ten thousand topics, and the weld remains unbroken between us.

We should join hand in hand in response to our unified conviction and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ our Redeemer, His Doctrine, His Law. That circle need not ever be broken because we may see the answer to any other question differently.

I commit to do so. I want to join my hand with every brother and sister who believes the Doctrine of Christ and His Law. My hand will not be broken with yours regardless what you choose to believe or do regarding a statement of principles.

Our hearts can be one in this.

- PeterMartin December 31, 2017

“As between one another, you choose to not dispute.”
and
"Pray together in humility and together meekly present
your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part."

I am trying to understand the way that these fit together. Is one like a higher law and one a lower law? Is it by God telling us His part that we are enabled to not dispute one with another? Has God told us his part? Is it by not disputing as between one another, that we demonstrate the meekness required to present our dispute before God? Can we both choose not to dispute between one another, and still present our dispute to God? Maybe someone could help me understand this better.

When all is said and done I think we will have learned a great lesson from this excruciating process of replacing LE 20.
Sincerely,
Peter

- HuhWhatda January 01, 2018

Peter (Part 1 of 2),

Happy New Year! I'm grateful for your question as something has been brewing in me concerning this very thing. These past two days I was privileged to spend some time

with friends concerning the work we are now engaged in. The things we spoke about together, combined with thoughts from my personal studies have combined in me to shed more light for me on taking more steps forward. Constantly, we walk on this earth in the shadow of death. Getting to the confidence to see no evil and fear no evil is the work upon us, that is to be overcome by light. The light thing has more to do with light than it has to do with the ease of lifting the load (weight).

Concerning praying together in humility and if we are contrite God promises to do His part, I have an opinion to share, taught to me. All the prophets of the Holy Order had the "Big Picture," and were required to share a glimpse of that in their writing to try our faith. They had the big picture, and we were always only given a “portion.” And the purpose behind the portion was expressed as "to try our faith." Consider the following example of the similarity of the situation we are in, to the situation Lehi’s family was in, when retrieving the plates.

Here, in this work, Denver has been removed. But that was also the pattern for Lehi telling his sons to go and get the plates. Lehi did not go to get the plates; he too was removed. Since we know the end of the story, and Lehi is removed from the assignment, …our eyes go immediately to Nephi, ...but I'd like to point out that Nephi had a preparatory advantage. Prior to recovering the plates, prior to the struggle with his brothers in Jerusalem, and prior to getting assigned by Lehi, ...Nephi sought the mysteries, cried out to the Lord, and the Lord did visit him, softening him to all things his father said (1 Nephi 2:16-17). The pattern of Nephi’s preparation follows the pattern of Abraham, as Nephi was a follower of righteousness. Desiring to know the mysteries of God, Nephi is found seeking "great knowledge," so that he could be a “greater follower of righteousness” to get “a greater knowledge.” Going into Jerusalem with “unwearying-ness,” …and finally obtain “greater knowledge,” retrieving the record from Laban, is the only way to overcome by faith. Once the plates are recovered a few things are revealed about Nephi, he was to be a ruler over his brethren, he trusted in God, and God delivered as promised by the angel. The Lord in the answer seems to be pointing to the same pattern, recommending that we pray together in humility (where it all starts), then, like Nephi and Abraham, if our hearts contrite before Him (the work required of us now as we labor through the difficulty of producing a document), God promises to do His part.

If we are to overcome by faith, our faith must be tried, and the responsibility for us to overcome by faith is on us. Our preparation of accumulating knowledge was not intended to be knowledge for knowledge sakes, but to be greater followers of righteousness, to direct our action, to not only say, but to do as we say. If our faith has holes, we simply need to repair the holes, and act on it to test that the repair is sufficient to fix our broken cisterns. According to Moroni, God gives men weakness. The weakness was intended to try our faith, so that if we are humble and have faith in God, God’s grace is sufficient to make weak things strong. Nephi wasn’t an exception, and without weakness. He followed the pattern, just as Abraham and all the patriarchal fathers. None of us had the big picture to begin with. However, those who overcome by faith will belong to the Holy Order, which is referred to as the Church of the Firstborn (D&C 76: 52-57).

- HuhWhatda January 01, 2018

(Part 2 of 2)
The “Greater Knowledge” is only what we know after the successful trial of our faith. That is the keys, glories, honors, etc. that we can declare as our dispensation. What lies before us is an opportunity to do what hasn’t been done since Melchizedek. Those who have gone before us, who have not succeeded in this same task we are now engaged in, will look to us for that declaration, to learn from our successful dispensing. If we fail,

we have no place to tell our story at Adam-ondi-Ahman. Nobody wants to hear about yet another failed effort. A Red friend of mine reminded me of Satan's visit to Moses. Moses questioned him, asking him, "Where is your glory?" In this context, Satan had done nothing to forward the progression of man, failed at his assignment, and was cast out to kick against the pricks. Given the circumstances, I believe this is an opportunity for "Greater Knowledge," but the work must be dispensed successfully for us to claim anything.

In conclusion, I sincerely wish that you have a Happy Year this new year. But I recommend that happiness will be found in the preparation of knowing the Lord. Do no more or no less than you have been instructed of Him. Wait upon His instruction, not acting in innovation. Allow Him to do the heavy lifting. He has promised to do His part. Stay in your lane and mind the voice speaking to you, not getting bogged down by the other voices telling you what to do. Clear the mechanism in your mind and God will fill that space with light, so that you can continue your progression forward, as His sheep. He promises that He will pour out a blessing upon you such that you have not room enough to receive it. So, in humility, make room, and with more room, you'll get more blessings than those who have little or no room to receive. Be of Good Cheer, Christ has overcome the world!

Rob Adolpho

- AndEva January 02, 2018

I love this Steve. PTR says that the only thing we are to have absolute unity in, is the Doctrine of Christ. I believe the book Preserving the Restoration is scripture.

- Anonymous January 02, 2018

I have read through the comments of all people. I see what a difficult time we all have to hear the same thing. I know that everyone sincerely desires to serve the Lord.

It is true that we need the doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount. These should be guiding principles for sure. I think that is possible while still having a document to help fellowships. I see no conflict. If each person were to have the Holy Ghost and abide by those things, we would certainly have a different situation now. The Guide and Standard doesn't diminish that - or the need to have the Holy Ghost. That should be at the forefront of each of our endeavors.

I must ask though, why is it that such emphasis is placed on the length of the answer? Do you not hear that much instruction (or that many words) from the Lord? If not, why not?

Is it not true that if we ask, we will be given? Is it not true that if we are diligent in seeking the Lord we will be told all things?

I pray we will all come to hear that many words from the Lord.

Nothing in it is amiss (or leads to deception as far as I can tell), though it is true that some things may need further clarification from the spirit or greater understanding on our part.

As for not taking a vote, why not? If you got your answer for the lots, why not vote for that? What have you against publicly proclaiming your belief?

I have been saddened that we have not had the CHOICE to vote on what we wanted. The lots process didn't give other Guides a chance to be voted on. It was take this or don't.

We must maintain agency. We must be accountable for the choices we make.

Again, I pray for us as a people. I hope that we all can discern the spirits and come to hear a great deal more from the Lord.

Peace to all of you. I know that each of you are trying (I am also trying my best).

- Stevevanleer January 02, 2018

Part 1

Paula,

Thanks for your thoughtful response - let me try to clarify some of what I meant to say regarding your questions. Our language is so poor. I write one thing - I can see by your response you heard another thing.

You said: “It is true that we need the doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the mount. These should be guiding principles for sure. I think that is possible while still having a document to help fellowships. I see not conflict.”

My reply: I couldn’t agree with you more! The example I set forth where we all join hands if we agree to the doctrine of Christ and His Law, exemplifies exactly what you said. There will be a statement of principles as an appendix in the scriptures for fellowships. You and I may disagree on the specific version of the statement that ends up in the appendix. Right now it appears you and I do happen to disagree about which statement should be included in the appendix. My point is, if we go around the circle of joined hands and each confesses his/her preference for a statement of principles, if you profess to prefer a version that I do not prefer, that should never mean that our hands should be separated from the unity we enjoy together because of our common belief in the doctrine of Christ and His Law regardless which statement ends up in the appendix of the scriptures. I’m saying, there is something higher and more powerful in the unity between us because of the doctrine of Christ and His Law, that it simply doesn’t matter which version of the statement of principles is included in the scriptures. If we disagree about which version of the statement of principles finally ends up in the appendix, we should nevertheless remain firmly united together at the feet of the Redeemer because of our common acceptance and belief in the Doctrine of Christ and His Law. I think that’s about as clear as I can say that Paula. I believe we are actually saying the very same thing?

You said: “As for not taking a vote, why not? If you got your answer for the Lots, why not vote for that? What have you against publically proclaiming that?”

My reply: I did vote for the Lots proposal. In fact twice. I voted to move forward to have seven selected by lots to abridge all documents submitted by the body in a single document to be presented to the body and to the Lord. Then, I voted again to sustain and accept the document produced by the seven to which they bore testimony Christ had accepted. I have made my testimony very public about my choice and why. I do not feel a need to vote any more. My vote has been cast.

- Stevevanleer January 02, 2018

Part 2

You said: “I have been saddened that we have not had the CHOICE to vote on what we wanted.”

My response: The entire body was invited to vote on the process itself. Everyone was asked if the process to choose seven by our combined faith to abridge All submitted documents should be allowed to move forward. Overwhelmingly (around 90 percent) the body said yes.

The entire body was invited to submit any and every document they wished to be considered for a statement of principles. Over twenty five (we should verify this number with the seven) documents were submitted to be considered by the seven.

Then, I voted again along with All from the body who wished to vote for the final revised document produced by the seven after public inspection for a full week. That document had been presented to the Lord and accepted by Him. This time, something on the order of ninety-three percent of the body voted affirmatively for the final document accepted by the Lord. It is hard to imagine how the process and completion of the Lots document might have been more inclusive of the entire covenant population. The effort from the beginning was built on the concept of total and complete inclusion.

Paula, I want to share with you some things that perhaps you may be unaware of. If you believe that signs follow faith, and that God cannot work for men until after their faith, please consider the following regarding the choosing of seven by lots from a pool of one hundred and eighty four. (71 women, the remainder, men)

1. Two sets of seven were chosen. Each set was comprised of six men and one woman. There’s wisdom here, if you catch my meaning.

2. In the first set of seven chosen by lots, a husband and wife who both had been active in the GS process from early on, were both chosen. The raw odds of that happening from the pool was about 33,000 to one.

3. That husband and wife were chosen consecutively in the drawing. The probability that this could happen was near infinitesimal. In other words it took God’s hand to accomplish this “sign”.

4. A father in law and son in law were both chosen. Odds probably along the lines of a husband and wife being chosen. 33,000 to one.

5. Jeff Savage, the one who composed the very first G&S document was the last one chosen by lots. What are the odds? There is a clear and definite message from heaven in this.

If we had time and the space, the evidence mounts ever more irrefutable, signs from God in my estimation.

If you could hear the story from the beginning, the signs of God’s Hand in the unified Lots proposal as it evolved are plain and clearly evident. God was there, and involved from weeks before the very beginning of the process. This is the kind of stuff I can not deny nor refute. I bear testimony of it.

Now, before anyone jumps me to say others have had God’s involvement as well, I say, fine, I believe and accept that. But I saw what I saw, and I heard, what I heard. I also

anticipate those who will cajole and snipe because I assume to quantify God’s hand by odds and probabilities. For those folks, I simply ask, what are the odds that fire could be called down out of heaven and consume an alter dowsed in water? Slim odds! God’s odds.

I confess God’s hand in the entire process now called the Unified Lots proposal. It would be impossible for me to do otherwise.

I pray we may All unite in the Lord Jesus Christ despite our different preferences for a statement of principles to be included in the appendix of the scriptures.

Paula you are well respected and loved by our family - I wish God’s choicest blessings for you.

- Log January 02, 2018

The Lord commanded Lehi to command Lehi's sons, Laman, Lemuel, Sam, and Nephi, to get the brass plates from Laban. Lehi was excluded from participating in the project: it was his sons' commandment to fulfill. The Lord did not dictate to Laman, Lemuel, Sam, and Nephi how to accomplish the task - it was up to them to figure out how to proceed.

When they got to Jerusalem, they conferred amongst each other and decided to cast lots to see who would go get the plates from Laban - the only time lots are used in the Book of Mormon. The lot fell upon Laman, the eldest and the heir of the family, who went to ask Laban for the record. It didn't work. The one chosen by lot failed to accomplish the assignment.

Next, Nephi convinced them all to take all their gold and silver and precious things and offer them all to Laban in exchange for the plates. This group attempt at the project also failed.

Then, Nephi went alone, led by the Spirit, and fulfilled the Lord's commandment and obtained the plates.

From this, we see that just because the lot falls upon someone, and they attempt the task, it doesn't mean they will, or even can, succeed.

We also see that even if a group is charged to accomplish a task by the Lord, it is not necessary for all of the group to have an equal opportunity to participate in order to accomplish the task. One alone of the group, being led by the Spirit, is enough.

Therefore, equality of opportunity for all members of the group to participate in accomplishing the task is not sufficient, nor is it necessary.

Another principle has been held up - the claim that "the voice of the people," otherwise known as "majority rules," should be followed in the matter of the G&S. Mosiah 29 is cited to this effect:
Mosiah 29:26-27
26 Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law—to do your business by the voice of the people.
27 And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time he will visit you with great destruction even as he has hitherto visited this land.

There are two problems with this viewpoint.
1. The Lord has required that we adopt the G&S by mutual agreement, and not by majority rules.
2. The Lord, in the A&C, has made it perfectly clear, in plain language, that the majority of this people at this time does, in fact, choose iniquity.
Therefore, the voice of the people should not be followed, lest we fall into this pattern:
Helaman 5:2-3
2 For as their laws and their governments were established by the voice of the people, and they who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good, therefore they were ripening for destruction, for the laws had become corrupted.
3 Yea, and this was not all; they were a stiffnecked people, insomuch that they could not be governed by the law nor justice, save it were to their destruction.

- Log January 02, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 02, 2018

Coincidences, synchronicities, statistical unlikelihoods, also called signs and wonders, do not suffice to establish the hand of God. As Paul wrote:

RE 2 Thessalonians 1:3
For the mystery of iniquity doth already work, and he it is who now worketh, and Christ suffereth him to work, until the time in fulfilled that he shall be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Yea, the Lord, even Jesus, whose coming is not until after there cometh a falling away, by the working of Satan with all power, and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie; that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

- Log January 02, 2018

Merely adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as our written guide and standard will not be enough.

Each one of us must also put into actual practice the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ as contained therein, and not merely pay lip service to our Lord's commandments as have those who have come before us.

Not only must we actually do what the Lord has commanded in The Rock of Jesus Christ, but we must do so equally.

Not only must we equally put into actual practice the things which the Lord has commanded in The Rock of Jesus Christ, but we must also teach others to do those very same things

- Stevevanleer January 02, 2018

You forgot this verse Jared

D&C 35:8

8 For I am God, and mine arm is not shortened; and I will show miracles, signs, and wonders, unto all those who believe on my name.

- Log January 02, 2018

Steve,

The point isn't whether God can show signs and wonders. The point is that signs and wonders - coincidences, synchronicities, highly improbable events - are not necessarily from God, but they may indeed be of the devil, as Paul wrote.

A standard of judgement which does not reliably distinguish true from false should be abandoned.

Jared

- Stevevanleer January 03, 2018

Faith, and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only reliable standard of judgement to distinguish the things of God. Faith ought to be both adopted and lived by God's people. Signs, miracles, and wonders can, and do always follow faith in Him.

You speak of the covenant people as faithless, I speak of that which is evidence of their faith in the living God. Signs have followed the people's faith.

You take a position of unbelief. Unbelief is the antithesis of faith. Unbelievers can only explain the signs that follow faith as coincidences, synchronicities, and statistical unlikelihoods. It has ever been the case among unbelievers from the beginning.

Unbelief as a standard of judgement should therefore be abandoned.

Have faith in the Lord God of Israel who is a God of Miracles, in the past, now, and for ever. He does not change.

- Log January 03, 2018

I have taken the position that the Lord is telling the truth in the A&C, page 3, when he says the following:

"[M]any of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do. As a people you honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting."

The majority of this people at this time chooses iniquity. The voice of the people should be rejected.

Jared Livesey

- Log January 03, 2018

A faithful people actually keeps the Lord's commandments. The Lord says the majority of this people at this time doesn't.

Whence, then, signs and wonders among a disobedient and corrupt people: from God, or from the devil?

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 03, 2018

I agree with you 100%. Thanks for the clear explanation of what is happening. The Lots document should have been adopted after the vote, I understand the Lots group is working on some final communication with those who didn't vote. The responses to that post were not disputations and confusion as they have been with the Nonmancaaf version. It began with the confusing name and it has carried on with confusion since the beginning dividing and separating not uniting. The insistence of this group to thwart the process is discouraging. However I have confidence in this body of believers to successfully come to the best conclusion ultimately.
Still love you guys! Lisa

- Stevevanleer January 03, 2018

Whence the covenant? From God or the devil? God has offered a covenant to a people because of their faith in Him. It could not be otherwise. God has not revoked that covenant. The last major communication from Him to the body, was the covenant. You confuse chastisement in the covenant with rejection by the Lord. The Lord is moving forward His work and has not announced any cessation of any kind.

The people’s concern should be amped up when the chastisement from the Lord stops. The chastisement you cite as rejection from the Lord, is in fact, evidence of His love and His striving with an imperfect people. God’s people are always in need of further repentance. Whom He loves...

Unbelief and faithlessness informs a view that the people God offered and made a covenant with just months ago, are “disobedient and corrupt.” Incorrect judgement results in such a proclamation before it is issued by God Himself. While such incorrect judgements are made by the unbelieving and faithless, God continues to labor with the imperfect flock. He has been more patient with the flock even than the appointed legal administrator.

The faithless, the unbelieving, will forever ask, “whence, then, signs and wonders from God or from the devil?” Their brothers, the Jews, made that very accusation, asked that very question, about the Holy One of Israel Himself. That accusation and question seems to show up from lower climes every time God begins a work.

This will conclude my communication with you Jared. I find the endeavor absolutely fruitless in the quest for further light and truth. I wish you well and hope you will go in peace.

- TwoCents January 03, 2018

After Lehi spoke to his boys about his revelation, Laman and Lemuel disputed about the meaning, until Nephi came and asked them, "did you inquire of the Lord?"

For me, dispute occurs when two individuals define things differently, both believe they are right and point a finger at each other, stick their tongues at each other and say, "na-na na-na boo boo."

When they both can say, “I know diddly squat about what these things mean,” they can then go to the Lord and present their lack of understanding and ask Him to tell them what it means. The last few months have we not disputed about what Mutual Agreement means. Then Denver prays, asks God and gets an answer. Denver set an example-pray and ask God what these things mean. I find that we have acted based on our own understanding of what these things mean. We have a mental picture of what this looks like and what it is for, each of us having a different understanding. To me, we go to the Lord and ask him about the end product without really understanding what he is asking us to do and who he is asking to do it.

What will this document be used for? What should be in it? What will it look like? What does equality mean? What does unity mean? What does love mean? What does dispute mean? What does bless mean? What does benefit mean? What does inform mean? What does a covenant people mean? What does "my people" mean? What is His work now underway? What is peace? Add it to what? What does he mean when he says, "if your hearts were right? What does a "light thing" mean? What does it mean the Book of Mormon is a covenant of our day? What would the BOM stories look like today and how do we liken them to ourselves (like 2Nephi 28)? How does God define these things?

Our understanding of these things has directed this effort. To me, our understandings differ. For example, I don’t see unity as you do.

For me, I understand unity to mean: as each person obeys the commandments the Lord gives them, via His voice, the Lord, in His mercy, blesses that person with more knowledge, so they don’t perish. As individuals are blessed with more and more knowledge, the light in them increases, as their light increases, their desires/hearts become purer and purer. As each individual does this, it is the light that has been increased in each of them that will join the individuals together, creating unity.

The Siksika (Blackfoot) Nation Coat of Arms has a peace pipe that crosses over a tomahawk, this symbolizes peace. The peace pipe was utilized when a group of people, who desired to work together, gathered and sat in a circle (creating equality amongst them-not one person greater than the next). When they smoke the pipe, that was an indication to everyone in the group that they agreed to work as a group of equals (as the smoke rose that symbolized that each person in that group would look to the Creator for guidance so that they would speak truth). Sometimes, these meetings could go on for weeks until they all mutually agreed.

Nephi when instructed a boat, had no idea what it would look like. He asked the Lord where he should go to find ore to molten, to make the tools to construct the ship, in the manner the Lord showed him. And the Lord showed him. The Lord states, "And I will also be your light in the wilderness and I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments; wherefore, inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall be led towards the promised land and ye shall know that it is by me that ye are led."

Q

- Log January 03, 2018

Steve,

I don't confuse chastisement for rejection, and neither do I confuse the currently disobedient and corrupt majority as suitable teachers for the body, neither do I confuse the disobedient and corrupt majority as suitable teachers for those outside the body.

As Alma said: "[T]rust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments" (Mosiah 23:14).

The Lord, in the A&C, said that this people at this time are not walking in his ways, neither are they keeping his commandments. The majority is not, at this time, trustworthy as teachers nor ministers, and their proposals should be rejected.

And when the time comes that the commandments of the Lord are in fact being executed as they are written in The Rock of Jesus Christ, and when we therefore consequently agree both in word and in deed that the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ should be our written guide and standard, not only to say, but to do, then we may proceed and succeed as a people.

As Alma said to Helaman: "[B]e diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written" (Alma 37:20).

Until the time comes when this people keeps the Lord's commandments as written - which entails actually doing the things the Lord has commanded in The Rock of Jesus Christ, taking it for one's actual guide and standard - we cannot.

Jared Livesey

- LoriTaylor January 04, 2018

I felt a desire a couple days ago to go back to Denver Snuffer's old blog and begin reading his posts, starting with the very first one from February 2010. I've just been reading them sequentially. I'm still going through the posts and comments for that same month and year.

With all things Guide and Standard on my heart lately, I found myself reading with that in mind. I am amazed at what is there on Denver's blog, things he wrote nearly eight years ago which are yet timely, enlightening, and applicable to this moment and task.

I thought about copying and pasting specific posts here, but have decided to simply extend an invitation to you good people to go see for yourself and discover if there is anything to be learned about a statement of mutually agreed upon principles from among Denver's older postings. I feel confirmation after confirmation for what is in my heart, and even more than just from the old blog the witnesses have come in other ways and moments. It has caused me to feel comfort and humble gratitude for Christ's wisdom, which is never bound by our time. God bless.

http://denversnuffer.blogspot.com/2010/02/this-blog.html

PS--Don't forget the comment sections. Denver often offers more in responses to questions.

- PeterMartin January 06, 2018

I've also been reading some of his posts from 2010 that apply with prophetic accuracy to what is going on now. If only I could speed read had a photographic memory...

- Christian January 15, 2018

As per the consensus of our fellowship, I post our joint fellowship statement here

regarding G&S:
==========
January 10, 2018

We, the members of the Sanpete County Fellowship, through personal study and prayer, and through individual confirmation from the Lord, declare that we accept and promise to live by the original Guide and Standard that was received through inspiration to Jeff Savage.

We wish to make it known that we discussed the matter of the numerous G&S proposals, and decided that we ought to select one that we would support in our fellowship. Individually, we perused some of the G&S proposals. Later, during our weekly scripture study meeting, we decided to dedicate the time to reading aloud and discussing Jeff Savage's original Guide and Standard. We were able to sufficiently read, comment, and ponder the entire document within one hour, even given various interruptions and pauses to reflect on and discuss each paragraph. We did not have any issues with the content of the document, nor did we feel anything untoward regarding the wording of the document. In all aspects, we felt it astutely and accurately represents the voice and the will of the Lord for us in our responsibilities as a fellowship. At the close of our gathering, we tasked ourselves to individually peruse and ponder the other G&S proposals, and then we will discuss their merits the following week.

When we met tonight, we discussed our feelings about the other G&S proposals and edits. We collectively came to the conclusion that, even though most of them did not seem to contain incorrect or averse tenets, none of them felt as simple, as direct, nor as plain as the Jeff Savage original. In our discussions, we frequently likened the feel of it as similar to the spirit of the founding documents of the United States of America, especially in how their plainness, directness, simplicity, and minimized redundancy have guided and inspired the spirit of the nation in a manner that has sustained a system of political liberty for well over two centuries.

Given the precedent of how the Lord has an economy of words when conveying wisdom, instruction, and command, and given that we find Jeff Savage's original Guide and Standard (without any later edits) to be straightforward, plain, and sufficient to organize our fellowship by, we gathered in prayer and pleaded for the Lord's approval of our fellowship to adopt this Guide and Standard, as well as to express to the Lord our willingness to be open to future revelation or inspiration that would necessitate adding unto this G&S (similar to how Constitutional amendments were eventually added to the Constitution). Upon closing the prayer, we each took turns conveying our feelings. We were each individually touched by the Spirit to know that this Guide and Standard is pleasing to the Lord, and that He is pleased in our desire to adopt it. This understanding was accompanied by a great feeling of peace and love between each other, which permeated through the entirety of the meeting and resulted in deeper bonds of affection for each other.

Owing that the foundational structure of Zion is individual families and community fellowships, we felt it only natural to come together as a fellowship and bring the various proposals to the Lord as a small community of covenant takers, and thereby unite our hearts in agreement as to which standard we will live and function by as a fellowship of families. In the hopes that other fellowships might likewise feel the greater peace and unity that we now feel amongst each other, as well as receive the assurance that the Lord has accepted our efforts in completing our part in the task that He has given to all who have accepted the covenant, we felt it prudent to publicly share with joy what transpired among us.

May the Lord's will be done in all things,

The Sanpete County Fellowship

THE NEXT CONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

We've been asked to share this information about the upcoming conference in Phoenix this March. Here is the link to all of the information:

http://www.wisdomthroughtheagesconference.com/

Return and Report from the Lots Group

Friday, January 05, 2018

Friends,
We, the seven members of the Lots committee, would like to update the covenant body on our outreach efforts that followed the vote to adopt the Lots Guide and Standard at the end of November. We are concluding our work and wish to make all things known which have occured the past short while. Should you have further questions beyond what is posted here, please email us at thesevenlotsers@gmail.com and we will provide additional data and any further details or information you would like.
As a brief review of how we got here:
So many events have transpired since the Guide and Standard effort began nearly a year ago, the most significant of which was the covenant accepted from God in September. The Lord also spoke to us as a people several times assigning and then clarifying the current task. In an effort to obey the Lord's requirement that we adopt a Guide and Standard by mutual agreement, many fasts, prayers and petitions have been offered to the Lord asking Him to strengthen us in our united journey.
These messages from heaven spurred individuals and families, who in turn motivated entire fellowships to meet together and begin efforts to finalize a guide and standard. We, as a people, accepted the covenant and direct assignment from God. As a consequence, a series of events transpired which resulted in what is known as the United Proposal and the Lots Proposal (see here and here). Those who were involved in developing and presenting these proposals to the body have testified to the inspiration and heavenly direction they received as events transpired leading up to both proposals being drafted and presented to the body. In early November, the United proposal and Lots proposal came together and asked the body for permission to use their ideas to formulate a final Guide and Standard. 87% of the 437 voters supported that effort.
The drawing of lots is a tried and true method when conflicts of interests or opposing groups are trying to work together towards a common goal. Drawing lots is often used where clashes are inevitable amongst varied and rigid opinions. It’s a method that, according to our faith, uses the will of God to create fairness where inequality would otherwise exist.
A movement-wide day of prayer and fasting was held on November 12th , the day the lots were drawn. There are many of us who believe the Lord made His hand manifest in the drawing of the fourteen lots and the people selected .
After three days and nights of near constant work, the seven selected were able to present a draft document to the body . The people then gave input, suggestions, and edits for three more days and nights . On the seventh day, we asked everyone to participate in a movement-wide prayer and fast, confident that our combined faith would

open the heavens to receive an answer to our prayer - was the document we compiled acceptable and does it meet His requirements? We were anxious to ensure we were obeying the Lord and satisfying His commandment. We received an answer to that prayer .

In the few days that followed the answer to our prayer, it was made clear to us that we were to do two things: 1) Allow the body of covenant holders to adopt the newly drafted Guide and Standard as expressed by a vote and 2) continue to reach out to those who had already expressed opposition, or would yet express opposition following the vote for adoption.

Forty days ago, we began the process of fulfilling these two requirements.

The initial 5-day vote for adoption resulted in 93% of the 414 voting covenant holders agreeing to adopt this Guide and Standard.

Midway through the vote, more information was given by the Lord defining mutual agreement to be “as between one another, you choose to not dispute.” This new light confirmed that 100% unanimity was not required of Him for us to adopt a document, but that it was about our hearts and dispositions when disagreement existed between parties. With the vast manifestations of His hand being involved, His answer that our document was sufficient, the outpouring of votes by the covenant people to adopt, and this new definition; we received the added confidence and assurance that we could state that the document had been adopted by the people. We did this in early December.

However, in our desire to help eliminate disputations among us, we also knew it would please the Lord if we would continue our outreach efforts for a season. We also desired to continue dialogue with those who had differing opinions, favored other documents, or who opposed the Lots effort. For us, this was an expression of our love for them and desire to better understand one another. We wanted to give everyone ample opportunity to be heard.

We began an extensive outreach campaign. We realize that movement-wide communication was (and continues to be) a real challenge. We made every attempt to notify every single covenant holder according to our means. We reached out through personal contact, emails, phone calls, blogs, social media, slack and so forth. The response was tremendous considering there are no means of knowing who and where the covenant holders are. We spent numerous hours communicating with many of you. It was a genuine pleasure to do so. Many new friendships and acquaintances were made.

In the last 40 days we contacted a minimum of 70 people who had not made their desires known in the initial vote. Of those, we found 52 people who had voted in August but *not* in November; bringing the number of participants in each vote to a near parallel. There were various reasons people did not participate in the November vote for adoption. Most of them had not taken the covenant yet, some felt to abstain for personal reasons, others were weary and apathetic due to the drawn out nature of this assignment, a few forgot, one couple had technical challenges, and a remaining few did not know a vote to adopt the Lots document was taking place until after the fact.

The final result of our outreach was that another 51 additional covenant holders we found would have voted in favor of the Lots document. Four new covenant holders opposed. Twenty desired to abstain. Overwhelmingly, the numbers and views among those we found reflected what was already manifested in the vote to adopt in November. After all our efforts to reach the covenant body, we now have a total of 505 voices participating in the vote, including those who choose to remain neutral; we ended up with 433 covenant holders in favor and 31 covenant holders opposed. That’s 93.3% in support of the Guide and Standard submitted by our Lot group. The vast majority have expressed their desire and/or willingness to adopt this document for inclusion as a Guide and Standard by mutual agreement, confirmed by the extended outreach effort.

T he last 40 days spent discussing your views has not only been a great experience for

us, but educational as we strive to overcome our group wide communication difficulties and learn to work together in movement wide projects. There were many lessons learned we hope to pass on in the future.
We honestly sought every single person we could find. Though not everyone agreed that this is their document of choice, this outreach resulted in wonderful dialogue with those who chose to converse with us. The lack of contention was awe-inspiring. Of those in opposition who engaged with us, we felt no disputations amid our differences. Your differing voice mattered in this process, many of you willingly participated and sincerely expressed your views. Those views did not go unnoticed, and together we spent time understanding one another. Though we may not have reached an agreement at this time, our experience was that we were able to disagree in friendship, listen to one another, and depart in peace and unity, looking forward to the next time we work together, and eventually arrive together to a unity of faith.
It is also important to hear the hundreds of people who manifested their desire to adopt the Lots document and not forget their sentiments and opinions. Though the vast majority of them have remained silent on blog posts and comments, many of them have strong feelings of approval, are satisfied with the effort produced by Lots, and believe that the work is done.
Through the people's consent, we seven were given an assignment by the United and Lots proposals which had a very specific scope and task. We were also directed to reach out and do all we could do to invite participation and ultimately enact a vote enabling adoption by mutual agreement. We seven now consider our work complete. We are submitting our document, as well as the detailed results of our outreach, to the scripture committee. It is our desire to return peacefully to our families and fellowships and concentrate our efforts and energy in other spiritual directions. It has been a blessing and privilege to temporarily serve on your behalf in this capacity. We leave our thanks and gratitude to you for treating us with such kindness as we endeavored to complete this labor.

With Love,

Jack Hinkle, St. George, Utah
Jason Carlson, Dallas, Texas
John Webster, Cedar City, Utah
Jeff Reber, Beaver Creek, Oregon
Jonathan Dippold, Bury st. Edmunds, England
Shalyce Woodard, Clinton, Utah
Kirk Strong, Orem, Utah

Comments

- TheBishopsWife — January 05, 2018

Thank you for your hard work, sacrifice and love for the Lord and for us. This is absolutely beautiful.

- Log — January 05, 2018

I dispute the adoption of the Lottery document, and am a covenant participant.

Nothing has changed.

Jared Livesey

- MarvBateman January 05, 2018

Thank You Lots group! It has been absolutely wonderful to watch, read and see this develop in Equality, Love and Concern for ALL. What a wonderful learning experience for me. I have felt the Lord's hand in this process.

May the Lord BLESS all of you and your families...

- JohnandJennifer January 06, 2018

Thank you for your sacrifice and diligence in working for the common good of all. We support and sustain what you have done. The document is beautiful, and we believe the Lord has selected you to accomplish this assignment. We also appreciate your love as you've responded kindly to those who are for and against the work you've accomplished. Love you all, John and Jennifer Willis

- BretNaylor January 06, 2018

Thank you for all your efforts!! I am very grateful for all you have done to move this forward.

- Anonymous January 06, 2018

Like many others, I saw the Lord's hand involved in your selection. Thank you for being willing volunteers/victims. :-)

Marcia Hill

- LynneMcKinley January 06, 2018

Simple, clear, easy to understand, it flows beautifully. Sharing now with several new friends who are just finding the path.
Whew! Finally. Moving forward...

- YourFriend January 06, 2018

Thank you all so much for your diligent efforts and sacrifice as you sought for the will of the Lord and for the best interests of all involved. I support the Lots Guide and Standard wholeheartedly and I am pleased to be a part of this wonderful movement in this awe-inspiring time we now find ourselves in. I pray your spirit of kindness and unity will help others who support other documents to join in support of the Lots document. God is a God of order and I see order in this effort and not in the other efforts that have been represented. In any case, I still support all parties in the unity and love of our Savior Jesus Christ irregardless of our differences of opinion concerning the choice of Guide and Standard and choose not to dispute with anyone over these issues. Love, Lisa

- Log January 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous January 06, 2018

Please define "covenant participant."

I ask because you yourself posted this on your blog shortly after the Boise conference.

Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say “yes” when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer,[u] they should consider me as not being part of that covenant.

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2018/01/merely-adopting-rock-of-jesus-christ-is.html?m=1

- Log January 06, 2018

1. The Lord requires the adoption of the G&S by mutual agreement - any dissent means a proposal does not get adopted.

2. It is admitted by all there is dissent from the Lottery project.

3. Therefore the Lottery project cannot be adopted.

4. If it is the Lord's requirements pertaining to the G&S you are seeking to fulfill, then the Lottery G&S shall never be adopted.

5. If the scripture committee puts the Lottery G&S in the scriptures knowing there is dissent to it, then the fate of the body is sealed: the body cannot be saved, since to be saved one must do all things, not merely some things, that the Lord commands, and he has already said in the A&C if we do not do what he requires with respect to the G&S, he will give the body tasks it will be unable to accomplish.

6. Mutual agreement is not a result of politicking nor ostracization nor reviling nor any manner of iniquity - injustice (breaking the commandments) and inequality (pride, enmity, refusing to humble oneself to be equal with all others).

7. Therefore, since the Lottery project has failed, it is time to try a new approach.

8. The first thing which this people should have done upon entering the covenant was to repent and begin keeping the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9. If you were keeping the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ, The Rock of Jesus Christ would be your actual G&S in reality: you would be obeying the Lord in deed and in truth, not merely in words only by showing honor to him solely with your lips and not keeping his commandments with all your heart, might, mind, and strength.

10. If you are keeping all the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ, or seek to do so, what do you have against rejecting the failed Lottery document and adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ, the written gospel of our Lord, as your written guide and standard?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous January 07, 2018

Descent by who? I don't know if you defined what you mean by "covenant participant" because you deleted your reply to my comment, but if "those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer...should consider" you "as not being part of that covenant," aren't you not to be considered a covenant participant? And isn't your descent from the majority meaningless, as you're not even part of the body?

- YourFriend January 07, 2018

I love you Log. But it order to have perfection in the body, we will all need to be perfect even as our Father in Heaven is. I am sure we all have the best intentions, but we are still all at different points on the path. The fact that you are still allowed to rant is proof of the love and temperance this body of followers of Christ has for you. Where is your heart? Our hearts have to be as one, not our opinions. You cannot or should not be able to change the consensus of the group based on one or a few opinions, not even if you were right. At this point the Lord wants us united in love, we can always come more in line with each other as we progress, and we will. But we are not going to now, not on this decision, you are proof of that my friend. Until your heart is right, that is. Or maybe until mine is, who knows. But I love you still, and pray for you.

- Anonymous January 07, 2018

And Log, didn't you say, on your blog, on Monday, September 4, 2017, that those who accepted the covenant offered thru Denver Snuffer (the covenant body) should not consider you part of that covenant (ie covenant body)?

- Log January 07, 2018

The only relevant question is "does God consider Jared Livesey a covenant participant?"

You'll have to ask him since you have declared you don't believe me.

Because what you are proposing to do is disobey him if I am a covenant participant.

- Log January 07, 2018

And on September 6, 2017, I wrote the following on my blog:

I Get to Embarrass Myself Again

So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in?

You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it.

You can't unring the bell.

=====

All who are concered are hereby informed that a covenant from God cannot be got rid of by a word from me.

- Log January 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 07, 2018

This was the very next post on my blog.

I Get to Embarrass Myself Again

So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in?

You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it.

You can't unring the bell.
=====

A covenant participant is one who entered into the covenant by standing and saying "yes."

Those who are concerned are hereby informed that a covenant from God is not gotten rid of by a word from me.

- Log January 07, 2018

So, if anyone has any genuine and sincere questions as to my standing before God as a covenant participant, you are invited to ask of him.

Here is the formula for such inquiries:

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

- Log January 07, 2018

"If your hearts were right it was a light thing I have asked," said the Lord.

That means "if you wanted to obey my law and keep my commandments then writing and adopting a statement of principles was an easy task I have asked of you."

Because that statement would have been his law and his commandments, as per The Rock of Jesus Christ. It would have taken all of 2 minutes to compile and agree to, for all concerned would be already agreed in their hearts, not merely with their lips, because it would have been what they were already doing in reality, and because they would have been doing it, they would have had the Lord's spirit to be with them, as per the sacramental prayer.

The reason that didn't happen is because, as the Lord says in the A&C, the majority of this people chooses iniquity, being corrupt, and their hearts are not right before him. Not only does this people not keep his law nor his commandments, they don't want to; not only do they not want to keep his law and his commandments, they choose to do the opposite, says the Lord, and they return evil for good. Of course, that statement is

generally applicable to us as a people, and says nothing about any specific individual. Some among us are pure, and wish to keep his commandments, and actually do keep them, and return good for evil.

The Lord has told us that we as a people have a problem, and the solution to this problem the Lord says we have would solve our G&S problem as well.

That problem is our hearts are not right. The solution to hearts not being right is to repent and to execute the Lord's law and keep his commandments by our works, not merely to declare with our lips that we follow him while not doing what he said to do. And the key to that is to take his law and his commandments as our guide and standard, not merely to say, but to do. Hence The Rock of Jesus Christ.

Declaring ourselves to be faithful husbandmen (followers of Christ, practicing and teaching his law and commandments) while not tending the vineyard (doing and teaching the works Christ commanded in the Sermon) does not work: the vineyard produces wild and bitter fruit, such as unjust accusations, backbiting, ostracization, reviling, social pressure to disobey the Lord's requirements with respect to the G&S, and so on.

If we were doing the works commanded in The Rock of Jesus Christ, we wouldn't have multiple voting sessions until we either got the "right" result or applied sufficient social pressure against the the Scripture Committee to break their integrity; we would understand one another, our hearts would be one, and we would have peace between us. It would be to us as natural as breathing to adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ into the scriptures then; a light thing indeed.

And if we aren't doing what the Lord commands of us to do in The Rock of Jesus Christ, why bother adopting it? However, nothing else shall be adopted in conformity with the Lord's requirements in the A&C.

Jared Livesey

- Taylor January 07, 2018

Jared I believe such a course of action is unwise for the following reasons:

1. You think everyone would get the same answer??

2. Shall we ask God about every covenant participant and then go about viewing them through whatever answer we each received?

3. This invitation for people to ask God about you and your covenant status could be viewed as tempting people to obtain a "trump" card from God about another persons covenant status and thereby tempt them to exercise abuse by utilizing that trump card. Instead of looking for scriptural fruits.

4. Suppose a person got a "yes" answer. But then the person they inquired about subsequently chose to disobey God and get involved in some quantity of nonesense. Does the inquirer then need to re-inquire constantly? Does this not distract people from the covenant they are supposed to be living themselves?

5. You could be tempted to validate anyone who got a yes answer and de-validate anyone who got a "no" answer rather than displaying your covenant status by the fruits you display in your life and your actions towards others.

I get that at one point you said the body should not consider you a covenant participant, later to discover God did all you to enter in, and you felt unable to back out. I get that such confusion has caused a degree of embarrassment.

I'm willing and desirous to forgive people's mistakes.

I'm opting to not to inquire of God about you because I was never asked to do any such thing. I will however forgive, put the past in the past, and welcome you in not disputing about the G&S.

My fruits as well as your fruits, will ultimately tell the the story. So I'm going to focus on inquiring of God how I can live how He has asked.

- Anonymous January 07, 2018

What of those of us who have prayed and been told to support the Lots proposal? Many of us have born witness that that is the Lord's will. Should we ignore the Lord's command?

- LoriTaylor January 07, 2018

I believe you are speaking truth and wisdom, Jared. Over the last few weeks as I have sincerely and with great care begun to study Christ's sermons and doctrine, my heart is softening and my mind is expanding. The Sermon and doctrine of Christ are indeed worthy on their own as a guide and a standard. For a Christian of my age and experience, I am woefully behind in studying and applying them, and must needs repent. I am grateful to Christ for His patience with me and this opportunity, which has taught me the beauty, importance, and simplicity of His life and teachings--to become as a little child...

- Log January 07, 2018

There are other spirits in the world who answer prayers, as portrayed in the Endowments. How can we know which spirit is answering us?

This is the general formula for inquiring and receiving an answer from Jesus Christ.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

So here is what we each must consider for ourselves, and not for another:

1. Am I keeping the Lord's commandments? If I am keeping his commandments with diligence, then I have an assurance the Lord will answer me according to my faith and his will. As the Lord has said, "I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise." Without doing what the Lord commands with all diligence, I have no promise that whoever answers my prayer is the Lord.

2. Suppose I don't know if I'm keeping the Lord's commandments - then I better find out

what his commandments are so that I can do them.

His commandments are known as The Sermon on the Mount. And here are five actionable and specific commandments he has given therein.

* If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him without reviling your assailant (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
* If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
* Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
* Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
* Lend to everyone who asks, and do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

Of course there are more commandments in the Sermon than these, and they are all required of all mankind or else they cannot come unto Christ (1 Nephi 13:40-42).

3. Suppose I don't believe these commandments are to be kept as they are written.

Then I must cast off this unbelief and begin believing the words of Jesus Christ and doing them. Unless this unbelief is repented of, one cannot follow Christ, and has none assurance that the Lord will answer his prayers.

As Jesus Christ said: "[H]e that will not believe my words will not believe me—that I am; and he that will not believe me will not believe the Father who sent me" (Ether 4:12).

And, as Alma said to Helaman: "Therefore I command you... that ye be diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written" (Alma 37:20).

4. What if I do these things and find out my earlier revelation or answer was a deception?

Then I must return and make the truth known, no matter the cost to myself, lest I lead any man astray and be the cause of his destruction.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous January 07, 2018

Your words are elegant, but they do not compare with the voice of the Lord. I cannot go against His word. Has the voice of the Lord spoken to you and told you not to support the Lots proposal?

- MichaelBurke January 07, 2018

Log: you can't I unring a bell, but did you really ring the bell, or only pretend to? By your own admission, your participation in the covenant is based on a lie, because one of the questions you were asked before you entered into the covenant being offered was whether you knew it was of God, and you lied when you answered in the affirmative. So what exactly makes you believe you rung the proverbial bell? And you've publicly said that you didn't know whether the covenant offered was of God, and were still inquiring God about it and waiting for an answer long after the Boise conference, but I don't believe you've ever testified to receiving an answer. Have you received an answer? Do you know if the covenant being offered in Boise was of God? And do you really know if He considers you a participant? And please tell me--do you diligently grant all requests

made of you (that don't directly conflict with the laws of God or man) without murmuring, resentment, or self pity?

- Log January 07, 2018

Those who keep the Lord's commandments know from whence I am.

Jared Livesey

- MichaelBurke January 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous January 08, 2018

I take it from your response that you haven't heard the voice of the Lord in this matter. Would you be willing to pray about this and let us know when the Lord answers your prayer?

- Log January 08, 2018

You have made an unwarranted inference from my response.

The argument from authority - "The Lord Spake Thus-And-Thus To ME, Therefore YOU Must Take It Down Like A Pill" - is inherently contradictory of a society of equals.

Nobody gets to pull rank on the rest of us in order to "win" without killing Zion. There cannot be authorities or bosses or "prophets" to be followed in a society of equals. If some of us are higher than any of us, then we are not the Lord's. Therefore all must humble themselves to be equal with the rest of us or else we are another failed and fallen Zion doomed to be burned when the Lord comes.

So you either accept what I'm saying on its own merits because it is true, or you do not accept what I am saying.

We're done with authority and authorities, and trusting in men and trusting their connections with heaven over our own; we're done with trusting in and following prophets. Now is the time for those who love truth for its own sake to cleave to it and not depart from it. Now is the time for every man to stand on his own, not trusting another, as the Lord has commanded (JST Mark 9:9).

After all, thus saith the Lord: Cursed is the man that trusteth in man.

- Anonymous January 08, 2018

When did I say that you should believe what I say or rely on the arm of the flesh? In fact, I said the exact opposite. I asked you to pray about the matter. So will you?

- Log January 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 08, 2018

The Lord's requirements are clear, and the Lottery document does not accomplish any

of them, while The Rock of Jesus Christ accomplishes all of them. So, what, exactly, do you propose I should pray about?

My reasoning has been made explicit in what I have written on my blog on Friday, October 13, 2017, and afterwards.

I don't ask you, or anyone, to pray about what I say - if you want to, you will. If not, then not.

I will simply point out that if you do not keep the Lord's commandments with diligence, you have no assurance that whatever answers your prayers is the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous January 09, 2018

If you feel comfortable leaning on your own understanding on this one then go ahead. I have to counsel with the Lord in all my doings because I'm just not smart enough on my own.

- Log January 09, 2018

The unwarranted inference you made is that I haven't heard the voice of the Lord in this matter.

And you also do not know that I have not.

As I said, the argument from authority destroys the society of equals. If we intend to be found in Zion such arguments must cease.

Therefore we all must humble ourselves and speak by persuasion and pure knowledge and kindness and love unfeigned and so on or else we will not be found in Zion.

So I am explaining to you and the rest why the answer is what it is, and I am not appealing to authority to do it.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous January 18, 2018

I'm not sure if everyone has taken time to listen to Denver's latest talk given on January 14th (it can be found on his website under downloads)? He said a few things that are worth considering. He said that he never gets answers from the Lord quickly and that real answers take careful, solemn and ponderous thought. So the answer received quickly by the lots group (and all others who received answers quickly) would fall under his definition of unacceptable/not the way the Lord works.

Additionally - he said the Sermon on the Mount was the way to go. He answered the quandaries pretty succinctly in that talk and I recommend you all to listen to it.

A Request for One Heart

Monday, January 08, 2018

We have been asked to post the following invitation:
In the *The Covenant*, the Lord asks us 2 important questions:
Do you agree to assist all others who covenant to likewise accept this standard to govern their lives to keep the Lord's will, to succor those who stand in need, to lighten the burdens of your brothers and sisters whenever you are able, and to help care for the poor among you?

And do you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?
Taken together, this includes efforts on our own part to help others come to be of one heart.
This issue goes well beyond the Guide & Standard mess. It affects many of us in many different parts of our lives:

And he also saw other multitudes pressing their way towards that great and spacious building. And it came to pass that many were drowned in the depths of the fountain, and many were lost from his view, wandering in strange roads. (NC 1NE 2:12)

In the hope of turning our focus in the right direction and perhaps bringing our hearts a bit closer together, I'm inviting anyone interested to participate in a general fast this coming Sunday, Jan. 14, and a united prayer at 2 p.m. MST on that day for the Lord to help us become of one heart. We can also keep a prayer in our heart throughout the day for the same purpose.

This can be an opportunity for those who feel they are ready to press forward to pause and show charity to those who are struggling with their personal stumbling blocks so that we can all move forward together with one heart.

A sister in the Covenant.

Comments

- YourFriend — January 09, 2018

We must become precious to each other. Sacrifice is necessary for a pure heart. I will support your effort dear sister, to help us come closer together in our hearts. I believe we tend to get stuck in our heads. I learned something this week that should have been obvious to me. Without love and compassion, there is no power. Because without charity or the pure love of Christ, you have nothing. God has to be in our hearts, if He isn't we are worthless. He allowed me to suffer greatly for that understanding. Thank you dear Lord for your loving kindness and mercy. Thank you for the pain it took to awaken me to You. Love, Lisa

- Anonymous — January 18, 2018

I'm not sure if everyone has taken time to listen to Denver's latest talk given on January 14th (it can be found on his website under downloads)? He said a few things that are

worth considering. He said that he never gets answers from the Lord quickly and that real answers take careful, solemn and ponderous thought. So the answer received quickly by the lots group (and all others who received answers quickly) would fall under his definition of unacceptable/not the way the Lord works.

Additionally - he said the Sermon on the Mount was the way to go. He answered the quandaries pretty succinctly in that talk and I recommend you all to listen to it.

- AdrianLarsen January 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- AdrianLarsen January 18, 2018

Hi Anonymous,

Because Denver was expressly forbidden from participating in the G&S, I believe his comments were intentionally vague and distanced from the actual events happening. As an example, here's a direct quote:

“If a group of prayerful people spend months focused on a challenge, and then many hours together—and individually—discussing, searching, praying and looking to heaven for guidance, and then reach a conclusion they can all individually and collectively testify came from heaven, how can I adequately test their outcome without giving it careful, solemn, ponderous thought and take the time to test and retest the answer we get.”

Depending on your filters, he could be describing the group of seven chosen by lots, or he could be describing the Aug. 5th group, or even other groups who have arrived at conclusions.

Similarly, regarding the "quick answer" issue, was he calling out the seven? Or the nonmancaaf folks? Or others? You get to point the finger at whomever you choose.

But the real issue is not trying to use Denver's words as proof someone is right or wrong. Denver's point was that we should all, each, individually engage in careful and ponderous and solemn thought and take time to seek answers. The idea that we can take no thought other than to ask--and expect to receive lengthy, detailed revelation in response--that's the problem. Denver took months before he even dared pray.

- YourFriend January 19, 2018

I listened to it 7 or more times, and I heard something different than you did. I think you may have cherry-picked what you wanted to hear. I think he did mention Sermon on the Mount, but he also mentioned doing the covenants, as well as the Doctrine if Christ. I believe he was addressing those who have heard a voice from the Lord speak to them that this one has to be it because the Lord told me so and that's the end of the discussion. We are damned if we choose another. The voice of the evil one is at work here and these voices must be tested. As a result, are you compelling others, are you using unrighteous dominion? Are you gratifying your own pride? Are you only listening for what you want to hear? In the talk we we're cautioned to look deeper, test the spirits, and question our own motives. We should be considering the fact that we are breaking each other's hearts. We are putting each other through a large degree of stress and pain because of our own selfish desires. Compulsion, dispute have no place here. To tell you the truth, I would have a lot easier time accepting the Sermon on the Mount,or the Rock of Jesus Christ or whatever, if it didn't seem like someone was trying to force me to

choose it, and there wasn't so much intensity from those who dissent at every turn. That feels wrong to me. It's not God's voice it is compulsion. Forcing is compelling, and compelling is of the Devil. Do you see what I mean? God help us to love and care for each other as a Covenant family, such that we stop hurting each other with our own selfish desires and attitudes. Because without love, we cannot keep our covenants, no matter what G&S we choose. I consider Denver to be the chosen prophesied of, Servant of the Lord for our day. God's words are the same from Him or His Servants. I think those who only want the Sermon in the Mount, do not accept Denver as the Davidic Servant. This bothers me because what else good will we want to throw away because we revile against being taught by anyone but Christ himself? Well there will be Prophets and Apostles who will teach right here among us. They will not compel, they will not dispute, they will love they will teach the words from God's own mouth. Let's prepare our hearts to recognize them when they appear.

- Anonymous January 19, 2018

So would the Davidic servant, in your opinion, be speaking face to face with the Lord frequently? Because Denver showed in that talk, that is not the case for him. It took him “months” before he even “dared” pray about the covenant. Whaaat the?!. This is a 180 degree different Christ than Denver talked about being so approachable in the 10 lectures. And in his talk given last week Denver showed that he never spoke face to face with Christ about the covenant. He did it just like they do in SLC - studying it out and doing their best to recieve inspiration. We’ve all traded one prophet for another and neither are regularly speaking with Christ face to face. But somehow it’s okay because Denver spoke with Christ at one time so we assume he is still doing so today. He De-bunked that myth on Sunday’s lecture.

Wake UP!

And Adrian - you (and Denver) can make it sound like all the people spent months getting answers. Arguing for months isn’t the same thing. They settled on lots (to use one group example) and within days they drew them and a short moment later - voila, an answer. No matter how you word it, Denver is contradicting himself and you are justifying all his actions and words. It’s called - Cognitive Dissonance...;)

- Blair January 19, 2018

Go in peace, Anonymous. No one is forcing you to accept a servant of God that you don't think is a servant of God. And I doubt you will convince those who believe Denver is a true messenger otherwise.

- YourFriend January 19, 2018

Ah, thank you brother! I think you just made my point. I do believe Denver is the Davidic Servant, without a doubt! I value his words. I have probably read everything he has ever written, more than once. I study them and I practice them. I have pierced the veil as a result. I cherish the Covenant as I do my Covenant family. If you do not believe Denver is the Davidic Servant, why would you or any one else that does not, be participating in this effort, except to cause confusion and dissention? I leave it to the body to study it out and seek God's will and truth regarding the voices, on either side you hear on this matter. The truth will set you free!

- Log January 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

Part One:
Teachings and Commandments
SECTION 23
[LE: 76:98-102, KE: 91]

From the first part of paragraph 11:
And the glory of the Telestial is one, even as the glory of the stars are one, for as one star differs from another star in glory, even so differs one from another in glory in the Telestial world. For these are they who are of Paul, and of Apollos, and of Cephas; these are they who say they are some of one and some of another: some of Christ, and some of John, and some of Moses, and some of Elias, and some of Esaias, and some of Isaiah, some of Enoch, (some of Denver?) but received not the gospel neither the testimony of Jesus, neither the prophets, neither the everlasting covenants. Last of all, these all are they who will not be gathered with the saints to be caught up unto the church of the Firstborn and received into the cloud. (Emphasis added.)

As I've taken time to ponder, pray, and consider all that is going on, I found myself wondering about this scripture. Could this be us currently? Different ideas and proposals, perhaps this verse could readily be reworded to look like this:

And the glory of the Telestial is one, even as the glory of the stars are one, for as one star differs from another star in glory, even so differs one from another in glory in the Telestial world. For these are they who are of

1. Jeff Savage Original
2. Jeff Savage Original w/ Edits
3. Alt Guiding Principles
4. DOC Fellowship GP
5. June 10th GP
6. July 2nd GP
7. Alternative GP 1
8. Alternative GP 2
9. Alternative GP 3
10. Alternative GP 4
11. August 5th Guide & Standard
12. Amalgamation of G&S Versions
13. LZ's Salty Fellowship Guide
14. Covenant Approach to GS
15. Taylor Child's Post It.
16. Anonymous GP 20171027
17. The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles
18. Simple Guide and Standard
19. Revised Statement of Principles
20. Eternal Progression
21. Eternal Progression (Modern English Version)
22. Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs
23. A Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots
24. ComeServe Principles
25. Doctrine of Christ
26. Other (write in)

but received not the gospel neither the testimony of Jesus, neither the prophets, neither the everlasting covenants. Last of all, these all are they who will not be gathered with the

saints to be caught up unto the church of the Firstborn and received into the cloud. (Listed text from the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs post “Seeking Information”-12/21/17.)

Could it be that if we continue on this trajectory, we will in essence recreate the divided Christianity of a post-Resurrection world? Could it be that is part of why Denver was instructed to teach that in one of the talks to Christians? Is that what we want? Is that what Christ has in His Mind and Heart to do?

Who are “some of Christ” the scripture is referring to? What do they sound like in speech? In manner? In doctrine? What is it about them that tells others they are “of Christ” and not “of Moses?” Or “of John?” Or “of Cephas” (Peter)?

And yet, they still fall short of the glory of God, being no brighter or united than the stars in the firmament. What did they lack yet? The scripture goes on to identify some not good qualities…

to be continued...

- etluxentenebrislucet January 19, 2018

Part Two:
So I ask myself, what statement of principles could a group of people of differing backgrounds and beliefs put forward to the world that would immediately convey to all that they are in deed and word OF CHRIST?

To my way of thinking, and I am open to hearing your thoughts on this, it could very well be the “Sermon on the Mount,” the sermon at Bountiful, and the doctrine of Christ from Third Nephi. They are the words He spoke here on this earth as a mortal and then as an Ascended, Resurrected Being, yes? They are words not “channeled” (not a judgment) or given merely (again, not a judgment) through the Spirit, but were actually uttered from His own mouth as He interacted face-to-face with people here on earth. And I suspect that those other records we look forward to receiving just might have their own “Sermon on the Mount.” Think about it, He taught the same principles and law on two different continents to two different groups of people. Why would He change or teach something “more or less than” to any today? Thoughts?

I am grateful for the talk Denver gave on 1/14/18. So thankful. I feel humbled by what he said, and am desirous to continue eating as much humble pie as required to fix my errant beliefs, soften my heart, and eventually bring me face-to-face with the Spirit of Truth Who is able to teach me the mysteries of godliness. I want to grow up.

I am grateful for everything that Denver has written or said that I have been able to read or hear. I would not be where I am at without those things.

But am I supposed to be seeking Denver or seeking Christ? Am I supposed to be awaiting the next fellowship he visits and records a message at? Or am I supposed to be working my fanny off to discern, hear, and ultimately know Christ? Is Denver the new Moses?

What would someone “who know[s] nothing as yet of [His] work now underway” think if presented with a document that is mostly from/through Denver?

Given all that we think we’ve learned and come to understand through Denver’s writings and the scriptures themselves, why are we still struggling so much to become one?

to be continued...

- etluxentenebrislucet January 19, 2018

Part Three:
I have found myself wondering about Salem and Enoch's city of late. What were the baby steps they were required to take as they went through a similar process? What tasks did Jehovah give to them? Are we at all similar to them at this stage? Are we more hardened, more stiffnecked, more prideful?

I often consider the faith of Melchizedek and reflect on a question Denver posed in, I think, the talk on the Holy Order recently, where he asked, "Would you rather have faith without priesthood, or priesthood without faith?" Whoa. Take a look at what Melchizedek's faith (in Christ) accomplished:

[RE Alma 6, para. 30, p. 398]
Now this Melchizedek was a king over the land of Salem. And his people had waxed strong in iniquity and abominations, yea, they had all gone astray; they were full of all manner of wickedness. But Melchizedek, having exercised mighty faith and received the office of the high priesthood according to the holy order of God, did preach repentance unto his people. And behold they did repent. And Melchizedek did establish peace in the land in his days, therefore he was called the prince of peace, for he was the king of Salem and he did reign under his father. Now there were many before him, and also, there were many afterward, but none was greater. (Emphasis added.)

[RE Genesis 7, para. 19, p. 23]
And now, Melchizedek was a priest of this order, therefore he obtained peace in Salem, and was called the Prince of peace. And his people wrought righteousness, and obtained heaven, and sought for the city of Enoch which God had before taken, separating it from the earth, having reserved it unto the latter days, or the end of the world, And hath said, and sworn with an oath, that the heavens and the earth should come together, and the sons of God should be tried so as by fire. And this Melchizedek, having thus established righteousness, was called the king of heaven by his people, or, in other words, the King of peace. (Emphasis added.)

Does whatever statement of principles you support enlarge and build such a faith in Christ?

There is a lot I would like to say, but choose not to. I am not interested in contending for what I want. I do not desire to hurt or offend anyone. I genuinely care for and want to learn from all. I believe there is a lot I still need to learn.

BUT, I would think we would all much rather have a statement of principles adopted by mutual agreement because we all stand firmly upon the principles we are espousing as our collective and individual guide and standard to the world, and NOT because some determined to no longer dispute over it.

The latter process and end sounds like some could still feel as though they were COMPELLED or FORCED to go along. But maybe that is a purpose for this task? Some must learn to lay all desires and fears down at the feet of Christ, trusting Him to do HIS WORK? And this is HIS WORK, correct? It is not the lotsters' work, or my work, or Denver's work. Thoughts?

Lori

- YourFriend January 19, 2018

Christ is the way the truth and the life. Denver is a true messenger who teaches truth, and that led me to Christ. I do not worship Denver, but I am grateful that someone teaches truth, so I ingest all the truth and light I can, and that aligns me squarely with Christ, where I need to be to discern truth from error. I think others need the benefit of these truths to help them do the same.

- Dani January 19, 2018

It is not an either/or prospect. You can preach Denver all you like. You just shouldn't try to force others to do the same by insisting that Denver's words must be included in a document we are all to agree to and follow. Let's show that we value the things the Lord commands above all else and all others.

- YourFriend January 19, 2018

If I understand what you are saying with the either/or statement. Let me try to answer: If you don't think a true messenger can and does lead you to Christ, remember Adam and Eve in the Temple film. There are two choices, true messengers or Satan. The test is identifying the true messenger(s). I think if we are saying Denver's words from the Lord are good enough to accept as a prayer and answer for Covenant, which I am assuming we already agreed too, why would we insist on omitting them from the G&S, unless we did not believe he was truly representing the Lord, and if that was the case, why accept the Covenant? It seems double minded to me. I am absolutely not taking anything away from Jesus Christ in voicing my testimony of His Servant. Jesus Christ is my all and all! I have given up everything to know Him. However, Enoch was instrumental in building Zion, so was Melchizedek, Moses would have been, if not for the stiffneckedness of the people. Paul, Peter, John, etc., taught while Christ was here and continued after His assent into heaven. It is their notes and their accounts we have in scripture. We have all the scripture we need, we need no more? I am not insisting or disputing anything, nor have I. I'm sorry and I repent if it sounded that way. Just a feeble attempt at persuasion. We all have a lot at stake here. I pray our hearts will become one with God and each other. We should heed the advice we just received to test our inspiration, revelation, our motives, the condition of our hearts. Sorry to monopolize so much of your time.

- etluxentenebrislucet January 20, 2018

Part One:
[My] friend :), thank you so much for responding and seeking to help me understand. I see no reason for you to apologize. I appreciate your willingness to help me understand how you are viewing this task given us by Christ. If I may, I would like to emphasize that I am not trying to persuade anyone with my thoughts and comments. I simply would like help in understanding what I am hearing and seeing. I ask questions about things I am struggling to understand in meaning and application, particularly within the word of God. Look at what I share as me expressing concerns I am trying to resolve over the G&S.

I don't know why, maybe because I tend to be easily distracted or don't realize my part in studying things out, but I never thought to study D&C 20 until recently. Yet I had always wondered why "the original" G&S looked as it did. Once I finally opened up D&C 20 for a gander I could easily see why the very first G&S had the look, sound, and feel it did. I am not being critical of it here either. I liked it, and also had no issues with all the others. They were formulated with it in mind.

Then after all that has happened since—the votes, the meetings, the discussions, etc. I quite suddenly found myself feeling like the whole shebang was/is off somehow. We were/are not united, and was/is that simply a matter of not disputing at this point? Or is

there really an importance to what is actually stated in the G&S? Do our words chosen really matter?

It appeared to me that by November there were just as many proposals for a G&S as there were fellowships all over the world. I could see some had a lot of passion and desire to be faithful in this work, along with connections and influence (not necessarily bad things), and were also thinking how to fix that 'little' problem of oneness. Up until then I was quite honestly just along for the ride and willing to accept anything. I was not thinking for myself, however; though I was certainly doing my best to pray and seek answers. I was not studying the matter out, like many of you who are much wiser than I had been doing all along. Once I began that endeavor to really understand and determine for myself Spirit's voice to me, I found myself wondering if we are truly supposed to mimic D&C 20. Maybe we are? I suppose we could and we/it/His Work would be fine. He is not limited by our weaknesses after all.

But some matters have come to the forefront of my thoughts of late, and I am unable to quiet them.

Last spring I was told by Spirit to study the "Sermon on the Mount" and apply it. I was slow to hearken to that counsel (that does not bode well for my future!), but have since repented. (It was Jared's/Log's insistence [some might call it obstinateness] with The Rock of Jesus Christ that helped me turn to study it.) What I discovered was the answer to much of what troubles me in my life right now. I have found that those words of Christ truly are enough, and I really have a challenge in living them. It's like a blueprint for solving the world's problems…

- etluxentenebrislucet January 20, 2018

Part Two:
As for Denver's teachings and message, those are easily accessible, I think. I did not have a G&S that led me to those things to begin with, so do I really need to create/co-create a statement that has more of the pertinent material when what I really need is Christ's words alone? Will not Christ through Holy Ghost lead me (each of us) to a talk, a blog post, a book, a person, an idea as I become prepared? Has He not done that all along?

I mean, I've spent the last few years reading and listening to Denver (some of you were on track twenty or more years ago when my husband and I were blithely dancing along the LDS path), but I am still filled with pride. Despite all he has taught, I still struggle to like, much less love, my "enemies," to "bless those who curse [me]," to "give to those who ask of [me]", to forgive, etc. I still have issues in need of healing and a laundry list to repent of daily. But maybe I am far behind everyone else on this covenant path? Maybe I am still toddling along and many of you are able to run? And a G&S filled with emphases on ordinance how-to's and therefore's and fellowshipping enlarges your lives and easily points you to Christ?

I admit I am rife with problems, and unfortunately a guide and standard not focusing me strictly upon Christ's teachings does not seem to have the power to help solve them. But am I over-thinking what we are supposed to do? Am I making the G&S more important than what it is? Am I assuming too much that is not supposed to be done by Holy Ghost?

You have mentioned some important points about Enoch, Melchizedek, Paul, etc. They were all important in their roles and missions. I agree, and would agree to the same of Denver today. But I would like to understand the vision Joseph and Sidney were given in LE 76 and RE 23, what did that portion concerning those whose glory is that of the stars

mean and does it apply to what is happening right now? Did it describe those in a post-Mortal Messiah time? How were some "of Cephas" yet not also "of Christ?" How were some "of Isaiah" yet not also "of Christ?" And how did some manage to be “of Christ” yet not prepared to receive the glory Celestial? What did all those various “fellowships” who started out knowing Christ (most?) teach and preach that caused them to be described in such a way? What would their G&S have looked like? All different, or one statement of principles?

My concern with OUR G&S: Could/would we be identified as simply being ‘of Denver’ and nothing more? Or if a single G&S is published yet various groups determine to follow their own thinking/G&S, then surely that is what RE 23/LE 76 is meaning? Is that where we are at currently? Is everyone okay with such an outcome? Is it inevitable and how Heaven operates already?

By appearances we certainly look more like the scattered stars in the firmament…We do not yet have the look of the brightness that lay at the center of a galaxy or universe where light is everywhere, is one.

A Science-y friend shared this super short video with me a while back. I think it shows what I mean.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udAL48P5NJU&index=7&list=PLwnTNT2tZQnCzzlSV63P2zsxf7FvT06sV

Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet January 20, 2018

Some more thinking on my part: Remember what Christ said in His A&C about how Peter and Paul had disagreements (plural), which resulted in "jarring and sharp contentions" (plural)?

Is it accurate to say that the jarring and contentions were not simply between Cephas and Paul but also extended out to be between those "of Cephas" and those "of Paul?" And Christ has admonished us that...I will just quote Him:

"For you to UNITE I must admonish and instruct you, for MY WILL IS TO HAVE YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS A PEOPLE you lack the ability to respectfully disagree among one another. YOU ARE AS PAUL AND PETER WHOSE DISAGREMENTS RESULTED IN JARRING AND CONTENTIONS. Nevertheless they both loved me and I loved them. YOU MUST DO BETTER."

Oh geez. I feel so thick in the head and heart. He is saying it right there.

- YourFriend January 20, 2018

I appreciate your honesty and understandings. In the direction to unite behind a G&S, the purpose is for us to be able to do greater things at the Lord’s hand. Incidentally, He has sent His hand again the second time. It is appearing to me that much of the disagreement regarding the G&S, is that some do not want Denver’s teachings as part of it. In my view, Denver is the very instrument God is using to fulfil His work. Without Denver, we would divide into factions, separate and wonder in the wilderness. We have to be willing to accept the teaching from a TRUE Servant of the Lord. Because by the Lord’s own words or the Servant(s) IT IS THE SAME. Rejecting a true Servant is perilous. I have seen it happen, it is not a pretty sight. The difference between a true Servant and an imposter, is that a true Servant will not compel, they will not accuse, they

will not do anything that is against God's will, if they do they feel the conviction immediately, which causes them to speedily repent, which Denver has said he is very careful not to do anything out of alignment with the Lord. That is a very smart thing. Satan really hates true Servants. In Jacob 5, God's Servant is the only one who keeps the vineyard from being burned. The vineyard is not producing fruit. Is it now? How will it? Have any ideas? How long have we had the scriptures before us? Still very little fruit. True Servants teach, largely by example, not placing themselves as superiors, but as equals, with meekness, with every form of godliness, because they have been born of the Spirit. If God were here, I am sure we would all rally around Him, or maybe we would crucify Him, in any case we would all probably be incinerated. Until we can stand in His glory, I am cool to listen and learn from those authorized messengers that He has sent, whose words come from God's very own mouth. Not worship, not to place on a pedistal, not to praise, not even to follow, especially not to blindly follow, but to learn truth, which essentially brings us even closer to Jesus Christ, because He is the truth. My testimony comes from the Lord that He has sent Denver/David. You do not have to take my word for it. Please don't. However, if we gain a testimony that Denver is the Davidic Servant, or the Lord's hand sent againg the second time, there should be no problem accepting his teachings in our G&S or even in our hearts. Denver's teachings have only brought me closer to Jesus, my Savior, my Redeemer, my Friend. There will also be others that come among us that are sent, again see Jacob 5. We will be writing new scripture about our time. Ask of God, He will direct you in the right path. He said He would confirm my words. God Bless you dear Sister, I know your intentions are good. I hope we all can be as honest in our hearts. God can work with an honest heart. Love, Lisa. I talk too much! So sorry!

- Log January 22, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 22, 2018

"It is appearing to me that much of the disagreement regarding the G&S, is that some do not want Denver's teachings as part of it."

Since the G&S must be adopted by mutual agreement - meaning there cannot be any dissent or dispute or a proposal cannot be adopted - then it sounds like the resolution to disagreements over the G&S is to not include any of Denver's teachings in the G&S.

Besides, we know that those who trust Denver are cursed, and that teaching men to trust Denver would curse, harm, and misinform them, so we wouldn't want to put Denver's teachings in the G&S anyways lest they get the wrong impression and think they can trust Denver. We want to do what the Lord asked, not show ourselves loyal to Denver.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

Hello Log, :) I have a few questions for you. Do you believe or have you received confirmation that Denver is the Davidic Servant, the one the Lord has sent, the Lord's Hand sent again the second time, the Servant in Jacob 5, you know the one Gileadi talks about all the time? I am curious. By your above post it appears that you do not. Or if so, you will not trust someone that the Lord has sent to help facilitate the work of the Last Days. It's not a trick question and I am not judging you. I am just trying to understand your position. Thanks, Lisa

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

And I know the scripture you are referring too about being cursed.

- Log January 22, 2018

Lisa,

I do not know whether or not Denver is the Davidic servant of whom you speak, and it makes no difference whether he is or not: if he is the Davidic servant, all who trust him are going to hell unless and until they repent and rely solely upon the Lord; if he is not the Davidic servant, all who trust him are going to hell unless and until they repent and rely solely upon the Lord.

I shall do exactly and only as the Lord commands; there is nothing more to understand about my position.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

2 Nephi 28:31 Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

Ok, that is fair, thanks for being truthful. Is the scripture above in 2nd Nephi the one you derive your position from about trusting in a man? And would you have trusted in Enoch?

- Log January 22, 2018

The scriptures to which I refer are these:

2 Nephi 4:34 O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm.

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 28:31 Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

JST Mark 9:44 Therefore, let every man stand or fall by himself and not for another, or not trusting another.

Also, these too should be kept in mind.

To lead men astray - for example, by teaching them to trust in men - is to murder them, said Alma (Alma 36:14), and we know that no murderer has eternal life, said John (1 John 3:15). Therefore, those who teach men to trust in men do not have eternal life.

Jared Livesey

- Log

January 22, 2018

Anyone who trusted Enoch back in the day would be in hell right now. There is no exception to the Lord's statement that any who trust men are cursed. It doesn't matter if it is a "true" or "authorized" "messenger" or "servant" or "prophet" or "priest" or "king" who is trusted; all who trust men are cursed - severed from the Lord's presence, denied association with him - that is, denied priesthood - and abide without eternal life.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend

January 22, 2018

Ok, let me try to answer the first point. I agree with you not to put your trust in the arm of the flesh. I would say that a man who is born again, has experienced a Spiritual Rebirth who is Perfected in Christ is not after the flesh (arm of the flesh) as your scriptural references describe. Here are the scriptures that support this understanding.

Colossians 1:28

1 John 5:18
18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

JST, 2 Corinthians 5:16-17
16 Wherefore, henceforth live we no more after the flesh; yea, though we once lived after the flesh, yet since we have known Christ, now henceforth live we no more after the flesh.
17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Ephesians 4:22-24
22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;
24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Romans 6:20-23 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.
22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

So the point is that the arm of the flesh is a natural man who is an enemy to God. The Spiritually reborn man is free from sin, a new creature - no longer of the flesh, produces fruit, is a servant of God and is given God's power to do God's work when necessary. Do a scripture search on it yourself.

Abraham and Noah were 2 such men. Well God's true Servants have to be because born of the Spirit, they need to be trusted by God to do His work. If God trusts them, why would I not? Nephi also warranted this trust from the Lord. See next post.

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

"Blessed art thou, Nephi, for those things which thou hast done; for I have beheld how thou hast with unwearyingness declared the word, which I have given unto thee, unto this people. And thou hast not feared them, and hast not sought thine own life, but hast sought my will, and to keep my commandments. And now, because thou hast done this with such unwearyingness, behold, I will bless thee forever; and I will make thee mighty in word and in deed, in faith and in works; yea, even that all things shall be done unto thee according to thy word, for thou shalt not ask that which is contrary to my will. Behold, thou art Nephi, and I am God. Behold, I declare it unto thee in the presence of mine angels, that ye shall have power over this people, and shall smite the earth with famine, and with pestilence, and destruction, according to the wickedness of this people. Behold, I give unto you power, that whatsoever ye shall seal on earth shall be sealed in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven; and thus shall ye have power among this people. And thus, if ye shall say unto this temple it shall be rent in twain, it shall be done. And if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou cast down and become smooth, it shall be done. And behold, if ye shall say that God shall smite this people, it shall come to pass.And now behold, I command you, that ye shall go and declare unto this people, that thus saith the Lord God, who is the Almighty: Except ye repent ye shall be smitten, even unto destruction." (Helaman 10: 4-11.)

This is meekness. First, Nephi had conducted his life meekly. He did not fear others. He was not afraid to lose his standing, even his life. He kept God's commandments to him above all else. He possessed an iron will, his face like flint, unwilling to waiver from what the Lord would have him say and do. He could not be tempted to betray the Lord's will. Therefore, the Lord knew by the way Nephi lived his life that he would "not ask that which is contrary to [the Lord's] will." Never.

Therefore, when the Lord had tried him and determined he was willing to serve Him at all costs, he qualifies to receive trust from God. That trust allows the Lord to confer upon the man great power. (See also TPJS p. 150: "After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, is baptized for the remission of his sins, and receives the Holy Ghost (by the laying on of hands), which is the first Comforter, then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness and living by every word of God. The Lord will soon say unto him, 'Son, thou shalt be exalted.' When the Lord has thoroughly proved him and finds that the man is determined to serve him at all hazards, then the man will find his calling and election made sure.")

Meekness is required to qualify for great power. And you know a man is meek when, having great power, he uses it strictly in conformity with the Lord's will; never varying from the Lord's command, and never pursuing his own agenda. This kind of meekness is men is a rare thing. Nephi, after receiving that power, was instructed that he was to deliver the Lord's message: "thus saith the Lord God, who is Almighty: Except ye repent ye shall be smitten, even unto destruction." It is the Lord's judgment. It is a meek man who delivers it. But such judgments only come after the Lord has a meek soul upon whom He can place this trust. For He has covenanted to always first employ such a servant before imposing judgments upon mankind. (Amos 3: 7.)

- Log January 22, 2018

"If God trusts them, why would I not?"

Because God says if you do, you are cursed - severed from his presence, denied

association with him, and hellbound.

Those who have received the Holy Ghost, given upon full and sincere repentance from all sin and baptism, need no man - not even a "true" or "authorized" "messenger" or "servant" or "prophet" or "priest" or "king" - to teach them (1 John 2:20,27).

Moreover, we know the Lord tests men on precisely this point - to see if they are loyal to him, or loyal to his servants - whether they rely on him alone, or trust men, as demonstrated in 1 Kings 13.

Wisdom, therefore, dictates that we not murder men by teaching them to trust any other man. I prefer eternal life to hell, though I acnowledge all are free to make that choice for themselves.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

I think that covers the trust in the arm of the flesh issue. Now for the question about Enoch. You say that if a man followed Enoch he was damned. :0

Moses 7:13 And so great was the faith of Enoch that he led the people of God, and their enemies came to battle against them; and he spake the word of the Lord, and the earth trembled, and the mountains fled, even according to his command; and the rivers of water were turned out of their course; and the roar of the lions was heard out of the wilderness; and all nations feared greatly, so powerful was the word of Enoch, and so great was the power of the language which God had given him.
14 There also came up a land out of the depth of the sea, and so great was the fear of the enemies of the people of God, that they fled and stood afar off and went upon the land which came up out of the depth of the sea.

Now this is the kind of guy that I would get behind. Why because the Lord trusted Enoch to speak His words, and use His mighty power. Why would I not want to be hanging out with Enoch? The people of Enoch's city just decided independently to do everything they did. What would that even look like? I don't think so. Enoch taught and instructed the people in meekness and all forms of godliness.

We have had the Holy Scriptures with us for how long? The Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful are beautiful true scriptures, and I love them. People are not getting it, if they were, well we wouldn't need a Servant. But the scriptures say otherwise. And the vineyard is still barren, except for the Servant and some other Servants that have received this Spiritual Rebirth. Everyone can do this. Do a scripture study on it. It is amazing. The Second Comforter is a great resource as well.

I know Denver is the Servant whom God trusts. I know it without any reservation. The Spirit has borne witness to it, and it has been confirmed. But do not take my word for it. I am not disputing or forcing or anything like that. I am using my knowledge and experiences to try to persuade.

We are taking time to study it out and go back to the Lord for answers and confirmation. He said He would confirm my words. We should be putting Denver's teachings into our G&S. We have to know and help others know how to learn and do greater things. There is a lot of work to be done. Log, please help us to do it. Ask, Seek, Knock wth pure intent, one more time. Open your heart. This is the Father's work.

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

Arm of Flesh = Natural Man - We are not to trust in the arm of flesh or natural man who is an enemy to God. There are plenty of them around.

2Nephi 28:31 Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost. I think this scripture says pretty clearly, you can trust a man if their precepts are given by the power of the Holy Ghost. I do believe Denver qualifies under this qualification.
Are you sure the scripture reference above is correct 1 John 2:20,27?

If you have watched the LDS Temple film which is for the most part valid. You will see Adam and Eve participating in their test. The test is to discern True Messengers from False Messengers or Satan, which implies there is both. And we know there is by experience. Jehovah sends the True Messengers at Elohiem's command. Think of their attributes and power. They don't need money, they don't preach the preceipts of men mingled with scripture, they cast Satan out. Adam says now. I know your are True Messengers sent from the Father. These are True Messengers. And then something like - I would exhort you to give strict heed to their teachings and they will lead you in the ways of truth and salvation. And Satan goes off into the tribulations, and Adam and Eve are protected. Well that's my take anyway. Haven't been to the Temple in a while. The 64,000 dollar question is, really it's free, just wanted to say that - Who are the True Messengers today? Who's teachings should we give heed too?
True Servants are His mouth, and they are His hands. You should ask the Lord who they are. The Spirit will reveal it to you, if you ask properly.

- Log January 22, 2018

I am trying to help you. That is why I have said here what I have said.

And why I said this: That They May Stumble
And this: The Logical Case for The Rock of Jesus Christ
And this: Why The Rock of Jesus Christ Can Be the Guide and Standard
And this: Merely Adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ Is Not Enough
And this: Believing in Christ Entails Obeying His Commandments as They Are Written
And this: The Rock of Jesus Christ Through the Ages
And this: Nothing Doubting - the point isn't to follow an Enoch but to become as Enoch.
And this: The Gentile "Remnant" in Prophecy

Jared Livesey

- Log January 22, 2018

Indeed, the whole reason I do or say anything among this people is that I am trying to help you.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

I have made true good and valid responses to your points. So do you think the Covenant was from the Lord? Did you say yes and agree to the Covenant?

- Log January 22, 2018

I believe the covenant to be from the Lord and I did say yes to the covenant. If this is in doubt, one may inquire of the Lord.

The formula for such inquiries is as follows:

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 22, 2018

Let me see if I can understand this-
You don't trust Denver because he is a man. You say all will go to hell if we do. Denver gave the prayer for the Covenant and the Answer. Yet you accepted the Covenant. Were you not trusting Denver (a man) when you did that? Denver was solely responsible for delivering the Covenant. Why would you accept it, especially from a man you don't know is a Servant of God. That totally does not compute.
Help me understand that logic.

Oh, and you called me a Wo(man) in an earlier post, what did you mean? I think I know, but I'm not sure.

- Log January 22, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 22, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 22, 2018

Lisa,

I have made mistakes in the past. I learned from them, and I try to help others to not commit them by explaining the nature of the errors, or, if they have committed or are committing them, to help them to repent, and I certainly will not agree to lead others to commit them and thus murder them and send myself to hell.

The old prophet in 1 Kings 13 who led the young prophet astray was told by an angel to entice the young prophet; the words the old prophet spoke to the young prophet came from the Lord. The young prophet listened to the old prophet instead of relying solely upon the Lord's word to himself and was slain and went to hell for it. It was a fair test of his integrity, his loyalty to and love for and faith in the Lord, and he failed.

Thus saith the Lord: cursed be the man that trusteth in man[.]

If you read the A&C carefully, you will find that the covenant offered through Denver was

utterly unnecessary. All any of us had (have) to do if we wanted (want) God's covenant, he says in the A&C, was (is) to actually do what he says to do in the Book of Mormon. And what he says to do in the Book of Mormon is the Sermon (1 Nephi 13:40-41 - the words he established by his own mouth in person in both the New Testament and the Book of Mormon).

The Sermon is an all-encompassing guide and standard to those who believe and freely do it. The Sermon is the straight and narrow path which leads to life - to Jesus himself - and few there be that find it. Those who have his sayings and commandments and do them are they who love him and he will come to them and bring the Father to them, he says.

They are Zion.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 23, 2018

Thanks Log for the pointed explanation. I appreciate knowing your understanding, because it helps me to reassess my own decisions and actions regarding Denver and the Covenant.

You are trying to save us by making it impossible for us to move forward. You are only 1 person, and there are many others who have differing thoughts on the matter. But I want to address your concerns.

I think most of us having been in the LDS church at some point and then abruptly awakened to our blindness have been jaded by false prophets. No question. I feel that pain. However, there were true prophets as well. There is opposition in all things, wouldn't you say?

The Lord has a work for us to do. We cannot do it independently without help. We need to be taught by true messengers. We need to be led to physical safety. Jesus Christ is the author of our Spiritual salvation. No one can come unto the Father but by me. No question. I would never trust my spiritual welfare to anyone but Jesus Christ himself.

However, due to the impending difficulties we are facing in the near future, we are going to need physical protection. Zion is a place of safety. It is the pure in heart, but it is also a physical location. Zion is built on Celestial principles, so those who help build it must be living a Celesitial law, which is possible here, refer to Temple endowment. So there are things and people that we need help reform, restore, replace, rebuild to secure the necessary elements for that protection. And a Temple will have to be built. Are we going to just show up and start laying bricks independent of any leadership? That doesn't make sense at all. Most people laughed at Noah for building a boat. If they thought the way you did they would say that God would save them. Well he may have after they were dead. But while they were alive they needed the protection of the arc. And Noah was the Lord's hand to provide that protection.

- YourFriend January 23, 2018

What if you are the old prophet leading people astray? In my view, you have dug in with your own strength with an iron will not to budge from your stance. If we did have to have your consent to move forward, and you would not relent, you would be damning everyone. Is that what you want? You would be taking the free agency away from others if that were the case. Satan is the one who does that.

Now I really don't think the Lord is going to damn everyone because of you, and if you thing so, then you don't know the Lord. Besides, you never accepted the Covenant given my Denver, you just said so, that is was not necessary. If you hold that opinion, then I really don't think your heart was in it.

I would like to see you come along though, you definitely keep things interesting.

I had a dream last night. I was laying in my bed resting, in the dream. I leaned up to look around on the floor and I saw several mummys who were taped up from head to toe. They were bound, couldn't see, couldn't hear, couldn't speak. I had prayed for you before I went to bed that the Lord could somehow impress upon you the truth and help you work out your differences. I love everybody and I don't want to lose anyone. Denver said there would be further pruning. That breaks my heart. The dream may mean that some will not be able to come along because they are bound. I am not suggesting that the dream was about you. Because I didn't see a name on the mummies. But it did tell me that some will move on and some would not, no matter how much we love them or care for them.

This is really not about what we choose as a guide and standard. It is about our hearts and how we choose to work together to accomplish what the Lord asks of us. One person trying to direct the whole body is not how it works. If you feel you need to save us, please don't worry, I take full responsibility for my choices. You cannot save people through compulsion anyway. You are wasting your time. Let it go Log. Let us make our own choices. We are accountable. I choose to be taught by a True Servant of the Lord. I believe and know that Denver C. Snuffer Jr. is the latter day David sent from God to lead us in these last days and to complete the restoration of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ and all that entails in preparation for the Second Coming of our Savior in His Glory. I pray that we will all work together to help accomplish this awesome labor of love. And that is about enough from me. I apologize for taking the space. Love, Lisa

- Log January 23, 2018

Lisa,

If we all mutually agree to The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, then you get to teach whatsoever you believe to be necessary within your fellowship, while I will not be compelled to teach anything more or less than the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In this manner there can be peace and agreement between us, consistent with the Lord's requirements and commandments and counsel in the A&C.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet January 23, 2018

Lisa, I am so appreciative of your testimony and witness of the Lord Jesus Christ's work underway. Thank you for all you have shared.

I think the best way I can express what I am feeling right now about the guide and standard is to say from my heart that I would want anyone who were to read it to only think of Christ. I wouldn't want them to think of me, or of Mormonism, or of a church (traditional) or any religion, or of Denver even. I would want them to only think of their Saviour, and become curious about Him, desire to seek Him.

I know that sounds counter to what we are trying to accomplish, but it is what I cry for at this point.

I trust Christ above all others. I know He is near and ever mindful of me. He knows better than anyone what is in my heart. He is able to lead me as no other can or should. I am the one who struggles to hear and obey. He is faithful. We are each here in this moment because of Him and Him alone. I truly believe that.

I am sorry if I disappoint you. I hope you are not feeling frustrated with individuals like Jared and I. I believe we all are trying sincerely to hear, discern, and obey Christ. I will continue to pray we learn how to do that with hearts full of His love for one another. God bless you, Lisa. Thank you for sharing. Lori

- YourFriend January 24, 2018

No I am not frustrated with you at all. We are all seeking to do the right thing. I think the basic intentions are good. And I don't have a problem disagreeing. Denver did say in one of his talks, I think it was the one in Texas, where he said that the Apostles in Christ's day basically adopted the Sermon on the Mount and each Apostle emphasized certain areas of the Gospel within the groups they were teaching. We should all listen again, since I think it pertains to what we are doing. But there was someone who was sent from God teaching, an Apostle, a True Messenger.

I personally like to leave as much room for the Spirit to teach as possible. So I am not far away from the view that you and Jared hold.

However, there is also the way in which we go about the process. I like the Lot's version because the Spirit was sweet and respectful. Those participating had a chance to provide input, get to know others better, to work together. Same with the Lot's process, not all of the direction came from one individual, it was shared. I believe the hand of the Lord was in the process, and I feel impressed that the prayers given and the outcomes were pleasing to the Lord. The Lot's version clearly has acceptance by a large %, last count over 90%, from what I remember, probably more. I would like for us to have direction from a True Messenger from our day within the G&S. I think those that do not fully have a testimony that Denver is a True Messanger, will not have an easy time going forward. Because he will most likely be the Lord's mouthpiece for other possibly more difficult tasks. I think the body of our group selected the Lot's version. The communication coming from that group selected by the Lord to put together the G&S from what others had given was sweet, reverent, peace filled and loving. The communication coming from supporters of other versions were confused, unloving, at times forceful and ridged, definitely not from the Lord.

So it is not only content that is on the table here. It is the source, and choosing God's will that is on the line. Can we as a body discern which would please the Lord? Or which would please us?

If most of the body would change to support just the Sermon on the Mount, I would support it too. I would believe that most of these righteous individuals who have come this far to get to this point are for the most part inspired of God. I would be humble and loving enough to change my support, to change to support what the majority supports, because I have the faith that our fellow remnant saints are capable of making the right choice. If I didn't think that, then I am in the wrong place. Really

Love to you all and may the Lord make a way for us to be succeful in the efforts He has charged us with. Lisa

- Log January 24, 2018

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- Log January 24, 2018

I understand that to "move forward" without abiding the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, one must have power to excommunicate dissenters, or define dissenters as outside of the covenant body. There is no authority within the A&C for either of these. As it is written, "what therefore God hath joined, let not man put asunder."

Therefore it is literally impossible to move forward and do what the Lord said so long as there is dissent to a proposal. And if a G&S is adopted without mutual agreement, then the body shall be unable to accomplish the tasks the Lord shall require of it, as he said in the A&C.

Since salvation requires not doing just some things the Lord commands, but doing all things whatsoever the Lord commands, the body will not be saved should those who advocate violating the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement successfully suborn the Scripture Committee into forsaking their integrity and publishing a G&S in the scriptures despite their knowledge that the proposal does not meet the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement.

Zion is not a place for those who say they believe in the Lord and do not do what he says to do.

Actions have consequences. The only safety is in doing exactly and only what the Lord commands. It is a fair test of the integrity of the body as a whole to require the G&S be adopted by mutual agreement. If this body will not do that, but pretend instead that those who dissent from the majority proposal are not of this body and publish it as the G&S, Zion is not for this body.

Jared Livesey

- Dani January 24, 2018

If we are believers in Christ, willing to hear Him alone, His words cannot be objectionable on grounds that not enough people had input. Nor can it be claimed that the majority should be followed because they are the majority. Nor can it be claimed that Snuffer is impeded from doing the work given to him if the content of a G&S does not include his words. Nor can it be claimed the the words from the Lord's own mouth are not sufficient ly filled with the Spirit. Also see "Trangularity" in Ten Parables by Denver Snuffer.

- YourFriend January 24, 2018

It is Jesus Christ that has confirmed Denver’s role to me, more than once. It is His and the Father’s words that I base my testimony. This is after all the Father’s work. He will use many Servants to perform His work. His Servant David/Denver is His Hand sent again the 2nd time. God’s word comes from His True Servant(s). They are the same. To reject God’s true servant(s) is the same as rejecting Him. Many, most of the body realize this, are are aligned with Christ in this knowledge. Please don’t take my word for it. It is simply my testimony. You are free the express yours. We have to be aligned with God and together in Him. We are here because we were gathered. The gathering has been in the works for years. It started for me in 2008 with the Second Comforter book

which teaches all how to have an audience with Christ. I've been waiting a long time to get where we are now, I have sacrificed all that has been asked of me. I have given up so much to follow this path. As I am sure many have. I see great opportunities for all of us. All of the great prophets of the past have wanted to be right where we are now.

Question is can we do it? Are we up to it. Who will say, ok let's try it your way? Who will say, I put my own needs and desires aside? Who will say, maybe I shouldn't be here if I can't accept that others may have good ideas too? Who will say maybe I am wrong? I will. Maybe I am wrong. But I would go to my death to support the work that we are now in the midst of. It means that much to me. How much does it mean to you? I know Jesus Christ is loving and kind, He is merciful. I fear one thing, and that is not pleasing Him. I ask His forgiveness for anything that I have said that has not been in perfect alignment with His will. Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet January 24, 2018

Thank you for suggesting the parable "Trangularity," Dani. I just read it. I agree there is something in it for all of us to learn. Wow. Great stuff. I have so much to consider and understand and learn.

- etluxentenebrislucet January 24, 2018

I will also offer that I may be in error, Lisa. I have been studying so much these few days--reading Denver's blog from the earliest entries, doing searches of his posts for specific topics or words, reading and re-reading passages of scripture, and other books I have felt drawn to that fit in the big picture. My brain feels like it is melting and my heart is in a constant state of brokenness.

I have been astonished at what I find on older blog posts of Denver's. Simply astonished. Eight years later those same words mean even more to me. I would encourage all to go backward in time for a little to see what Spirit will speak to you and where your eyes will be opened. I now have more questions than answers and feel troubled.

May I ask you a question about something you have said more than once? I have heard the same from more than one person and desire to understand why. I have wanted to ask this for a while now, but have been afraid some might think I am accusing when I just want to understand better. It ties into a concern I have over the G&S. Your answer might help me sort out my own thoughts and where we are at.

On another note, I have been wondering today if it is time we all take our G&S for a test ride. That can mean whichever one we each have felt a confirmation to follow as individuals, as families, and as fellowships. Perhaps we need to experience what fruit it bears out to determine a correct path forward? Thoughts?

- YourFriend January 24, 2018

I think that is a wonderful idea. I have tomorrow off, I will do it then. And I am open to any and all questions. Nobody should be judging. We are all found lacking.

- etluxentenebrislucet January 24, 2018

Thank you, Lisa. You have been wonderful to discuss things with.

I have been wondering why some people speak of Denver or refer to him often as "His

Servant" or "David" or "His Servant David."

I am not asking from a place of doubt of Denver's role or importance, or because I don't believe he is such.

But why not simply call him Denver? Does he mind the titles? Do we burden him when we speak of him thus? Is it idolatry, or bordering on idolatry? Does it place him on a pedestal, above the rest of us? In other words, does it create inequality on a fundamental level?

I did a word search on Denver's site for idolatry and read through every blog post. I was, once again, astonished by what he has said and how he said it.

Did the people of Salem refer to Melchizedek as their "Prince of peace" or as their "king" in everyday life, while he was in their midst? I honestly wonder.

What is the difference between respect and gratitude for the faith and work of one man, and idolatry of him? How does one know when that smidgen of a line has been crossed? Is there a difference between hearkening to a messenger, and following him/her? If so, how do we do the former and not fall into a habit of the latter?

And is there a potential (risk?) that a G&S filled mostly with the words of a man could set others up to commit idolatry, even if ignorantly?

Do we have a responsibility to help warn others about idolatry in all its forms? Are we certain we are freed from its chains?

These things keep me awake at night. Thank you for being open to hearing me. I just want to understand what I am seeing instead of potentially drawing wrong conclusions.
Lori

- YourFriend — January 24, 2018

Very good questions Lori. I have answers. Will respond tomorrow. I would like to revisit some of the material we have been discussing to enhance my own understanding. Like you I am constantly in search of truth. Thanks so much for asking. I think it is the source of much confusion.

- Dani — January 24, 2018

Miss Lisa,

I just want to get on here and clarify that I am not your enemy. I hope my direct manner doesn't make you think otherwise. I want you to know that did fast on the 14th,as you had requested of this group, and it was fruitful, so in that I thank the Lord and any of this body that brought faith to that day. I hope peace will descend upon all of us.

- YourFriend — January 25, 2018

Hi Dani,
No, I don't take offence. It wasn't my idea to fast, that was another sister, but I commented after her. Anything we can do and any sacrifice we can make is important because we really need all the help we can get. I don't usually put myself out here, I am usually in the background, I don't like being in front of people. In his last talk (as I understood it), Denver mentioned that there has not been enough patience,

persuasiveness or kindness in our exchanges. There has still been too much dispute. I feel it a burden to do what I can, because I dearly want us to succeed. Plus the Spirit gave me a not so subtle nudge.

I read the section you suggested in the 10 Parables called Triangularity. I do agree with you. We should have a one to one communication with God. In truth we should be intimate with Him, He should be our friend. I now have this relationship with Him, mostly, I could probably say exclusively because of reading the book, The Second Comforter. Denver pointed me to Christ. He shared (in the book) experiences with me that I could never have understood by reading the scriptures. The verbiage (language) of the scriptures is somewhat hard for me to understand. He never suggested I or anyone else make of him an idol. He loathes even the thought of that. That would damn all of us. That's not the goal.

While I was getting the 10 Parables down from the shelf, it came open to the parable Five Men from God. The title interested me since it seem to be the very substance of what we have been discussing. And also somewhat of an answer to the quandray on which we have been disagreeing. God does that with me a lot. Please read. I had to read it a few times, but I believe the answer is clear. God does send men and we mostly do not accept them, in fact we usually kill them.

However, God, his 5 messengers and those who chose to be with them (which were few), not idolize them, not worship them, not trust in them for their Spiritual salvation. God said, I have sent you 5 witnesses of my power to bless mankind, all under vow. Why do you disbelieve my mercy when I have honored all those, even those who failed in the vow with blessings for the vow's sake? We, as a rule, don't like any messenger who God's sends. God says, You cannot be pleased". As for you, you can go away unwarned, uncounseled, untaught, and unprepared against the day. And mankind was pleased with God's saying, thinking themselves freed from a great burden. Yet they assumed the burden to live without God in the world. (Not what I want)

God, his five messangers and those who chose to be with them, departed and lived in peace: which pleased them. (Yep, that's for me)

I think it is interesting that the two parables are both in the book, but they seem to contradict one another, if you choose to believe you can only be with Christ and not a man sent by Him, who has made vows with him.

I believe you can do both. I am doing it now. I pray that you will find answers in the parable.

Thanks for participating in the discussion.
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend January 25, 2018

Working on your answers. Trying to bullet them. So give me a bit. Just happened to fall into the answer for Dani. It was like handed to me. But your answer relates to hers. I have to get into more scripture, but the two answers related to each other very well. Haven't forgotten you.

- YourFriend January 25, 2018

There is a lot to this, I hope I can do it justice.
I think Avraham Gileadi was one of the first to pick up on the Davidic Servant being an

end time role. I was reading heavily into Denver's work and Gileadi's at the same time. Denver had never by that time mentioned that he was the Lord's Servant David. He said as far as he was concerned, no one could claim the title unless they did the work. But from reading Gileadi and watching Denver, he was to me, doing pretty much what Gileadi said the Servant David would do. So I think I was putting it together a while before Denver ever said that he was the Lord's Servant David. But that is not how I gained my testimony of it, I was told twice through revelation. There are stories behind the testimony, maybe we will meet someday and I can tell you personally.

Let me try to explain a more in-depth understanding of the Davidic Servant. There is a lot of information about the Davidic Servant now, I would say study with discernment. Because just about everyone has it wrong on who it is. People will say it is just about anyone.

According to prophesy, God's raises up a Davidic king which is his end-time servant. It is similar to God's raising up King David in response to his people's need for divine protection. God's end-time servant, is in essence a temporal messiah, not a spiritual messiah. Jesus is the one and only spiritual messiah and we are saved spiritually by Him and in no other way. The Davidic servant saves us temporally, or keeps us safe physically as long as we will accept him and be taught by him. The Spirit can guide us as to confirming the identity of the Servant and what is necessary to qualify for physical protection under his hand, if we will have an open heart about the matter and real intent. Also, check out the book "Ten Parables" by Denver the section on "Five Men from God", and the answer to Dani's post below. Pretty interesting.
Below are some relevant scriptures, by all means this only scratches the surface.
Nephi 21:10
10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious.

D&C 113: 5-6
5 What is the root of Jesse spoken of in the 10th verse of the 11th chapter [of Isaiah = 2 Nephi 21]?
6 Behold, thus saith the Lord, it is a descendant of Jesse, as well as of Joseph, unto whom rightly belongs the priesthood, and the keys of the kingdom, for an ensign, and for the gathering of my people in the last days.
Rom. 15: 12.
12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.
Ezek. 34: 23-24
And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.
And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the Lord have spoken it.
D&C 85: 7
And it shall come to pass that I, the Lord God, will send one mighty and strong, holding the scepter of power in his hand, clothed with light for a covering, whose mouth shall utter words, eternal words; while his bowels shall be a fountain of truth, to set in order the house of God, and to arrange by lot the inheritances of the saints whose names are found, and the names of their fathers, and of their children, enrolled in the book of the law of God;
Isa. 28: 1-3
Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!
Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth

with the hand.
The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim, shall be trodden under feet.

- YourFriend January 25, 2018

Now, the first time that I heard Denver mention anything of the name given him by the Lord, it was at a Conference in St. George. Here is his account. 2017.03.19 Q&A St. George General Conference 2017
Question put to Denver - What is the significance and meaning of the new name David?"
Answer: Okay, the advice I got was to not even mention this subject. I wasn't going to do it, but Steph and I will discuss me addressing this question on the drive home. I don't claim anything from having the name. As far as I can tell there's only one way in which it matters to me. I do not claim anything of any significance associated with the revelation of a new name, of the giving of a new name.
To me, the only things about it that were noteworthy are: I was first baptized on September 10th, I was also excommunicated forty years later on the same date, September 10th, I was also given a new name on September 10th. The September the 10th on which I received a new name, was 9-10-11 and to me that was an interesting alignment.
The account accurately depicts that I was not happy with the name. To me it was an unwanted, unlovely appellation. Understand, the name David associated with other people is just fine. I know a lot of Davids and I like their name. I have a partner in my law firm whose first name is David. David is a perfectly good name. But the name David when spoken by God suggests to my mind, not my partner or other people I know and respect having that name. When the name is spoken by God, I think of only one individual: That was the ancient king of Israel who, to me, was a moral failure. And so my mind did not run to my partner or to other people I know and love. My mind ran to that man, the king of Israel who murdered Uriah. To me that man and that context is a harbinger of an ill wind, to say the least. So it wasn't wanted.
The response of the Lord, after I had finished my complaints and I'd worked myself up into an obnoxious and complaining outburst. The Lord's response was so mild, but cutting, that I thought it reflected so well on Him, that when I was told this has to be included in the scripture project, I thought it reflected great credit on the Lord.
I was willing to go to the grave with no one knowing a thing about the new name. I thought that for the most part the entire way in which that unfolded, reflected credit upon the Lord and showed you how a master teacher can convey, in the mildest of ways, a cutting rebuke to teach. I needed to be taught. His mild rebuke contrasts with my ingratitude, complaining and upset. He was gracious to the inappropriate and ungrateful man He addressed. That contrast shows His brilliance. I think that is the meaning of the event.
Now, I don't make any claim for anything beyond that. ————————End

This is posted on the internet, so I don't think it will be a problem posting it here. I think it will be in the new scriptures as well.
On another point - The Boise Fellowship Group has done an amazing job archiving the library. You can find just about anything remnant here.
https://restorationarchives.com/library/
Continued

- YourFriend January 25, 2018

Here is my take on Denver- mine only - I think the above answer shows a pretty humble reaction to a pretty awesome blessing. To my knowledge, no one calls him David. I asked at the last Conference I attended, what should I call him and the answer from someone who knew him better was to call him Denver. I have been around Denver a

few times, he is not the kind of person that goes around shaking hands. (Like the G.A.s) He does not call attention to himself at all. The last thing he wants is to be made an idol of. That is 100% truth. It's kind of hard to speak to him, he runs away. But it is to take the attention off of himself and keep it on the message, where it should be. Messengers are generally not who you would think they would be. They are like the prophets of old in the scriptures, just regular folks. Slow to speech (not dumb, they just would rather be doing something else), they may have had a few hiccups in their past (like Alma the Younger) providing some hard won lessons resulting in meekness, humility, compassion, generally speaking they do not want to stand out in a crowd, and they are always abhorred and persecuted by outsiders and even some of those inside their circles. In the presentation of the Covenant, I think it was the latter remarks, not sure, but he said we must be equal. And he hoped he would be worthy to be found among us. That he would be an equal with us. That is what has to happen. There is a difference between not believing yourself better than someone and on the flip side, lording over people. He will not Lord over us and he does not believe himself better that us, but he still must continue to deliver God's word. That is his end time mission. He must continue to teach truth. He must still to the work of the latter day David. And we should be supporting him at that work. We have been gathered to do just that. That is what I am doing now.

The reason I have to be a witness of him, is that he will not be a witness of himself. I don't know if he ever mentions it. He just continues to do the work. And the work is a great sacrifice. No one would want to do it if they didn't know it was God that was making the request. It is much easier to hang out with friends, go to the movies, go on vacations, enjoy life. It's just not going to look the same at some point, unfortunately. So work has to be done to prepare the people who will listen. Matthew 24 – Same thing, different time.

All that said, means we have a choice to make - to accept, listen, learn and act accordingly, or reject, close our hearts, dissent, dispute and fight against Zion. It is up to us. No compulsion at all.

As we go forward, it will take more and more spiritual light, humility, faith and sacrifice, if we do not accept Denver now, we sure won't accept him later. I am just thankful the Lord has sent His hand to teach and protect us. We will definitely need protection! God testifies of Denver to me. But I do not place Denver between God and myself. And Denver definitely does not want to be there, I assure you.

I am just trying to lay it out. I am not forcing anyone to believe me. I appreciate you asking the question.
While I was reviewing the Lot's Guide and Standard and the Sermon on the Mount, Rock of Jesus Christ version, I had some good impressions. Thanks for suggesting that we review them. I will post my impressions soon. I have to go eat now. And please let me know if you still have a question. There were a lot of questions, but all seemed to be about making an idol out of Denver. That has never been an issue for me. I do love him and Stephanie though. They are awesome! But so are a lot of my other friends.
Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet January 25, 2018

Thank you for taking so much time to put your thoughts and heart into words. I think I do have a better understanding of where you are coming from now. You have been given a witness through Spirit that Denver is indeed the Davidic Servant spoken of in scripture and believe he and his mission must be testified of, to awaken others to the perils of our day. Did I get that right?

I am grateful to know people are mindful of not making an idol of Denver. I feel it may be

difficult for some, almost like a slippery slope type exercise not to fall back into when one's life has been immersed in a culture that makes idols of everything and everyone.

There is so much to be grateful for and to do still yet. I hope we can learn to peaceably work together alongside Denver, even if we still disagree at times.

I will read that parable you shared, too. There are so many ideas and truths taught in that little book. It is good to revisit it, along with all the others Denver has written.

God bless you, Lisa, and thank you for helping me understand. :) Lori <3

- Log January 26, 2018

From Question 4 of the A&C:

[D]o you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?

Modern dictionary definitions of words and phrases in context:

Seek[1] = work to achieve something
Heart = the seat of emotion and feeling
Seek[2] = Search for someone
Establish = achieve permanent acceptance or recognition for a set of rules
Righteousness = the quality of being in accord with divine law, freedom from guilt or sin

We each covenanted to work to have the same feelings as those who search for the Lord that they may achieve permanent acceptance and recognition of his law and commandments.

Or, in other words, we each covenanted to work to be united with those who keep, teach, and work for the permanent recognition and acceptance of the Lord's law and commandments.

Jared Livesey

- Log January 26, 2018

For we seek the Lord by keeping his law and commandments, and if we will do that, he says he will come to us and bring the Father to us.

John 14:21-24
21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me.
===

D&C 130:3 John 14:23—The appearing of the Father and the Son, in that verse, is a personal appearance; and the idea that the Father and the Son dwell in a man's heart is an old sectarian notion, and is false.
===

JST Matt 5:21-22
21 Whosoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so to do, he shall in no wise be saved in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach these commandments of the law until it be fulfilled, the same shall be called great and shall be saved in the kingdom of heaven.

22 For I say unto you, except your righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.
===

D&C 82:10 I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

Jared Livesey

- Log January 26, 2018

And his law and commandments are the Sermon.

Jared Livesey

- Log January 26, 2018

And adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the G&S would, on its face, constitute permanent recognition and acceptance of the Lord's law and commandments by the covenant participants.

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend January 26, 2018

Thanks Lori, You have a beautiful spirit. It is so nice to be able to discuss topics without guile or dissension. I have been reading, specifically the Lot's version of the G&S and the Sermon on the Mount from the scriptures. My mind is weak and I forget easily. I am finding much to love in the Lot's version, even more than I had in the past, largely because of our exchanges on this thread. One thing I really loved is that it says in the Lot's G&S

The Lord said, Although a man or woman may err in understanding (me or you) concerning many things, yet he or she can view his brother or sister with charity then your brother's or sister's error in understanding will not divide you. Study to learn to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger. I love that, we may have differences and I am sure we do, we are different people with different experiences and backgrounds, but those differences do not have to divide us. The Lord said so.

You know, I am not in a Fellowship at the moment due to distance restrictions. But if we are going back to the ancient way of doing things, meeting in homes, having services,

prayers, etc. It seems to stand to reason, that the experiences that others have had meeting in Fellowships, along with the guides that have come by revelation from Denver, Joseph Smith, or the scriptures should be included in the G&S.
Another part I liked in the Lot's G&S was this statement - This part comes from Denver - God alone will establish Zion. His instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once He instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that His direction to us now is consistent with what He prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God's immediate commands to us. That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there. Zion and the New Jerusalem are a place, occupied by covenant people, and not something an individual can be or become. People who gather there will all need to be individually redeemed, individually penitent, individually connected to God, but will only belong to the community if they belong to the covenant and area of one heart and one mind and have all things in common between and among them (so there is more to it than individual righteousness) - using only the Sermon on the Mount, you do not get this beautiful instruction pertinent to our immediate situation that we find ourselves in. I think that would be very sad. :(.

I personally have a difficult time with scripture language, I need a G&S that is written in the language of our day to fully understand what is expected. But that is just me.

- YourFriend January 26, 2018

I do have an undeniable testimony that Denver is the Davidic Servant, which I believe most people that have received the Covenant do. At the beginning of the Lot's G&S it says this- We as a people (in the Covenant) therefore stand as witnesses to the word of Jesus Christ in our day (in our day emphasized) and declare as truth and with sober ness that God has set His hand yet again (His hand is referring expressly to God's Servant Denver/David) to call His people to labor in preparing the way for Jesus Christ's return. (The Servant calls his people to labor) We invite all who receive this witness to come and learn of His ways.

Without these understandings, it is really not a guide and standard for us in our day, with what is happening right now.
I understand the feelings associated with blindly placing faith in the brethren and how that turned out. I think we will all be super cautious to not make that error again. Even Denver himself defended the brethren to the Lord, so he was burned as well. But we cannot fear making an error, because fear is not of God. It is of Satan. As you I'm sure already know.

Please seek a testimony about the Davidic Servant being Denver, and keep up the study. I love how you put your heart into it. Let's agree to disagree and for now part in love to continue to seek further knowledge and inspiration. It was a pleasure to get to know you a little. Hopefully we can do it more at some point in the future. Please let me know if you have any further questions, I am not a scripture scholar, but the Lord blesses me with knowledge through the Spirit. God bless you and have a great weekend!
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend January 26, 2018

Here is the statement found in the Lot's G&S which I believe quite a few of us are on board with - We as a people, therefore stand as witnesses to the work of Jesus Christ in our day and declare as truth and with soberness that God has set His hand (Denver/David) to call His people to labor (His hand calls us to labor) in preparing the way for Jesus Christ's return. We invite all who receive this witness to come and learn of

His ways.

Also in the Lot's G&S - A&C pg 8 - Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me, he can with patience overcome the world.

Therefore, if you regard one another with charity then your brother's error in understanding will not divide you. Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger.

My belief is that these timely and profound statements are meant for us in our day and deserve, and even need to be in our Guide and Standard.

One more that we would not have, if we adopted the Rock of Jesus Christ.
This is from Denver-
God alone will establish Zion, His instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once He instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that His direction to us now is consistent with what He prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God's immediate commands to us. That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there. Zion and the New Jerusalem are a place, occupied by covenant people, and not something an individual can be or become. People who gather there will all need to be individually redeemed, individually penitent, individually connected to God, but will only belong to the community if they belong to the covenant and are of one heard and one mind and have all things in common between and among them.
Continued-

- YourFriend January 26, 2018

I see your point and I understand it completely. It is my belief that because of errors of the past, there may be fear and because of that fear you may have placed yourself in a box. It is a good box, but a box no less. Fear is not of God. If I am in error, I apologize. However, I say to you best of luck in your efforts to adopt the G&S that you feel safe with.

I prefer one I can learn how to participate in a fellowship, one that will help me with what we are doing today, and one that will teach me how to some day come to live in a Zion Community, where God can live among us. I prefer a G&S in my own language, not is ancient scripture language, which is hard for an Engineering mind like mine to understand. The Rock of Jesus Christ does not address with specificity any of the points that I have listed that are addressed in the Lot's G&S.

God asked us to reason together. The Lot's G&S was available for all to comment, exchange ideas, build on a topic, take away from a topic, make suggestions, recategorize, define, etc., that is my understanding of working and reasoning together. We reasoned a lot about the material in the Lot's G&S, for the most part, it was a very polite exchange of ideas. The Lot's G&S is the only one where all truly had an opportunity to reason together. It gives just enough direction to allow the Spirit to guide, does not list out a lot of performances to be strictly kept one particular way or the other. I like that.

I am just trying to explain to you why I hold the opinion that we should adopt the Lot's version that had over 90% acceptance of the body, I think the number is much higher now. And why I think The Lot's version is better. I love the Sermon on the Mount, The Lot's version has the Sermon on the Mount and The Sermon at Bountiful in it. It also

contains the Doctrine of Christ. So it is all contained in the Lot's version anyway. There is just some items that are more pertinent to our day included that are needed to help facilitate the Fellowships. That will be helpful for the new people coming among us.

So I tried my best, although it may not have been enough, I think the exchanges were charitable.

Therefore, if you regard one another with charity then your brother's or sister's error in understanding WILL NOT DIVIDE YOU. Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other, causing anger.
I just love that statement!

Log I hope things work out for your brother. God bless you!
Love, Lisa

- Log January 26, 2018

The lesson we should have learned from the Church: Where It All Went Wrong

It seems that the lesson has not been heeded.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda January 27, 2018

I'm not sure how to propose an idea to continue working on a guide afresh. There is a significant spark missing from each and every proposal put forth, and that is effort to breach into the heavens, to become precisely what God is, as Joseph Smith last called the first principles of the gospel.

The first G&S proposals all begin with a Campbellite emphasis, a restorative effort, ...only with a Mormon twist, where hierarchy is there, but no one wants to hold the blame of controlling the perceived outcomes. None of us want to be Brigham, but we are still trying to forward efforts through a quorum, wether claiming a calling from Denver, or a majority. The only progress that came from the lots was that an effort was made to level the playing field. The content never changed in it's foundation when compared to the other documents. However, they instead resorted to tapping into the confidence of others, quoting men without doubt, to justify their own insecurity. But each, including Jared Livesey's suggestion, fails to preserve the restoration Joseph Smith established, or even touches upon the grandness of the concepts introduced by Denver, in order to complete the work of Elias and move forward in the work of Elijah. None of it describes who we worship or how we worship, as John the Beloved described. All anyone has ever done was to propose yet another box, institution, or manual.

Where's the spark of life, the reason, the purpose behind what we do? Joseph's King Follet discourse, delivered several months before his death addressed who we worship, and how we worship, and why Denver's words had any magnetism for all of us to sacrifice what we have sacrificed. It will also be the spark that will produce the ultimate sacrifice of all things.

I am in an effort to make a new proposal, as I have said before, in the direction of J Smith's K Follet discourse, Denver's effort to preserve the restoration. But am technologically unaware of posting it here, or anywhere else. And I would like some help.

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet January 27, 2018

Rob, if you want it submitted here on the blog send your proposal in an email to guideandstandard@gmail.com with your request to have it posted. The Scripture Committee folks control what is posted here. New proposals or ideas are placed in the side bar.

- Log January 28, 2018

My position is permanent.

Jared Livesey

- Log January 28, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log January 28, 2018

Lori suggested we all try abiding our G&Ss and see what happens.

I have an alternative suggestion. Try abiding The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, and see what happens.

How many of us want to feel more spiritually fulfilled and nourished? In the sacramental prayer for the bread, we are promised that if we will keep the Lord's commandments, we may have his spirit to be with us always. Keeping Jesus's commandments is how we love others and the Lord.

Here are five specific and actionable commandments from the Lord.

1. If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him without reviling him (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
3. Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
5. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

Can you be more spiritually nourished and fulfilled than to have the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ with you always?

Is having his spirit to be with us always worth doing these specific and actionable things?

What would stop us from always doing these things?

Can we follow Jesus Christ if we refuse to do these things he said to do?

Isn't keeping his commandments how we worship Jesus Christ?

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet January 28, 2018

Guys, is there ANYTHING that unites us??? I'm beginning to think we each believe in a different Christ...cause we are still yet DIVIDED...like the Christians of old. Have we just substituted a task for creeds?

- Log January 28, 2018

The teaching of repentance and faith in God identifies the church of God, and if we are his people, then we have a command to persuade all men unto repentance, according to the Book of Mormon.

Alma in the Book of Mormon counseled his hearers to trust no man to be their teacher (that is, one who teaches the commandments of God, the keeping of which is repentance) or their minister (that is, one who performs ordinances, like baptism or sacrament) except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.

If we count that counsel as one of the obligations set forth in the Book of Mormon that we agreed to receive as a covenant, and if we acknowledge the Sermon on the Mount as the law and commandments of God, it follows that those who do not do what Christ said to do in the Sermon ought not be trusted as teachers, nor should we accept ordinances performed by them. They should have no influence over the content of the G&S.

If we are the people of God, our teaching likewise must be repentance - obedience to the commandments of Christ - and faith in God. Believing and doing what Christ commands, thereby exercising faith in God, brings the visitation of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost tells men all they should know and all things they should do.

The G&S must give men sufficient instruction to receive the Holy Ghost. Therefore the G&S must teach repentance and faith in God: believe Christ's words in the Sermon as a little child would understand his words, repent from all your sins by obeying his words as they are written, and be baptized by one of his sent servants, and you shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost and receive the Father's testimony of Christ. If this is done you would then be told by God all that you need to know and all that you need to do by the power of the Holy Ghost.

We should not teach more nor less than repentance and faith in God, for then we would not be the people of God. We would be murderers, leading men to destruction.

Remember:

3 Nephi 15:1
And now it came to pass that when Jesus had ended these sayings
he cast his eyes round about on the multitude
and said unto them
behold ye have heard the things which I taught before I ascended to my Father
therefore
whoso remembereth these sayings of mine
and doeth them
him will I raise up at the last day

"These sayings," the Sermon on the Mount, are a sufficient written G&S to lead all men to life eternal if it is believed and actually done.

1 Nephi 13:40-41
[A]ll men must come unto him [Christ], or they cannot be saved.
And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb; wherefore they both shall be established in one; for there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth.

And the Sermon on the Mount is a necessary written guide and standard to lead all mankind to life eternal, if it is believed and actually done.

John 14:21-24
He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?
Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

Doing what Christ commands in the Sermon as it is written is the means by which we come into his presence and obtain the fulness.

The Lord said in the A&C there are only two ways. This is the way to life and salvation.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda January 28, 2018

Thank you. I'll use your suggestion.
Rob

- YourFriend January 28, 2018

Hi Rob, Some points for pondering. No dispute here.
I think the spark that you speak of is found in the Lot's G&S here- it speaks of our individual qualification to transcend this world.
This is from Denver- and in the Lot's G&S
"God alone will establish Zion, His instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once He instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that His direction to us now is consistent with what He prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God's immediate commands to us. That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there. Zion and the New Jerusalem are a place, occupied by covenant people, and not something an individual can be or become, People who gather there will all need to be individually redeemed, individually penitent, individually connected to God, but will only belong to the community if they belong to the covenant and are of one heart and one mind and have all things in common between and among them".

We can all have our individual ways, but we will not be part of the community if we insist on our own individual wants and desires. The statement says we have to be individually

redeemed, penitent and connected to God. Then as a community become one, because we have God's heart as a result of our personal redemption and connection with God. Do we really need to breach the heavens with the G&S, or is the purpose of the G&S to gather in our Fellowship's to teach people to individually breach the heavens in their own relationship with God.

In my view, the spark is in the doing, not the talking about or even writing about. We are adopting a G&S so people can enter among us and fellowship, we will grow in fellowship as we receive baptism, the Covenant, fully repent, follow God's commandments to us, study the new scriptures, partake of the Sacrament, all these elements are in the Lot's G&S. Do we really need something flashy and sparky? It seems like to me we need to love each other enough to trust that when we all work on something together and come up with resultant document, we can all support each other in that we have enough spirit between us to produce something that pleases the Lord. Everything else is a mute point. Is it possible that any proposal we don't all have an opportunity to work together on, does not fit the instructions given for the creation of the G&S. (Zion is not something an individual can be or become.) Individual efforts are for personal qualification, not community guidelines and standards. Please take my comments with love and regard for our necessary success and my desire for inclusion and fairness, truth and unity. It seems that everytime a new suggestion is offered, we get further away from an agreement. Are we going to go off on individual efforts continually everytime each one of us thinks they can do things better? That could go on forever. Is it worth the possiblily for failure? Especially when we have a document acceptable to the Lord in our hands. That is the question. Peace be unto you brother, and God bless each of us in our efforts to find unity and please the Lord. Thanks, Love, Lisa

- YourFriend January 28, 2018

We know Log. We got that. :)

- HuhWhatda January 29, 2018

Lisa,

I understand that Denver has been instructed to not participate. It seems an appropriate test for the rest of us to generate the words from our understanding, or, as you have pointed out, ...from our experience. Quoting things correctly is significantly less than exemplifying mutual agreement. The covenant is to be proven by how we perform our assignments. While the words indicating a spark may be used in the lots proposal, it did not come from them, nor did it come from us, ...and it puts the accountability on the one who wrote it, rather than on those who are given the assignment (you and I).

Using Joseph Smith's words does precisely the same thing, giving Joseph the accountability, when we are the ones being tested here. Joseph was unable to move from the spirit of Elias, to the spirit of Elijah, because the people would not receive what Joseph offered. Their (the early saints) chance to prove true and faithful resulted in jarrings, etc. Joseph is dead, and this work is to be performed by the living. Quoting Joseph is not the same as being Joseph's. Likewise, quoting Denver is not the same as being Denver's. Receiving the covenant is not merely responding with a strong, deep, "YES!" It requires that we be the spirit of Elias. The saints at Bountiful, at Christ's time, prayed, not repetitiously, not quoting previous Nephi quotes, or Helaman quotes, or Zenock quotes, ...but the content of their prayer had the same patterns. What I mean is, they had the same heart as those previous covenanted fathers, so it was unnecessary to name-drop. They were accountable for their words. And they were able to pray those words, not because they had great memory recollection, but because the words of the

ancient fathers were written upon their hearts, thus it was not vain repetition (repetition that is ineffective).

The lots proposal does recognize that both Denver and Joseph Smith are men without doubt. But, using their words, and having confidence in their lack of doubt is not the same as you or I having no doubt. If we are to write, it ought to be our words, squarely placing ourselves accountable for knowing and acting as we know, rather than riding the coat-tails of two men who have been removed from participation (Joseph by death, and Denver by God's instruction).

Rob Adolpho

- Log January 29, 2018

If we as individuals are not united as one in desiring to walk the path that leads to life and salvation, which path is the diligent execution of the commandments of Jesus Christ as contained in the Sermon on the Mount, then we as a people cannot be of one heart.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet January 29, 2018

Jared, dude...methinks that is not working in a good, persuasive way...I mean...does that kind of talk work in your personal relationships?

I'm not poking at you, but it seems you saying that a lot has created a massive gulf between yourself and others, and they have lost interest in even considering what you are really trying to say. I mean, I've seen at least one person reject what you have proposed in the same dogged way. It's like watching tug-of-war...

What is your end-goal in saying such a thing to a group of people trying to navigate a heretofore unknown realm of mutual agreement? What do you think it will accomplish? I ask in complete sincerity, not at all trying to tear you down. I like what you have shared otherwise and think you have made some valid points that ought to be discussed. I am just concerned that zero progress toward unity is being made overall here.

- etluxentenebrislucet January 29, 2018

So Rob, this new proposal you are currently helping craft, what do you feel it will offer to persuade everyone to accept it? That seems to be the struggle, right? It does not seem to be too much of a challenge for someone or a group to craft a statement of principles...but getting everybody to support it is a whole nuther issue.

I don't know where we go from here, but I sure do not want to keep re-creating the wheel for us to roll round and round upon. I'm dizzy at this point.

What you call spark I would call heart, and I get what you are trying to say, I think. I agree...to a point. My desire to use Christ's words is because of how I feel about His life and work, what He means to me, what He has done for me and continues yet to do. I read His words and I feel His heart; it's how I recognize His voice when He speaks through another like Denver. I bet we each could write up our testimonies of and love for Him and they would all be different yet powerful in their own, unique way--as we each are unique. But they would not sound the same, though the unifying Thread would be Christ Himself.

But can we write a simple statement we all accept as a guide and standard for ourselves that keeps our focus upon Him, and not us, not Denver, not Joseph, not the LDS church? I simply cannot imagine anything but having His heart and life as my guide and standard.

And using His words as my guide and standard for life sets the bar by which I say I am willing to be judged, and it is already what He requires of me; it's already what I have covenanted to do, albeit poorly as I limp along. I just do not see why I would or should say it all differently, in my own words, how that makes it more of me? I am a poor example for anyone to follow, and goodness, I don't want anyone doing that! FOLLOW HIM! By doing exactly what He has already said to do.

Okay, thoughts? I want to understand what you are thinking and seeing. Maybe I am misunderstanding.

- Log January 29, 2018

Lori,

My end goal is to do all things whatsoever the Lord commands.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda January 29, 2018

et lux en tenebris lucet,

This is probably not your name, but I do understand your request. Concerning the need to persuade, I'll respond this way. The concept of persuading has taken the form of campaigning and marketing, which I refuse to do. A friend of mine said that light is like a bug, if you have been bitten, your are responsible for sharing it. Denver has done nothing to campaign, market, or pitch his product. We have been bitten, and we are now responsible for carrying that light and sharing it. If what I write is unable to add light to the matter, and finds itself regurgitating the same concepts as the other documents, it ought to be treated just the same. But, persuasion and pure knowledge that greatly enlarges the soul requires much more than what is currently being presented, as it neither persuades nor enlarges my soul. However, if that is being offered, ...everyone will be accountable to recognize it, accept it or reject it, ...but if they reject it, they'll do it at their own peril.

It is my personal understanding that Denver is removed from the task, so that we can rise up.

I understand your being dizzy at this point because all statements seem to be recreating the wheel. I recommend that you take a break and gather your senses by listening to the Gethsemane podcast. Every time I do, I feel closer to Christ, and hope centers in me. I recommend it to offset your dizziness.

Concerning the assignment to write, some have assumed that if our hearts where right it would be a light thing, meaning "not heavy." Recently, I have discovered that a light thing is not referencing weight at all. The Lord said, "Let their be light, and it was light." The creation of unorganized matter into organized matter happened as light was introduced. Just as heat transfers to a colder body as a law of thermodynamics, light always travels from a brighter body to a darker body. Each day of creation was infusion of light from a higher body to a lesser body. Moroni, in 3 Nephi 26 offered a lesser

portion of the word, but he had access to the greater portion, to guide the lesser portion. Lehi read the book of life, the greater portion, and then told his sons to get the brass plates, the lesser portion. The lesser portion of the word is always guided by the greater portion.

While the documents among us now reflect common knowledge from the lesser portion of the word, it is not anchored in the greater portion of the word. It is not enough that we use commonly understood words, it must point to the greater portion of the word. If it is unable to do just that (point to the greater portion of the word), it is just another obstacle of unbelief we will have to justify for generations to come, because it does not have sufficient power to assist anyone in obtaining salvation.

There isn't much time. That means we must do in less time what Enoch did in 360 years. If that work is going to be done in less time, more light is necessary from God to get it done, and that is why I have the position I do concerning the "light thing." Only by the infusion of light will we be able to accomplish the task that is before us.

Does that help? If not, call me, and lets talk about it. But I have no idea what your name is, so, in advance, sorry if I hang up on you thinking you're a foreign salesman from India, wanting to help me fix my Microsoft Windows virus.

Rob Adolpho

- YourFriend January 30, 2018

Hi Rob,
It's Lisa, you and I are clearly at two different levels intellectually. I could hardly understand what you said, I had to read your response a couple of times to comprehend. So if you wrote the G&S, I am sure I would not have a clue what I was supposed to do, and that is the truth. I am not being funny or critical here. I am just plain folk. There are maybe 3 or 400 of us, how would we agree on what we one or two of us said. We can't even agree to what we all said, that we all agreed on already. :)

I listened to Denver's new podcasts and although he is not supposed to be involved with the creation of a G&S, it seemed that he was saying that we may be diverse where our own fellowships are concerned. You can be in the brainy fellowship. :). I want to be in the love fellowship. Lori can be in the nothing but Christ fellowship. So what ties them all together. You could say it is the Doctrine of Christ. Or you could say it is the Sermon on the Mount. But are those really enough to portray what we are doing now? I would say that Denver has been the guiding element for our day, as Joseph was in his, and even though I want to agree and want to finish this up, I still think the Lot's G&S represents just the basics, Doctrine of Christ, Sermon on Mount and Bountiful, Sacrament, Teaching of our children, a reference to the new work of the hand sent to establish Zion, taking care of the poor, and it is in today's language, and it is tied to the New Covenant. It is very basic and it dosen't lay out too much specifically, leaving room for each fellowship to emphasize or devise what they feel is best for them, as long as it is truth. We all had the opportunity to work on it, so the bulk of the group should support it. Isn't is supposed to be a Guide and a Standard of what we have already been doing? Isn't that the point, to help others know what we have already been doing? Do we want to change things up now, because our own personal preferences?

Denver also said that some would not fit into a Zion way of doing things. One heart, one mind, equal in all things, no poor among them. That's where I want to be. That is in my heart. So I think the choice is an individual one. If I have to change a little to fit in, then I will gladly do so. If we all change a little bit, it might be enough. I think we are all good people with the best motives. We may have to sacrifice to come into alignment. I would

be happy to sacrifice, I am used to it by now. :(

I am sticking with the Lot's proposal and hope all the votes and the peace are still there. Flowery words are not necessary. Just words that convey a common thread for us to build upon. I think we at least need a basic structure that outlines what we have already been doing in the Fellowships. Otherwise the work going on today, which is significant, will be lost.

I think the conversation is good, at least it can help us think about what we are doing and it brings things into the light, where they should be.
Thanks for being my brothers and sisters,
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend January 30, 2018

Hi Log,
Do you love me?
Lisa

- HuhWhatda January 30, 2018

Lisa,

I would never get in-between your conversation with yourself, so please don't let me interrupt. It seems as though you have a lot going on in your mind, and that is not a bad thing. You should feel free to support the lots program, without feeling that you need to justify your reasons with me. I feel that you are an intelligent person, and self deprecation does not fit the idea of a simple mind. Don't sell yourself short. You're better than that.

Concerning my opinion, I offered it in response to request alone. I refuse to campaign, market, or convince. Light and truth alone is what brought us all here, therefore it will be the only thing that will unite our efforts. My purpose for posting was to ask how a guy could propose something different, and you were kind enough to answer. I thanked you, and went on my way. My only response was to answer your question, not to get you to do like me.

Isolated keyboarding has the potential of creating a false idea in our minds that we understand one another, and that we are laboring, when in fact it's just a lazy substitute for real relationships. Given our circumstances, I do value the convenience the digital exchange provides, but it's a horrible tool to do the labor of truly understanding one another. I blame the tool for the problem, not the people.

You have made a statement to disagree with my mindset, not because it is incorrect or unappealing, etc. But because it is a new concept that you didn't quite understand. I think that you didn't understand, not because I am studious and you are simple minded, as you portrayed it. I think that it took you a while because you don't know me. And that has been the problem at every turn in this project. We have sought to finish a project in mutual agreement without being in mutual agreement.

Marriages can look like all is well, simply because we do not fight. Simply not fighting changes a marriage into roommates, it doesn't make a marriage eternal by any means. Sure, roommates can pay bills, conceive and raise children, purchase a house, and develop many hobbies. But a marriage depends on a relationship. This effort is no different. A conversation would be a better way to assess wether you agree or not, ...but

that is my opinion.

We cannot be followers of men. Our responsibility is to be familiar with light, so that when light is offered, it is received and not rejected. The test is upon us now, to determine our ability to recognize light, when the source that has produced so much light (Denver) has been removed. Hastily disregarding an opinion might result in dismissing more light.

I might not know you, as Lisa is a common name. But you seem to be someone I would enjoy conversing with.

Rob Adolpho

- Log January 30, 2018

Lisa,

Here's a question to ponder: do we judge those for whom we have charity, or do we instead judge those whom we do not love and feel ourselves superior to?

As it stands, you'll have to judge my heart without my direct participation. Be as merciful in your assessment as you hope God will be towards you. The wisest and most loving counsel I can give is this: "Judge not others except by the rule you want used to weigh yourself."

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet January 30, 2018

Hi Rob. I am sorry if I have created some confusion by not leaving my name at the end of my comments each time. This is Lori Taylor. Haha, fortunately or unfortunately I sound like your average white American woman, who tends to resemble a miniature Mt. Vesuvius when she both writes and speaks. I'm either dormant or spewing all over the place.

Thank you for letting me know that the podcasts are live. I had not seen them just yet. I took your advice and listened to Gethsemane and Fellowship Diversity last night. I had even listened to all three talks to Christians as well as re-read the Gethsemane chapter from Come, Let Us Adore Him over the weekend. Soul affirming and enlarging Light that stuff is. I cried.

You have a gift for teaching. I do understand what you are saying about light, and that our time is limited. And I thank you for helping me look at persuasion differently. Good thoughts. What do you consider as the "greater portion of the word?" I recall you mentioning the King Follett sermon in previous comments elsewhere.

I thought of The Word—Christ, that greater portion you mentioned, or as I thought, Greater Portion. It would be wonderful to read a statement that lights me up the way the scriptures do or the way pure revelation does as I am turned to Christ in all things.

Lori

- YourFriend January 30, 2018

The question, which was not answered, by the way, was to determine whether or not

your devotion to the Rock of Christ is working in you to produce the necessary results in your own heart. Because if it's not working for you, the poster child for The Rock of Christ, then can it work as a G&S for the rest of us? Is the Rock of Christ an idol for you? If it doesn't actively align your heart squarely with our Saviors, which will manifest itself in love, then it is an idol and the mark is missed. Is it not?
I do love you. I love that we someday may be able to live beside each other. I love that we may be able to see each other every day, work together, help each other, and build a city that will be so awesome that God himself will want be among us.
If the Rock of Christ has helped you to have the heart of Christ then you have been successful, and your devotion to the words in the Rock of Christ has borne fruit. The heart of Christ loves everyone, even those that offend, abuse, and persecute. The heart of Christ cares for those that are homeless, dirty, smelly, and toothless. The heart of Christ is not prejudiced, haughty, selfish or conceited.
Being in a Fellowship, eventually gathered together will require us to have the heart of Christ to be able to succeed. No G&S can guarantee our individual success in acquiring the heart of Christ. So we are wasting our time seeking the perfect document.

Acquiring the heart of Christ requires actively sacrificing. It requires losing even that which you love the most voluntarily, because it is what God wants. It requires obedience to the will of Christ, even if it is diametrically opposed to everything you know or hold dear. The only way you can become truly compassionate is to go through the same pain others have gone through, resulting in feelings of rejection, hatred and loss towards you, ripping your heart to shreds. Then you can understand how to be a minister to others. It requires putting the needs and desires of others above your own. Becoming like Christ requires more than strict devotion to mere words on a page, or strict observance to a law. It will not save you. It becomes like the old law. Not that the Rock of Christ is not awesome, the words of Christ and true, it is. Not that we should not try to adhere to it's precepts. But it is not only reading about how Christ was or how He wants us to be, it is about being who Christ is, and what He is. I believe that if someone were just like Christ is, he or she could say I love you, without hesitation, they would not be afraid of the words, and they would mean it.

So this light thing the Lord has asked of us requires us to have, not just words on a page, but hearts nit together in love and cooperation with each other. If the G&S were a guide and standard to help us worship together in our Fellowships, preserving what we have already been given by the Lord and His Servants, we could then have the basics of how to worship, then we could learn to love and care for each other by experience and sacrifice, by doing, not strict adherence and devotion to a law, even if it is a good law. Am I wrong? Help me understand please. And it would help if you spoke plainly, not quoting scripture. I think it is easy to hide behind scripture.
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend January 30, 2018

Hi Rob, It's Lisa again. Lori was the one helping you with presenting your new idea. I was not trying to justify my own beliefs. I was trying to persuade you not to inject another option into the mix. Haha. Presenting the good points of your position is a way of persuasion. And I am sure we will have an opportunity to meet in person. We are all following the light, so we should end up in the same place at some point in time, even if only temporarily at first.

I don't attribute my understanding to my brain or intellect at all. I am old and I don't retain what I read as well as I used too. And I forget most of what I retain. So most of my knowledge comes from the Spirit. When the Spirit gives it to you, you don't forget.

So back to the original question. I don't understand why you feel we need something

more than we already have. Were you able to participate in the Lot's version when it was online? Did you contribute then? What were your feelings about the Lot's process and the group of 7 that assembled the final document? Did you believe the prayer of acceptance of the Lot's document was from the Lord? Just trying to figure out why so many accept it, but a few still reject. We are supposed to be persuading, is that the same as marketing? I don't feel that I am selling a box of soap. But I would like to help people see why I have the views I do, so maybe others can see something they might have missed. Or see something in a little different way. We tend to get stuck in our own paradigms, including me. I am waiting for someone to persuade me. I am fair game.

Love you guys! Lisa

- Log January 31, 2018

"The question, which was not answered, by the way, was to determine whether or not your devotion to the Rock of Christ is working in you to produce the necessary results in your own heart."

Yes, your intent was to judge my heart, as I said.

As I said, directly: As it stands, you'll have to judge my heart without my direct participation. Be as merciful in your assessment as you hope God will be towards you. The wisest and most loving counsel I can give is this: "Judge not others except by the rule you want used to weigh yourself."

Jared Livesey

- Log January 31, 2018

The explanation you ask for is here:

We Have One Job
What We Don't Need
Cursed Be The Man That Trusteth in Man
Founded Upon The Rock of Jesus Christ
Answers to Founded Upon The Rock of Jesus Christ
Where It All Went Wrong
But If It Be Not Built upon My Gospel

Jared Livesey

- Log January 31, 2018

And here is The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, without the scriptural language.
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The Simplified Gospel

The ways humanity tries to bring about justice, peace, and unity do not and cannot work. History and current events are proof that competing against, controlling, or manipulating others always results in disunity, conflict, injustice, and inequality. Yet competition, force, and manipulation are how humanity has chosen to govern itself. Jesus offers us the sole alternative to humanity's self-destructive ways: love.

The law of God is this: every last thing you wish others would do to you, do those exact

same things to them. This law defines the behavior of perfect love, which is called “charity.” God’s law is the true moral and ethical standard of all humankind, being written into every conscience, and it is the definition of “good.” Behavior that falls short of this law is not good and produces both guilt and conflict with others.

The purpose of the law of God is to end conflict between people. Those who willingly keep His law may joyfully and peacefully live together as equals, both here and now, and forever in the eternal world. The commandments that Jesus gave us in the Sermon on the Mount are how we are to obey the law of God through our works and end our conflicts with others.

Love, the feeling which makes us want to do what the law of God commands, is given to us by God. Charity is Jesus’s nature, meaning He feels perfect love towards everyone. Charity is the nature of all those who inherit God’s kingdom with Jesus. Jesus’s commandments in the Sermon on the Mount are the actions which those who have charity do by nature.

“Sin” is intent or action which falls short of the law of God, such as giving in to lust and doing to others what we do not wish others would do to us. “Repent” means to change one’s mind, to reconsider, or to relent, all of which implies a willing change in one’s behavior.

Any who will believe Jesus’s words in the Sermon on the Mount as literally as small children believe their parents’ words, and repent of all their sins, and be baptized by one of His sent servants, shall be visited by God with fire and with the Holy Ghost and shall receive a remission of their sins.

The visitation of the Holy Ghost changes our feelings so that we understand Jesus’s love and want to only do good. Then we are to do what Jesus commands until the end of our lives. We trust in Jesus to guide and comfort us in our trials and afflictions as we learn who and what He is by the things we suffer in obedience to His teachings. Just as one does not learn a new skill without practice, nobody can understand nor master the discipline of perfect love without doing its works. Doing the works Jesus commanded until we fully understand Him and freely agree to become what He is and to receive His nature from Him permanently as a gift by His grace so that we love everyone perfectly just like He does is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

If you keep the commandments of Jesus Christ, you are His church (Matthew 7:24-25, 16:18; Luke 6:47-48), you are His disciple (John 8:31-32), you are His friend (John 15:14), and you are His family (Luke 8:19-21).

- Anonymous January 31, 2018

You make it a point to say that everyone should give to everyone who asks, so why do you refuse to give her the information she asked you for?

- HuhWhatda January 31, 2018

Lisa,

I do not believe the lots effort as an expression of my faith. The result is very similar to all the other documents, with a couple of new features added: a system of casting lots and a formalized answer reflecting Denver's answer to covenant. Despite the new features, the document is still the same. Some have told me that "All of the documents could have been accepted of God." And that is why the answer states that it is enough.

For me, the content from previous documents were incomplete, and the lots document is no different.

What I am doing here is not an effort to persuade at all. I am simply responding to your questions. persuasion requires time to learn and understand one another, and results in a relationship. Denver invested the time, money and effort to persuade by writing books, giving talks, and constantly adding light. We have been persuaded by him as we have read, pondered, and understood him. Yet, we haven't paid the same respect to one another, presenting topics, or understanding what others have presented. Persuasion isn't what people think it is.

Persuasion is easily confused with campaigning and marketing, but it isn't that at all. Persuasion must be coupled with pure knowledge that greatly enlarges the soul, and without hypocrisy or guile (deception). It is insufficient to isolate persuasion, because when the context of pure knowledge that greatly enlarges the soul, without hypocrisy or guile is removed, ...foolish traditions of marketing and campaigning rule the day. Just the same, self deprecation is often confused with humility, when humility fits better with confidence. Someone exhibiting confidence, however, is often mistaken for being prideful. Persuasion is NOT what I am doing here. This is a poor vehicle for that. All I am doing is simply responding to your questions.

If we are to resolve concerns and work out kinks, this is a horrible place to do it. That work requires a vehicle that builds relationships, in an environment where all can be understood. This is not it. So if you'd like to get some persuasion-action, that would require a person to person conversation. It would be real-time, in one another's presence, allowing the spirit of the participants to interact. Expecting to do that in a blog setting, limiting the amount of characters allowed, reduced to a maximum of four lines at a time, in between long pauses, requiring vocabulary skills to suffice to convey and understand messages, is a recipe for disaster. This forum cannot produce relationships. That is the work that has been ignored throughout this whole process, and our interactions show it.

Perhaps we will have a chance in the future to persuade one another, within the context of pure knowledge that greatly enlarges the soul, without the attributes of hypocrisy and guile involved.

By the way, to me, your age has no weight in the matter.

Sorry,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda January 31, 2018

Lori (Part 1 of 2),

Moroni referred to the lesser portion and the greater portion of the word. In chapter 1 of 1Nephi, Lehi reads the book of life, but says little about it's contents to his sons, and has his sons retrieve the brass plates. Lehi probably taught through the lesser portion of the word, finding confidence in his understanding, because he was anchored in the greater portion of the word found in the Book of Life. Nephi, in the second chapter, is found seeking after the mysteries (v16), he cries to the Lord, and the Lord visits him. However, it isn't until chapter 11 that Nephi experiences his own ascent, and becomes anchored in the greater portion of the word, like Lehi. 2Nephi is the record of Nephi, and he follows the example of Lehi, using Isaiah quotes (a lesser portion of the word), to point the minds of the readers to the greater portion of the word. It is the same pattern Jacob

uses, when he uses the words of Zenock. What I am saying is that what is written in our small Guide and Standard ought to be anchored, or couched, within the greater portion of the word.

You asked if King Follet is the greater portion? I believe that Joseph Smith taught that sermon anchored in the greater portion of the word, and that King Follet is probably the best reflection of the greater portion of the word, from Joseph. However, Alma 12:9 states that the totality of the greater portion of the word cannot be shared freely, and it is kept hidden for a wise purpose.

- HuhWhatda January 31, 2018

(Part 2 of 2)

If 1Nephi 3:7 is true, God has commanded, therefore He has provided a way for us to accomplish the thing He commanded. Since He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, ...we can bet on the fact that the solution will be an infusion of light, thus making this a "light thing." But, from the answer to the covenant, our hearts are not right, for if they were right it would have been a "light thing." And, in my opinion, we would all be enlightened.

Thus far, the documents that have been proposed reflect the Campbelite effort of the first principles and ordinances of the gospel, that got Joseph Smith side-tracked in the first place. More importantly, the light offered within those documents are not anchored in the greater portion of the word in it's use, and for that reason it is dead to me, and only offers death. I have been seeking further light and knowledge concerning this matter, and I sense Dan Campbel's concepts enlightening, regarding the King Follet Discourse (KFD). It has captured my heart so much that I have found Denver's Ephraim talk on Christ composed of KFD. I was just informed that Denver's book of the three essays are composed of KFD as well. And elements within the Holy Order talk is couched in the KFD.

Do I think that the KFD is the greater portion of the word Moroni is referring to? No. But, I sense the light coming from that direction, and it is growing in me. Besides, on page 107 of Preserving the Restoration, Denver states that if we do not pick up where Joseph left off, preserving what he established, God will not continue the restoration. But, if we did, God would finish it with us.

I think that this portion (the success of the G&S) would conclude the Elias portion of the work, placing a completion seal upon this phase, ...allowing us to move forward to the Elijah phase. It is insufficient to be required to simply agree, just to be agreeable. That is not the same as mutual agreement to me. We must also not contend, but that doesn't give those with a majority support to go ahead with their document either, justified by removing the opposing resistance. Disagreeing is not contention. We might find ourselves in a deadlock, but a deadlock is only an indicator to stop, and do the work of relationships, understanding one another, praying for more light to be added, to overcome the deadlock. When it is given, all will benefit.

In my opinion we all must hold ourselves accountable to add more light, sufficient light to dispel the darkness that maintains the distance between us, causing this deadlock. No one should be required to compromise, but every should expect to be enlightened. In this manner it will be a "light thing." And we will be more capable of greater tasks ahead, having developed this muscle together.

Mahalo for the exchange and considering my suggestion to listen to the talks. I totally understand what you expressed because I had a very similar experience. Praise God for

that light being added. Lets follow the example set there to add more light here, so that the same feelings we have felt listening to Denver, can be experienced by those who read and are instructed by what we write in mutual agreement.

Rob Adolpho

- TwoCents February 02, 2018

Part 1
Part of graduating with a PHD you are required to complete a dissertation. My dissertation focused on figuring out why some Natives left the rez to get educated and returned home, while others didn't. I wanted to find out what enticed them to come home because I wanted to help my Nation develop a strategy that would entice all educated members to return home, so that we no longer experienced a "brain drain". The results changed my life and understanding. I discovered that many Natives returned home because of relationships, which didn't surprise me. What surprised me were their answers to the following question: What would you recommend to entice others to come home? Every single individual recommended an institutional solution: more housing, increase pay, better health care, better schools, etc. Not one of them mentioned solutions that incorporated relationship building. They were unaware of how institutionalized they were.

A couple of years ago Denver wrote a blog post indicating that he couldn't see how a people who are so institutionalized could break free from an "ingrained social arrangement" and establish Zion. I agree with this statement. But, I don't believe only Natives experience this. What I learned, in the past year, is anyone who has bought into an institution will struggle to break free from their institutionalized mentality. The level of ease, of breaking free from an institutionalized mentality, will depend on how much they were ingrained in the institution and how willing they are in becoming like a little child.

The early saints were unable to accomplish Zion because they were drawn to an institutional mentality that focused on a New Testament church. This early influence, led the LDS church in a direction that caused them to organize one of the biggest institutions in America. It dawned on me though that we have an advantage over the early saints. We have been blessed to have their history, the truth. We can learn from their mistakes. We can learn from Joseph Smith, because he provided a great foundation that we can build upon. There was so much more the earlier saints could have obtained had they been willing.

I have learned that it doesn't matter what institution you come from, you can be ingrained with many false traditions that hinder your progress. I realized that everything I was taught by the leaders in the LDS church led me down the wrong path. What I learned from them about faith, charity, love, peace, equality was flipped upside down as I studied and went to the Lord to be taught. I realized that if I have knowledge that is occupying a particular spot in my brain about what something means I need to rethink it, especially if I learned it from an institution. I came to understand that the Lord couldn't teach me when I already thought I knew. I had to become like a little child seeking and searching.

- TwoCents February 02, 2018

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- TwoCents February 02, 2018

Part 2
Two weeks ago, a speaker in the Native ward said: I am going to talk about the BOM, but I don't want to be another white guy telling you how to interpret your ancestral record. This rang very true to me. Our new scripture format, allows me to read things in context, in the big picture, restoring freedom to interpret based on the context given by the author, rather than the versification that generates fragmented ideas. When scriptures are taken out of context, it is easy to miss the whole story. I come from a story telling culture. The new format reminds me of that cultural aspect. Given the new context grouping of the scriptures, I am free to make up my own mind, rather than allow someone else to tell me how I should interpret, to justify the institution that they represent. I will hearken to other's ideas, but hearken doesn't mean to follow blindly. Hearken literally means to "hear and know." To be instructed, I was required to change my mind (literally what repent means), being as a little child. And when I did, I was given far greater light and understanding.

Zion will be made up of individuals who can break free from an institutionalized mentality, and become like a little child, freeing their mind from institutionalized definitions and understandings to rely on the Holy Ghost to teach them. Two books that really helped me see the patterns that occurred with the early saints are The Three Essays and A Man Without Doubt. These books helped me see how the LDS church trapped and kept my mind in bondage. I was able to see what I needed to repent of, turning more towards Christ.

The history of the early saints can teach us a lot about what to do and what not to do. It can teach us about how the LDS religion became an institution. From their experience, we can learn what to avoid so that we don't head in the same direction as they did, resulting in an institution.

Take a look at the patterns of the early saints, and ask yourself if what we are doing now is what they did then. Here are a few questions that can help, recognize patterns of the past so that we can avoid repeating them in the present. How did Brigham Young get into power? What tools did he use to get what he wanted? How did he run his telestial kingdom? What did his heart desire- to do the will of God or Joseph? Did the voice of the Lord guide him? How did Joseph Smith's closest friends end up treating him? What methods did they use to cause anger and contention? What happened when the saints were too eager? Were the saints qualified to go to the Indians? If not, why? Denver's blog titled "Poor" written on March 23, 2014 answers a few of these questions.

Although we have all undergone major life changes to belong to this movement, and that is respected by God and the heavens, anytime you do something new, when the going gets tough and the pressure is up, our first reaction is to resort to the remnants of our LDS institutionalized training so deeply grooved in us. I believe that we need to be freed from our institutional minds, and focus our attention on further developing the relationships that has been swelling, sprouting and beginning to grow. It will become a tree with fruit that is sweet above all that is sweet, pure above all that is pure, and if any eat, they will never hunger or thirst.

Q

- Donald February 02, 2018

This is a good one...thank you for the reminder good sister. :)

http://denversnuffer.com/2014/03/the-poor/

- YourFriend February 03, 2018

I think most of us have post traumatic LDS syndrome. But I don't think we should throw the baby out with the bath water. :). Would we say the Sacrament was important to continue, or are we to consider that we should not adopt it in our fellowships because we did it in the LDS church? Would some want to forego Sacrament in their fellowships? Would freeing us from that old tradition bring us to a closer relationship with our Lord? Some would probably say yes, considering the variety of different views we now see unfolding. In my view, we need someone sent by God to help us move together in the right direction. As long as the Spirit indicates to me that the ones or ones are true Servants I am good to listen, pray, receive revelation and move forward together, if and as the Spirit dictates. We have to do the work that is required of us individually to be able to discern good from evil, right from wrong, truth from error, so we can guard ourselves from the old habit of placing a man in between ourselves and God.
Just my thoughts on the subject matter. Thanks, Love, Lisa

- YourFriend February 03, 2018

Thank you for that Log. I am taking my time to digest your translation. My 93 year old mom was sick the last few days, and I haven't been able to respond. But I would like to, given your honest effort here. So give me another day or so. Thanks, Love, Lisa

- YourFriend February 03, 2018

Thanks Rob, I respect your view. All are allowed their own agency in these undertakings. I do disagree about using persuasion and this venue. Denver said in one of his recent responses that no one has taken the time to try and listen to others views and make a good enough case to persuade the other, I took it as my responsibility to try to persuade without dispute. Now admittedly I am no expert or anyone who's view should be considered any better than another's. Currently this is the only venue we have. And I am just trying to be hopeful that hearts will be softened and love will prevail. Even if minds aren't convinced. Loved the interaction we had, even if it was only through written word. The scriptures are written word yet they do a good job at conveying the intentions and hearts of their authors. Peace and love to you brother. I hope we can meet at one of the upcoming events. I will introduce myself as the old person you interacted with in the G&S blog. :)
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend February 03, 2018

I am definitely in agreement with you Donald. That is a good one, written by someone that expounds scripture better than anyone I know. His words help reinforce the confirmation to me that he is indeed sent. :).
Thanks, Lisa

- AndEva February 04, 2018

https://awakeandarisetozion.blogspot.com/2018/02/an-invitation_2.html#more

- DougLarson February 04, 2018

Perhaps we are looking in the wrong place to find this elusive guide and standard.

http://scriptures.info/scriptures/nt/romans/1.9#9

"For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law. And as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law, for the hearers of the law are not just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified (for when the gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts; their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another) in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to the gospel."

In other words, what group is already living "the law?" What group is showing the work of the law written in their hearts?

"Behold, you are called ["the Remnant"], and rest in the law, and make your boast of God, and know his will, and approve the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; and are confident that you yourself are a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which has the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself?"

"Therefore, if the uncircumcision (lack of covenant) keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision (lack of covenant) be counted for circumcision (a covenant)? And shall not [the un-covenanted] which is by nature, if it fulfill the law, JUDGE YOU, who by the letter and [covenant] does transgress the law?"

- TwoCents February 04, 2018

No we wouldn't throw out Sacrament or Baptism, those are ordinances given to us by God to provide us with light and understanding. But I do believe I need to rethink what they taught me about why we get baptized and why we partake of the sacrament. Would I throw out the BOM because it came through them, no. But, I would approach the BOM like a little child, making room in my understanding, to obtain an understanding of the authors intent. The BOM gives us understanding of who true servants will be in our day, and what message to look for. We can measure the truth of any message by the standard the BOM sets. I agree with you, there is a labor that needs to be done by each one of us, and that labor is to study God's words: seeking earnestly to know and understand the message contained in the Book of Mormon. I believe, by the gift and power of God, scriptures can be expounded. I am persuaded of the BOM's power.
Q

- YourFriend February 04, 2018

Well said Q. I think we have found agreement.
Thanks for your response!
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend February 04, 2018

Not sure I follow. So what exactly are you saying? Don't read any jarrings in the question. I sincerely do not know what you are referring too. I must be dense.
Can you elaborate? Thanks, Lisa

- YourFriend February 04, 2018

I have some slight differences in opinion to the above explanation, but not to a great

degree. Most of what you have written, I agree with completely. The point I was trying to make is not that the Sermon on the Mount could not produce a Zion individual, if one would abide by it, but has it produced a Zion person in you. The reason I asked, is that I want to know if a person who is presenting a view I am considering, is motivated by the love emanating from Jesus Christ, or motivated by something else. Your way of presenting yourself does not adequately portray your heart, and what is motivating your view? The way you present yourself seems more like someone who is trying to compel, someone who is not respectful of others ideas or input, someone who cannot work well with others, someone who may have some difficulty dwelling with a people who are of one heart and and one mind. I'm just trying to explain how you come across. I am sure I come across in some pretty flakey ways myself. I am just trying to do the best I can in spite of my weaknesses. Your presentation hurts your cause. No personal offense intended.

I think you and I are more in agreement than we may think. I love the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful. I think where we differ is that I believe a G&S needs to include an instruction of the basic ordinances and some basic standards that we are already doing in the Fellowships, so that we have a starting place for new folks. In our Fellowships are where we will be able to put our hearts on the line. Then hopefully we will mature into God-like ministers who can receive all we need to become disciples of Christ in power, truth and righteousness. I think we need a little more than what you are suggesting to help as guides and standards (See definitions below) for Fellowships as they are formed. I believe that was the reasoning behind the request to develop a G&S. However, I do believe I know you better now. And getting to know the infamous "Log" was well worth the exchange. I have read your blog entries around the blogosphere for years. Sometimes you amaze me, sometime you confuse me, but you always interest me. I do love you and hope you have success in all of your efforts. Thanks for responding. Love, Lisa
Definitions of Guide - a good example to follow
Definition of Standard - something considered by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model.

- Log February 04, 2018

Lisa,

If my words are judged by any other standard than truth, that standard is not truth.

Since I have explained why, in detail, I dispute the adoption any G&S other than The Rock of Jesus Christ, there is no need for me to repeat it.

Jared Livesey

- DougLarson February 04, 2018

Take a look at Romans 2 (or I guess Romans 1:9 in the Re). Use different translations of the Bible if you want to. Replace "Jew" with "Remnant Movement," "circumcision" with "covenant," "uncircumcised" with "uncovenanted," and "Gentiles" with, well, whatever group fits. See if it has any application to the current situation.

- Log February 04, 2018

Reasoning together doesn't happen unless we agree to a common foundation which is taken for granted between us. Luckily we have such a common foundation already, per the A&C, which we explicitly agreed to.

We agreed "to use the scriptures to correct []ourselves and to guide []our words, thoughts and deeds" and "to assist all others who covenant to likewise accept this standard to govern their lives[.]"

So, when the Lord says in the scriptures, in these exact words (note in each case it is the Lord speaking)...

Jeremiah 17:5 ¶ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 28:31 [Thus saith the Lord:] Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

JST Mark 9:44 Therefore, let every man stand or fall by himself and not for another, or not trusting another.

... then those are words we have agreed to correct ourselves with, to guide our words, our thoughts, and our deeds, and to help every other covenant participant to accept these words as the standard to govern their lives.

Therefore, we will not teach men to trust any other man, which is why we are not going to agree to a guide and standard which leads men to trust Denver Snuffer. We know that those who trust in men are cursed by the Lord, which means they are denied association with him and shall go to hell unless they repent of trusting in men. When we find covenant participants advocating that others should trust Denver Snuffer, then we have agreed to try to help those covenant participants cease from advocating trust in Denver Snuffer and instead correct themselves and allow their words, thoughts, and deeds to be guided by the scriptures.

We, meaning you and I, cannot reason together without this common foundation of the scriptures as they stand. If we alter the Lord's words to make the appearance of an exception to his cursing for trusting Denver Snuffer, then we are doing the opposite of what we said we would do when we assented to the covenant: instead of letting the scriptures correct us and guide our words, thoughts, and deeds, we are correcting the scriptures, using our words, thoughts, and deeds as our guide.

- YourFriend February 07, 2018

I know you do. We are good.

- YourFriend February 07, 2018

Ah, thanks, I think I see what you are saying. Wonder what the Scripture Committee will do about that. I think I have represented my views as well as I could. So I leave it with you. And it looks like the most recent votes are in, for whatever that will mean. I hope the Lord will find me (as well as others) worthy to go forward with His work. May God bless you all!
Love, Lisa

- Inspire February 08, 2018

Lisa,
I don't know that it would change anything the Scripture Committee would do. But if that

passage (Romans 2) is applicable in this situation, then claiming a covenant (but not doing the works of "the law") is the same as having no covenant at all. Likewise, if someone naturally lives the things in the law (even dissenters or the disaffected), then they are as if they had covenanted. God is no respecter of persons.

In other words, while everyone here continues to sort out the semantics of the G&S, the Lord may move (or have moved) to a group of Gentiles who are naturally living the law, even though they have not made a covenant. That doesn't mean that He has abandoned this group, but like in Bountiful, he needs some "children," (or those who have child-like attributes) to show us "weak" people, pious as we might be, how it is done.

- YourFriend February 09, 2018

Yes, that is a very good assessment. I don't know how you can be of one mind and heart or be in agreement without being perfected in Him. It doesn't seem doable. I hope I am wrong. Thanks Inspire!

INFORMATION TO SHARE

Wednesday, February 07, 2018

From a few who have labored over a Guide and Standard - Nonmancaaf Swhafugs:

Free to choose a guide and standard vote results
To All Our Sisters and Brothers,

As promised in our post of 12-21-17, we share the results of the inclusive g&s vote we hosted here:
http:// preservingtherestoration.com/ the-free-to-choose-a-gs-vote/

Comments

- TwoCents February 07, 2018

In the Covenant, we are asked: Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?

Where in the scriptures does it talk about voting? I heard someone say there was a vote in heaven, where in the scriptures does it say that? A plan was presented and the people chose. God respects man's agency. It is by your actions that make your choice known to HIm.

"The things He intends to lift back and repair include all of us. He intends to save everything. By saving everything, He will allow it to continue on in its course of development. Those who are willing to receive less will continue in their lesser course. Those who are willing to receive more will continue on in their greater course."

What are the obligations established by the Book of Mormon? In order to know this you need to read things in context, not quote scriptures out of context to support your argument. What is the author intending?

Q

- Log February 07, 2018

Q,

You ask "what are the obligations established by the Book of Mormon?"

In your reading of the Book of Mormon, what are those obligations?

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents February 11, 2018

Hi Log,

Short answer: Repent and Come Unto Him.
Q

The Role of the Scriptures Committee in the G&S

Thursday, February 08, 2018

The scriptures committee has been firmly of the position that the committee cannot produce or choose a Guide &Standard for inclusion in the scriptures - that is the requirement of “all the people”. Despite the request by the Lots group to the scriptures committee to have their G&S added to the scriptures, it is our position that there is/are other document(s) that cannot be discarded by mere executive action on our part, as they meet all of the requirements given for a qualified G&S. Those requirements are given here from the Lord’s words in the *Answer*:

- *You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands.* (“You” is defined at the beginning of the revelation: " *...I answer you on behalf of all the people, and not as to any individual.*"
- *But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands.*
  - Definition of "mutual agreement": *As between one another, you choose to not dispute.*
- *When you have an agreed statement of principles, I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow.*
- *Remember, there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them — so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.*

A number of covenant holders believe that other documents qualify despite the limited involvement of the assembly in their development and writing.

We as the scripture committee have no right, power, or place to assert authority to govern the people, nor do we have the right to push our interpretation of which documents meet the Lord’s criterion onto anyone. We do not intend to tell the people how they can or

cannot govern themselves in the making of all their decisions as a people. As a people we need to mutually agree which document we choose to append to our scriptures without dispute.

If you believe that documents other than the Lotsters' should be considered for the G&S, or if you have a recommendation that will enable the assembly to settle the matter, we invite you to email a presentation to be posted in this blog. The guidelines for posting will be:

- One post per person/document/process. Discussion of the presentation's arguments will take place in the comments area below the post.
- If a G&S document is proposed, be sure to specifically address how the document meets all of the criteria given by the Lord.
- If a process for resolving the G&S matter is proposed, please be as detailed as possible about both the steps of the process and the rationale behind it.

A direct effort will be made at the conference in Phoenix in March to resolve the matter. This committee has considered several approaches, but so far each has come up short.

Comments

- Log — February 09, 2018

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- Log — February 09, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — February 09, 2018

1. Does this represent a reversal of the Scripture Committee's original position here?

2. Since we must be mutually agreed or else no G&S shall be adopted as per the Lord's requirements in the A&C, what exactly is the nature of the "direct effort" the Scripture Committee is making "to resolve this matter" in Phoenix?

3. Since we must move only by mutual agreement, why is the Scripture Committee pressing for action in Phoenix? What's the rush?

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda — February 09, 2018

To All (Part 1 of 3)

I see wisdom in this approach by the scripture committee, removing themselves as executors, permitting mutual agreement to win out. I am working with a few people regarding the direction of King Follet Discourse mindset, that I will propose to this blog, but the work is in process and currently incomplete. I apologize for the slow progression up until this point.

I refuse to rush the instructions out of the Lord, and instead wait until He see's fit to communicate with me directly, ...so that when I finally establish my position, I will stay put, no matter what "the movement" does as a whole. I cannot base my work on the

assignment of a man, so I did not get involved in the first fellowship meeting until just before because a Polynesian family decided to be baptized based on the truths we shared in the BOM, knowing nothing of the Doctrine introduced by Denver. After attending the first meeting, I received instructions from the voice of the Lord to write. That did not supersede anyone else right to be involved, but required me to exchange ideas with others until further instruction was given. The only meeting we did not attend was the Aug 5th meeting. We chose not to attend because Jeff Savage claimed it was his assignment alone, and those attending were only to attend to assist him. I was never asked by Jeff to assist, and had been the source of stomach acid in his mouth in the past, so my wife and I stayed out because no one likes to eat their own vomit. After the event of 100% approval of those voting, I politely asked if we could continue the work because what was produced was not mutually agreeable to me. Since then, I have seemed to cause vomit in many of your mouths, and for that, "...Ma Baaad!"

I felt that more light was added at Steve VanLeer's house, when he recognized that we all mutually agreed on the covenant in Boise. But, from that meeting Steve and the Lotsters went towards casting lots. When the idea came up to cast lots at Steve's house, I stated that I would not trade the voice of the Lord I received at the beginning of the meetings, to depend on the answer from the Lord through a casting of lots. I felt that if casting lots was a way to develop faith, it would have been included in the lectures on faith. It was my opinion that the lots were simply to produce the impression of equality, but being couched as an expression of faith, I could not participate.

- HuhWhatda February 09, 2018

(Part 2 of 3)

Since then, I have been led toward the King Follet Discourse. Joseph Smith struggled with the early saints because they would fly to pieces like glass when they were being taught something that questioned their traditions. In his last conference talk (April 1844) and days before being killed, it was King Follet Discourse that he tried to teach. He claimed in that talk that the saints never knew him, they never knew his heart, …and they have since rejected that lecture. In an interview with Mike Wallace, the ideas in King Follet were denied by the president of the church, when Joseph’s ministry peaked with those principles. It was the principles of King Follet, of eternal progression, of calling and election, being kings and priests, looking into the darkest abyss, and the highest exaltation, and communing with God that has been the fire ignited by Denver’s first book pulling at all of our heart strings. Nothing but that message had anything to do with our being here. It wasn’t Denver, not opinions, not votes, and not lots that brought me to this point. It was the voice of the Lord alone, in the words delivered by a servant.

Now that the servant among us today has been removed from the effort, it has created a wonderful opportunity for a people to rise up, having received the message pointing to the heavens, and get their instructions from the heavens, and no other way. As God has given a commandment, He has provided a way, before the task began, for us to accomplish the commandment He has given. Before the work can move forward to the work of Elijah, the work of Elias must be complete. In all successful Zion’s the father of that dispensation preached repentance, and the people repented. In Joseph’s day, he preached repentance, but the people did not repent.

- HuhWhatda February 09, 2018

(Part 3 of 3)

Since God is the same, this is not the first time God’s family was asked to write

Governing Principles. If Zion is to be established today, it will be by the same requirements that Zion has always been established. But we are required to do it in much less time. So, it is upon us to be careful to make every step in fear and trembling before God, meaning: constantly questioning if our position is truth, or simply our opinion of truth. Your honesty will be your only only advantage. If it is truth, then bet your life on it. However, if it is an opinion, then I wouldn't stand so hard and fast on it, because it might shift from under you. Thus you must do it in fear and trembling before God, depending on your communication line with God alone, and not the opinions of the greater whole.

A Telestial mentality is one in which man governs. And what man governs, man must enforce. However, a Terrestrial mentality is dependent upon truth to govern. However, those belonging in New Jerusalem will be required to govern themselves, not depending upon another man, but depending upon the acquisition of truth alone. When only truth governs, it is the individuals responsibility to discern between truth and opinions, allowing truth to remain, and searching for further truth to displace the opinions or solidify them as truths. If the Governing Principles effort is to fulfill the requirement of Elias, and I believe it is, it is incumbent upon us all to set opinions aside for truth to win the day.

I respect the statement of the Scripture Committee.

Mahalo,
Rob & Q Adolpho

- JimORullian — February 09, 2018

We appreciate the SC approaching this issue so carefully and thoughtfully, considering the mind and views of all covenant holders in accomplishing this important task. So that the body can more fully understand the issues at hand, could the SC please provide some elaboration as to what exactly are the shortcomings of the previous efforts, specifically the LOTS process and document, which have caused them to "fall short" and not be included in the scriptures? As the committee tasked with publication of the RE scriptures, what specific reservations remain that need to be addressed?

Jim O'Rullian
James Fargo

- Thescripturecommittee — February 09, 2018

The reference to "falling short" is to our own efforts to find a way to resolve the matter, not to any other effort. The post explains the rest.

- userT — February 09, 2018

Do you agree with (or support) the definition of mutual agreement as posted above?

- JimORullian — February 10, 2018

(1 of2)
The assignment to resolve the G&S matter was placed squarely on the shoulders of the main body to persuade one another, not the scripture committee, regarding which statement of principles to include in the RE. In a state of confusion regarding what the term "mutual agreement" meant, the Lord responded that it was to not dispute, come what may. Since then, most of us have tried to conform to that requirement while

simultaneously trying to ascertain the voice of the people so that we can move forward.

So, I would just politely ask the scripture committee to reconsider the very obvious conclusions that have been reached via voting and surveys several times now. The conclusions I am referring to have less to do with which document is preferred by the main body and more to do with being content, finding peace, and moving on which is what this people are screaming out loud and clear. There appears to be a fixation of some sort to ascertain which documents qualify, which are preferred and whose voices have not been heard. This attention to detail is admirable and applauded but it can certainly be overkilled to the point where nobody wants to participate and further. I suppose another vote between documents is possible, but how will this improve upon what has already been revealed about the voice of the people thus far? If it can be argued that another round of voting will bring further unification, then of course we should all be interested, but I think that is a hard argument to make and should most likely be abandoned.

Does the scripture committee not realize that when they continue to make statements that it is not their responsibility to decide the matter, they are asserting themselves as the ones to decide the matter? It has been explained that the task of the scripture committee in regards to this portion of the RE is to publish what he main body of believers generally unites around without disputations. That will necessarily involve some few who will not vote in favor of the majority, however, their dissention is respected, considered and noted. But how many few are acceptable? 50? 20? 10? 1? And who decides this if the scripture committee is truly determined not to make that call? I raise these questions not in accusation but to demonstrate that at this point, it is nigh impossible to find a solution to this issue that will be completely satisfying for anyone, including the scripture committee as they finish the publication of the RE. But personal satisfaction is not the goal here….and if it is then we ought to re-assess that goal if we are really trying to establish Zion.

- JimORullian February 10, 2018

(2 of 2)
SOLUTION? Simply put, this movement has as its voting base around 500 souls. Those 500 have now participated in several voting opportunities. At this moment, roughly 94% of those voters are unified around a single statement of principles that was composed not by any one group or individual but rather it was abridged from among ALL of the G&S documents that have been produced this past year by seven randomly selected covenant holders in response to the Lord's directive to finish this assignment "AS A PEOPLE." While not diminishing anything that was written prior this effort, to my knowledge the movement-wide lots process and resulting document stands alone in this regard as it was conceived, carried out, and concluded selflessly with goal of giving respect and deference to the work of the whole. Moreover, it has been the only post-covenantal work that has been representative of the whole.

For these reasons, I think it would be a safe assumption that no further voting is necessary. However, if any additional voting is to be held, make it a simple up/down adoptive vote of what the main body of believers is most united around at this time at the next general conference in Phoenix just as we did with the RE scriptures in Boise last September. Working together in person has always been much more effective than through an isolated keyboard.

Respectfully,

Jim O'Rullian

- etluxentenebrislucet February 10, 2018

From the King Follett Sermon, given April 7, 1844 by Joseph Smith:

"If we start right, it is easy to go right all the time; but if we start wrong we *may* go wrong, and it will be a hard matter to get right."

Also: "There is strength here, and I verily believe that your prayers will be heard."

I love this sermon from Joseph. I can feel myself filling with light every time I read it, much like I experience when reading the things Denver Snuffer has written or listening to his talks.

I have wondered why I have not experienced the same when reading the various proposals and ideas. With the exception of a proposal based upon 3 Nephi 11+ and Matthew 5-7, nothing has moved me, inspired me, and enlarged me in the same way.

Might it be because we (collectively? individually?) are not filled with that same Spirit which animates Denver and animated Joseph? If that is so, ought we to seek earnestly for that in order to fulfill this commandment of Christ?

I am not criticizing anyone or any effort. I just felt to share an observation I have had recently. I am still struggling to understand why this is so difficult for us.
Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet February 10, 2018

"The scriptures committee has been firmly of the position that the committee cannot produce or choose A GUIDE & STANDARD FOR INCLUSION IN THE SCRIPTURES - that IS THE REQUIREMENT OF "ALL THE PEOPLE". DESPITE THE REQUEST BY THE LOTS GROUP to the scriptures committee TO HAVE THEIR G&S ADDED TO THE SCRIPTURES, IT IS OUR POSITION THAT THERE IS/ARE OTHER DOCUMENT(S) THAT CANNOT BE DISCARDED by mere executive action on our part, as THEY MEET ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS given for a qualified G&S."

Will someone on the committee please explain this to me? What is meant by "all the people?" Does that mean a majority vote is not sufficient, even if the majority say it is acceptable? I am just wondering the precise reasoning behind the committee's decision to not honour the request of the lots group and supporters by publishing that version. I am not stating an opinion on the decision either. I just seek understanding of what it is the rest of us are being told we need to do at this point.

Thanks,
Lori

- Cherryann February 10, 2018

I posted this on the voting proposal thread, but I thought I'd put it here, too.

I am VERY grateful to and sincerely appreciate the scripture committee and all those who have worked endlessly to bring us the gift of the scriptures. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

That being said, the scripture committee gave the assignement to resolve the GS issue to "the people." The people rose up and were invited to participate, and voted to

proceed, in every step of the process. The document created is in the Lord's words and is a summation of what we ALL ALREADY have mutually agreed upon. It was taken to the Lord, who approved of it and said we already have mutual agreement.

Here is what the Lord said when the lots group presented the document to Him on behalf of all the people:

"This document that you've presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them. At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice. Heed the words contained in them, heed the words contained and referenced in the footnotes. All of those words were mine."

Do we not believe this to be the Lord's voice? The Lord made His hand known through the entire Lots process, and I believe He has spoken here. I also believe that if this be His voice, we ignore it at our peril.

And perhaps we are now in peril, because His voice is being ignored.

The Lord required the document be written by "MY PEOPLE." The Lord's command to the people for this didn't come until the covenant. Prior to that, he didn't have a (His) people. The Lot's document is the ONLY one that qualifies as having been written by the Lord's people, with every covenant holder having equal voice and opportunity in the matter, and it is written entirely in the Lord's words. I don't understand why the SC won't honor that, especially when it is supported by 93-96% of the people!

I believe the reason this is now such a mess is because the scripture committee, while saying they will not make a decision on behalf of the people, thereby giving the assignment to the people, has actually CHOSEN to make the decision NOT to accept the voice of the people after the fact, and I believe, are ignoring the voice of the Lord. The buck stops there!

Had the SC just accepted what the people vastly support and the Lord approved, at THEIR request, this mess would have been resolved long ago! They wouldn't be struggling to come to a resolution now.

People are tired. Those who care to have their voice heard in this process have already been heard. Numerous times, and over many months. Every vote seems to dwindle in participation. Further voting, especially at a conference where many won't be able to attend, will only further dilute the votes and the outcome. And I already know many who refuse to participate in another vote at all. We could ultimately end up being forced to adopt a document that gets 25% of the vote of those in attendance, based upon this proposal. This will disenfranchise the whole movement, and is surely to frustrate the Lord!

I respectfully request that the SC simply do what the people and the Lord have ALREADY ACCEPTED. The people completed the task. The Lord spoke. The SC needs to honor that and publish the end result.

I would likewise support a single vote at the conference (and online for those who aren't in attendance) regarding adopting the Lots document into the scriptures. It's simple and honors what the people already support, and the Lord publicly accepted. Those who oppose can make it known, just as this proposal suggests.

Please, let's heed the people's voice, the Lord's voice, and move on.

- Dan February 13, 2018

It says "a direct effort". That doesn't necessarily mean that it is the scripture committee that will be making the effort.

- Log February 18, 2018

An Open Letter to the Scripture Committee

As you have asked for proposals to come to mutual agreement on the Guide and Standard, I feel it appropriate to note that there is a quick and decisive test for determining the reliability of any such proposal.

The quick and decisive test of any of these proposals is to ask "can this proposal result in the adoption of a document whose adoption is known to be disputed?" If the answer to this question is yes, then the proposal cannot be relied upon to fulfill the Lord's requirement. We know such proposals are wrong because their outcome cannot be known to fulfill the Lord's requirement. There is no need to consider the rationales of their proponents, as they don't matter; only the outcomes do.

The proposal by Gordon Platt, Jeanene Custer, Donald and Christy Danner, Paul Durham, and Others fails this test, as it explicitly proposes to adopt even documents whose adoption is disputed after all is said and done. Therefore, this proposal is wrong. There is no need to consider their rationales, as they don't matter.

The proposal by Adrian Larsen fails this test, as all that needs to happen for a disputed document to be adopted despite its adoption being known to be disputed is for those who dispute the adoption of that document to not show up to one of the mandated voting / mandated arbitration meetings at the conferences. This can occur, as not everyone has the means to attend the conferences. Therefore, this proposal is wrong. There is no need to consider Adrian's rationales, as they don't matter

Jared Livesey

DEAR SCRIPTURES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Friday, February 09, 2018

Dear scripture committee members, Despite everyone's best efforts, there is still disagreement about which statement of principles (guide and standard) should be adopted. Here is a proposal we believe can resolve the deadlock. Please take a moment to read our proposal, and if the committee can support this approach, would you please promise to publish whichever statement of principles the body of believers chooses using this process. The Phoenix conference organizers have agreed to give us time at the conference to conduct parts two and three of this vote. _____ _____ The proposal: 1-Starting immediately, anyone who wishes to have their statement of principles (guide and standard) considered for inclusion in the new scriptures can submit their document to guideandstandard.blogspot.com . Then, during the week prior to the Phoenix conference (Mar. 16 - Mar. 23, 2018), we will hold an online vote by covenant holders. People will be able to vote for any or all of the statements of principles that were submitted, and that they believe fill the Lord's

requirements. Voters will be asked to rank their preferences. 2-Then, at the conference on Saturday Mar. 24th , we will announce the results of the online voting. And at that time, in a second vote, we will ask those who preferred a statement of principles other than the top vote getter to vote to either accept the majority's decision or to reject the majority's decision. If this second vote does not produce broad agreement with the majority, the issue will be tabled until the next conference. If there is broad agreement with the majority, but there are some who remain opposed, then they will be invited to get together after the meeting with a delegate (or delegates) of those who brought this issue to the conference for consideration. The purpose of the meeting will be to listen to their reason(s) for opposition and discuss whether they would be willing to unite, despite their misgivings, with all the others who supported the proposition. 3-Then, if they are opposed still, we will announce on Sunday the 25th that there remain three (or however many) opposed to the proposition that has otherwise carried by the nearly unanimous consent of the conference, and ask the conference if as a body they are willing to proceed/adopt the chosen statement of principles despite the opposition by three (or however many). If this carries by a clear majority vote of the conference, then it is adopted, and the chosen statement will be added to the scriptures. 4-Once adopted, the three (or however many) will be contacted and asked again if they will accept the outcome of the vote of the conference. Since the conference adopted the proposition, the continued opposition of a few will not stop the inclusion of the statement of principles in the new scriptures. But the position of the few will have been respected and noted, and they can proceed with the full knowledge that they were listened to, their opposition heard, their vote acknowledged, but the conference adopted the proposition, and now they need to determine whether they will yield. They may not at first, but with time, and love, and fellowship, they may ultimately accept the outcome anyway. Reasonable people can differ regarding the merits of the various statements of principles and the processes that produced them. But it is necessary, ultimately, to lay those differences to one side. The content of the statement is less important than the content of our hearts. Our commitment to unity needs to be greater than our devotion to any particular version of the guide and standard. The approach outlined above uses persuasion and love to achieve unity, allows everyone to exercise their agency as they think best, but asks each of us to be accountable for our choices. This approach balances the interests of all concerned, and provides a way to move beyond the current impasse.
Gordon Platt Jeanene Custer, Donald and Christy Danner, Paul Durham, Others

Comments

- etluxentenebrislucet February 09, 2018

Please define "broad agreement" and "majority."

If a "majority" of people accepting a statement has not already achieved the object of being published in the T&C, why is it felt this approach will?

"Starting immediately…," does this mean it has already been determined this will happen? Is this post just an FYI?

Listen, if not every single voice is important to the whole, if not every single heart and person is felt to contribute strength and wisdom and knowledge and gifts to the whole, then why bother voting? Haven't others already pointed out there will always be "opposition?"

Just go and do. I will not oppose or dispute or contend or utter a peep against anyone or any proposal. I will not cry disenfranchisement or that I am ignored or unheard. I will accept the decisions of the alphas in the group. I no longer desire to put further energy into a task and process that continues to create rifts akin to the Grand Canyon instead bonds of closeness resembling a beautiful tapestry.

I am sorry if my previous no votes have caused others to reach their threshold for patience and love. I am a trying personality to deal with—filled with weakness, but I do know how to be silent if that is what others require of me. If I can serve and love in any other way, please ask. I am willing.

For now, I feel no inclination to participate in further voting. I will accept if others do, however, and choose not to dispute.

I feel the answer is here, within us and among us, but we seem so lost to each other and unable to find it. May Christ the Lord continue to shew us mercy and grace, as undeserving as we each may be. I thank God that He “so loved the world.”

- Log February 09, 2018

You are advocating disobeying the Lord's requirement that we adopt the G&S by mutual agreement by rejecting his requirement for mutual agreement in favor of majority rules.

Majority rules is not mutual agreement so long as there remains any dissent.

My disputation against the adoption of each and every G&S proposal both past, present, and future, other than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, is known.

I am a covenant participant and have standing in this matter.

Jared Livesey

- Dani February 09, 2018

No one should be willing to cast aside the *Lord's* requirement for mutual agreement because they don't like the consequences of keeping the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, nor should they encourage others to cast it aside. It is not necessary to lay our differences to one side. It is necessary that the Guide and Standard contains only those things in which we are united. It is not unity to impose on others. With imposition comes enforcement, judgement, and scorn. The Lord has not given us an impossible task. He has given us an opportunity to exhibit obedience, sacrifice, humility, patience, and love.

- Log February 09, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 09, 2018

1. It is self-defeating to advocate doing what the Lord requires by not doing the very thing the Lord requires and doing something else instead, while calling it the same thing.

2. Agreeing to the covenant and then laying aside the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, and substituting "majority rules" for it, would be an example of what the Lord

means by "say[ing], and do not do[ing]," which behavior he says is presently the case with us as a people in the A&C.

3. The Lord said in the A&C if we are not able to do what he requires with respect to the G&S then we as a people will be unable to accomplish other tasks which he will lay upon us.

4. Joseph taught that to obtain salvation one must do all things, not just some things, the Lord commands - thus this proposal will, if executed, end in the destruction of this covenant body.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 09, 2018

I reject this proposal in its entirety.

Jared Livesey

- LynneMcKinley February 09, 2018

Oh no. Here we go again. I need a flow chart visual to figure out all the if this/then that voting again. Do you all have any idea how many hearts out there have just shut down on this and given up on even caring anymore? I hear from them privately, but I speak for them publicly. Stop this. Stop the jarring and contending and arguing and nitpicking and digging in and proposing something new all over again when it doesn't go "your" way. If I were Ghandi I'd just fast until death for this fighting to stop. But I'm not. I'm just a tired grandmother, weeping, crying out to God to have mercy on all of us for the sin of self righteous self focus.

- McKay February 10, 2018

Et Lux:

You ask, Please define "broad agreement"?

In the first and second voiced vote, we are proposing that we move forward only if the assembly has broad agreement meaning near unanimity. That is the decision of the person conducting the vote and two others “witnesses” that each decide whether the “yeas” predominate over the “neas”. Nothing but supermajority will suffice. That is our proposal.

If a "majority" of people accepting a statement has not already achieved the object of being published in the T&C, why is it felt this approach will?

The Scriptures Committee has declined publishing the August 5th G&S because of contention and widespread disputation. They have not published the Lots document because they do not believe they can eliminate other documents by executive action. This will work if the assembly votes show broad agreement because we have the promise of the scriptures committee to publish the outcome of this process as long as we follow this process.

"Starting immediately…,” does this mean it has already been determined this will happen? Is this post just an FYI?

It begins as soon as the scriptures committee agrees to the process.

Listen, if not every single voice is important to the whole, if not every single heart and person is felt to contribute strength and wisdom and knowledge and gifts to the whole, then why bother voting?

We want every single voice. All matter. All are important. 1600+ have been baptized yet no more than 1/3 that have participated in votes. That's their choice. Does that answer your question or am I missing your question.

Haven't others already pointed out there will always be "opposition?"

Yes

For now, I feel no inclination to participate in further voting.

My suspicion is that is okay with heaven. I know many very good souls who want no role in this process yet serve the poor and serve God in other ways.

- McKay February 10, 2018

Dani:
Some believe mutual agreement requires that we agree and not disagree. I think Webster would agree with you. He would also define "eternal" as "forever" but in D&C 19 the Lord reveals a mystery that He uses words in ways we don't . He defines mutual agreement, as used in the Answer to Prayer for Covenant, this way: "As between one another, you choose to not dispute." If you believe that, then accepting the majority choice and choosing not to dispute about it will not be seen as rejecting the Lord's requirements. If you don't believe it then you don't believe Denver, that definition came when he asked the Lord what the Lord meant by mutual agreement.

In the end Zion will be composed of cities of people who don't dispute. They will have mutual agreement with each other but not with those who fight against them. In the view of the scriptures committee "Simply put, even if we disagree, if we choose not to dispute, we have mutual agreement." I agree with that position.

If some oppose the majority opinion but the majority refuse to dispute, in the definition above mutual agreement is achieved between the non-disputers. You may not see it that way but I do.

There are only three possibilities to choose the G&S.
1- some group, individual, committee, Denver or angel can do it for us. In this approach we get a G&S but not Zion but Mormonism 2.0. Nobody wants that.
2- we can get behind the majority opinion through some means. Our proposal is one such method among many that could be proposed.
3- Lastly we could wait/persuade/love but wait until such a time as we had Webster's view of mutual agreement. In my opinion Satan will never allow such a thing to happen. This is too disruptive to his kingdom to ever allow unanimity of opinion among men. You may disagree. I think the Book of Mormon and Mormon history and the history of his movement support my view that option 3 is never going to happen. I do not imagine Zion or heaven, for that matter, being a place where all think alike but it is a place where people of good will love each other, care for peoples feelings and have the same heart.

- Donald February 10, 2018

I think you are pretty much right on Lynne...it has been a confusing and frustrating process...I've tuned out much of it ...and have felt like throwing in the towel a number of times. I don't know how else to proceed...when asked, my wife and I reluctantly agreed to give it another try and support this effort. Where it will lead, I don't know...but I do want to keep listening and processing in my mind and heart what is happening and what we are learning and how we are growing. I do hope the Lord approves...and forgives my lack of patience...and personal unworthiness. p.s. I love the movie and thought Ben Kingsley was fantastic. :)

- Log February 10, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Dani February 10, 2018

Mc Kay,
Are you suggesting that Satan is greater than God, that God cannot do His own work in uniting the hearts of all those who believe on the name of Christ and keep God's commandments? Does this body only profess to be unified in accepting and keeping the Book of Mormon as our covenant guide and standard? If we would do as we profess, this task would be literally *in deed* "a light thing." God has not asked us to create a creed of man. He has asked if we are faithful and knowledgeable of the things He has heretofore given as His commandments.

- JimORullian February 10, 2018

(1 of2)
The assignment to resolve the G&S matter was placed squarely on the shoulders of the main body to persuade one another, not the scripture committee, regarding which statement of principles to include in the RE. In a state of confusion regarding what the term “mutual agreement” meant, the Lord responded that it was to not dispute, come what may. Since then, most of us have tried to conform to that requirement while simultaneously trying to ascertain the voice of the people so that we can move forward.

So, I would just politely ask the scripture committee to reconsider the very obvious conclusions that have been reached via voting and surveys several times now. The conclusions I am referring to have less to do with which document is preferred by the main body and more to do with being content, finding peace, and moving on which is what this people are screaming out loud and clear. There appears to be a fixation of some sort to ascertain which documents qualify, which are preferred and whose voices have not been heard. This attention to detail is admirable and applauded but it can certainly be overkilled to the point where nobody wants to participate and further. I suppose another vote between documents is possible, but how will this improve upon what has already been revealed about the voice of the people thus far? If it can be argued that another round of voting will bring further unification, then of course we should all be interested, but I think that is a hard argument to make and should most likely be abandoned.

Does the scripture committee not realize that when they continue to make statements that it is not their responsibility to decide the matter, they are asserting themselves as the ones to decide the matter? It has been explained that the task of the scripture committee in regards to this portion of the RE is to publish what he main body of believers generally unites around without disputations. That will necessarily involve some few who will not vote in favor of the majority, however, their dissention is respected, considered and noted. But how many few are acceptable? 50? 20? 10? 1?

And who decides this if the scripture committee is truly determined not to make that call? I raise these questions not in accusation but to demonstrate that at this point, it is nigh impossible to find a solution to this issue that will be completely satisfying for anyone, including the scripture committee as they finish the publication of the RE. But personal satisfaction is not the goal here….and if it is then we ought to re-assess that goal if we are really trying to establish Zion.

- JimORullian February 10, 2018

(2 of 2)
SOLUTION? Simply put, this movement has as its voting base around 500 souls. Those 500 have now participated in several voting opportunities. At this moment, roughly 94% of those voters are unified around a single statement of principles that was composed not by any one group or individual but rather it was abridged from among ALL of the G&S documents that have been produced this past year by seven randomly selected covenant holders in response to the Lord's directive to finish this assignment "AS A PEOPLE." While not diminishing anything that was written prior this effort, to my knowledge the movement-wide lots process and resulting document stands alone in this regard as it was conceived, carried out, and concluded selflessly with goal of giving respect and deference to the work of the whole. Moreover, it has been the only post-covenantal work that has been representative of the whole.

For these reasons, I think it would be a safe assumption that no further voting is necessary. However, if any additional voting is to be held, make it a simple up/down adoptive vote of what the main body of believers is most united around at this time at the next general conference in Phoenix just as we did with the RE scriptures in Boise last September. Working together in person has always been much more effective than through an isolated keyboard.

Respectfully,

Jim O'Rullian

- Log February 10, 2018

The Way Mutual Agreement Works

In a request for "clarification" on what he meant by "mutual agreement," the Lord said: "As between one another, you choose to not dispute." If there are no dissenting voices, then we are mutually agreed to a proposition. The only "votes" that matter are the dissenters', if there are any.

This simplifies the matter of determining when we as a body are mutually agreed: when nobody publicly dissents. Silence is assent with this "clarification" from the Lord. We need not track down every covenant participant to poll them for their agreement; all those who care are already participating.

However, the majority faction decided this meant that they could feign that the body as a whole has mutual agreement to the majority proposal so long as the majority declines to speak with the dissenters.

In reality, if you choose not to dispute adopting a proposal, such as The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, you signify your agreement with it.

In other words, mutual agreement works exactly the opposite of the way the majority

faction purports to understand it. When the majority faction ostracizes the dissenters, the majority is choosing not to dispute the dissenters' position, which means they agree with the dissenters according to the Lord's "clarification," which then carries the dissenters' proposal, which in my case is the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, as our sole written guide and standard.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 10, 2018

Hi Jim. Your use of numbers caused the account of Abraham saving Lot to come into my mind. The LORD JEHOVAH used numbers in a different way. When asked if HE would save Sodom (an entire city!) for the righteous' sake, the numbers were of minorities--50, 45, 40, 30, 20, 10. So if there were only 10 righteous individuals GOD would NOT have destroyed Sodom. Only 10.

I have often wondered what it would say about the covenant group if the majority let go of their desires for a G&S to accept the one proposal a single lone person says she/he is willing to accept because that is what Christ has told them to do.

What do we think of someone who bows to the will of another, as Christ Himself did for His Father?

Anyhoot, just some random thoughts this morning I am now pondering. Thanks for sharing yours. I liked them, and believe we collectively do want to do what is right. Lori

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

I have a couple of genuine questions about this proposal that I hope can be answered.

While I personally believe the Lots GS has fulfilled all the requirements, and even done the work of being adopted by mutual agreement according to the definition given by the Lord and believe this continues to create division and unnecessary diversion of our efforts, I have chosen to have compassion for the dilemma the SC feels they are in and believe they are trying to do their best in proceeding as they believe the Lord would have them do. I am placing a cloak of charity upon the whole matter, as I believe we're all trying our very best to follow the Lord and keep our covenant. Thus, I appreciated what the scripture committee proposed a few days ago, as I can see they feel they are up against a wall.

Accordingly, they gave a list of parameters that MUST be met and sufficiently shown to be satisfied by any document that is put up for a vote, based upon the direction we've received from the Lord on the matter thus far. I believe they were unbiased in this and that the said parameters ought be adhered to, as they are from the Lord.

After laying out the parameters to be met, they also stated the following: "If you believe that documents other than the Lotsters' should be considered for the G&S...",

From this statement, I interpreted that they were saying it is clear that the Lots Document ALREADY fulfills ALL those requirements, and IF ANY other document wants to be considered, then the burden of proof/persuasion is upon whomever wants to promote the adoption of their preferred GS.

With that in mind, I have a genuine concern about this specific proposal as it is currently presented. As this proposal has members of the SC authoring and supporting it, I am trying to point out a weakness in wording that I see that I think needs to be honestly addressed in this proposal...perhaps making some adjustments accordingly. Here's

one paragraph in question: (to be cont. part 2)

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Part 2 continued....

"1-Starting immediately, anyone who wishes to have their statement of principles (guide and standard) considered for inclusion in the new scriptures can submit their document to guideandstandard.blogspot.com. Then, during the week prior to the Phoenix conference (Mar. 16 - Mar. 23, 2018), we will hold an online vote by covenant holders. People will be able to vote for any or all of the statements of principles that were submitted, and that they believe fill the Lord's requirements. Voters will be asked to rank their preferences."

Question: How does this amply satisfy the SC's requirement that the GS submissions fit the Lord's requirements they pointed out for the GS document in their post? Is it just because someone "feels" their document fits the qualifications that it will be on the ballot? Whom do they have to persuade to show that it fits the parameters before it goes up for a vote? If you're going to allow people to just "self determine" that their GS meets the requirements laid out (and perhaps that is what you desire), then the wording of the voting needs to clearly state to the voters that if they believe a document does NOT meet the required parameters as outlined by the Lord, then even if the content of the proposed GS is wonderful, a person should not feel obligated to affirm it. In fact, it may even be appropriate to have a vote option where one can say, "I do NOT believe this documents fits the required parameters outlined by the Lord." The qualifications should also be clearly found on the ballot.

Also, how does voting for any and all documents that a person would be willing to accept really show the body if there is an enormous supermajority concerning one GS with which to move forward? It will give us the same very muddled results that we just got from the survey that only 80 people cared to complete. I think it would be much wiser to simply make ONE vote for their preferred GS. You could add a question that states if their preferred GS does not garner the supermajority, would they be willing to accept the voice of the people on the matter without dispute. Otherwise, you risk offering for acceptance a document that has been so divided among the various unlimited number of documents, that you do not even have a true supermajority, or a clear declaration in people's mind of what the results of the vote even showed. So much data that the interpretation of it becomes cumbersome and open for further dispute.

Part 3 to be continued....

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Part 3 continued....

Additionally, no one has addressed how the BODY will decide IF they agree to any

proposal put up here as a suggestion? Surely, if we are not about force and compulsion, then even to advance forward with ANY proposal that is posted (including this one), there must be some sort of vote by the people stating they'll go along with it. That's one of the things I personally appreciated about the what the Lots people did...they FIRST got permission of 87% of the body before they proceeded. This showed they were not acting as a hierarchy or forcing their will/idea upon us without our consent.

Two other concerns: When you're dealing with those who voice theiropposition at the conference, who determines whether the number who continue to oppose is a large enough group to continue to hold off everything? You used 3 as a possible example. But what if it's 5, or 7, or 8 or 15...and there's 500 ready to move forward? Who is to say that those 15 will ever be persuadable? Do we continue to hold everything off because some will never go contrary to what they believe?

And second, what about all the people who will not be attending the conference. Off the top of my head I can think of 10 people I know who are not attending the conference due to schedule conflict/finances/proximity, who have been very involved in these matters up to this point. How will this proposal take into account the voice of these people when so much of carrying this out happens "live" at theconference?

These are just a couple of thoughts I had as I read this. I appreciate your desires to try to find a resolution and hope that none of my questions came across as contentious or accusatory. Not intended to be so at all. I'm trying to be supportive, but helpful in thinking things through.

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Log,

May I just respectfully point out that the definition said that we choose not to "dispute"...not that we choose not to "dissent." One may dissent to the document that the vast majority agrees to and that does not invalidate the document qualifying as being mutually agreed upon, because dissent does not = dispute.

This is wise and merciful of our Lord to define things as He did, as He has woven into His requirement of us a means whereby the majority body is not held potentially hostage by one person (or several) who could intentionally try to subvert the work of the Lord by merely "dissenting." (I'm not accusing you of doing this...I'm speaking of the principle in action here.) The Lord already identified that there are those who received the covenant whose hearts are not right and will eventually be cut off (perhaps it will be me). But do you really think He did not provide a way for us, as a group, to over-ride an element among us that may choose to cause disputations for the very purpose of attempting to thwart the work? He knows everything, and I believe He prepared a way to avoid that by the way He defined things.

Dissent is fine (simply stating your disagreement with the majority), but once the dissent of an individual moves into the territory of "disputing" about it, or relentlessly arguing, then the individual choosing to dispute has in essence broken the spirit of the covenant, anyway. If the other parties refuse to engage in the disputing, but the dissenting individual continues to attempt to stir up disputations as the purpose of their dissent, then the responsibility of breaking the covenant lies upon the one stirring up disputations.

The covenant is in part, to govern ourselves by the things taught within the

scriptures...thus, continued disputing after one's dissent is not chosen, would ultimately result in breaking the covenant by the individual causing and provoking the disputation. Those choosing to turn the other cheek cannot be punished for another's choices that they did not engage in.

I do not agree with your logic equating "dispute" with "dissent." They are two different matters entirely. Nor do I consider my "silence" in not publicly dissenting to your document as a form of "assent," particularly when I have proclaimed my position publicly and through vote as to what it is that I do agree to. According to the dictionary, my silence is actually a "dissent" to your position, not assent. None of what I am saying is in anger toward you. I just have a clearly opposite perspective in what you are saying in this post and felt to share my views.

BTW, the dictionary defines the terms:

Dispute: to engage in argument : debate; especially : to argue irritably or with irritating persistence

Dissent: to withhold assent or approval 2 : to differ in opinion

[Thus, my lack of assent, or silence, is in reality a dissent from your GS, while choosing not to dispute over it.]

- Cherryann February 10, 2018

Jim, I really appreciate you giving voice to my thoughts, as well. I am VERY grateful to and sincerely appreciate the scripture committee and all those who have worked endlessly to bring us the gift of the scriptures. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

That being said, the scripture committee gave the assignement to resolve the GS issue to “the people.” The people rose up and were invited to participate, and voted to proceed, in every step of the process. The document created is in the Lord’s words and is a summation of what we ALL ALREADY have mutually agreed upon. It was taken to the Lord, who approved of it and said we already have mutual agreement.

Here is what the Lord said when the lots group presented the document to Him on behalf of all the people:

“This document that you’ve presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them. At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice. Heed the words contained in them, heed the words contained and referenced in the footnotes. All of those words were mine.”

Do we not believe this to be the Lord’s voice? The Lord made His hand known through the entire Lots process, and I believe He has spoken here. I also believe that if this be His voice, we ignore it at our peril.

And perhaps we are now in peril, because His voice is being ignored.

The Lord required the document be written by “MY PEOPLE.” The Lord’s command to the people for this didn’t come until the covenant. Prior to that, he didn’t have a (His) people. The Lot’s document is the ONLY one that qualifies as having been written by the Lord’s people, with every covenant holder having equal voice and opportunity in the

matter, and it is written entirely in the Lord's words. I don't understand why the SC won't honor that, especially when it is supported by 93-96% of the people!

I believe the reason this is now such a mess is because the scripture committee, while saying they will not make a decision on behalf of the people, thereby giving the assignment to the people, has actually CHOSEN to make the decision NOT to accept the voice of the people after the fact, and I believe, are ignoring the voice of the Lord. The buck stops there!

Had the SC just accepted what the people vastly support and the Lord approved, at THEIR request, this mess would have been resolved long ago! They wouldn't be struggling to come to a resolution now.

People are tired. Those who care to have their voice heard in this process have already been heard. Numerous times, and over many months. Every vote seems to dwindle in participation. Further voting, especially at a conference where many won't be able to attend, will only further dilute the votes and the outcome. And I already know many who refuse to participate in another vote at all. We could ultimately end up being forced to adopt a document that gets 25% of the vote of those in attendance, based upon this proposal. This will disenfranchise the whole movement, and is surely to frustrate the Lord!

I respectfully request that the SC simply do what the people and the Lord have ALREADY ACCEPTED. The people completed the task. The Lord spoke. The SC needs to honor that and publish the end result.

I would likewise support a single vote at the conference (and online for those who aren't in attendance) regarding adopting the Lots document into the scriptures. It's simple and honors what the people already support, and the Lord publicly accepted. Those who oppose can make it known, just as this proposal suggests.

Please, let's heed the people's voice, the Lord's voice, and move on.

- McKay February 10, 2018

Anonymous:

Thank you for your questions and observations and thank you for the respectful approach. It is laudable.

Your 1st question: How does this (voting on any and all documents that anyone believes meets the Lords requirements) amply satisfy the SC's requirement that the GS submissions fit the Lord's requirements? In fact this was a sticking point with the SC-a real dilemma.

The SC has struggled with this dilemma for months. On the one hand how do you refuse to govern and refuse to make decisions for the people and yet on the other hand be true to your commission, faithful to the word of the Lord. How could the SC possibly publish something they believed didn't follow what we were given in The Answer.

Ultimately it comes down to trust. We have tried to persuade the everyone including the SC that the people must be trusted on this decision and leave in their hands. If as a people we can't make decisions acceptable to the Lord, He may have to choose another people but the alternative is to have some person, committee, Denver or angel decide. That doesn't get us toward Zion.

2nd question: Whom do they (those submitting G&Ss for vote) have to persuade..before (their doc) goes up for vote?

Same dilemma. The SC finally agreed “we do not have the right to push our interpretation of which documents meet the Lords criterion onto anyone.” So the process we propose urges submitters of documents to read the Lords criterion as reviewed in the 2/8/2018 post and once submitted it has an equal status with a document such as the G&S Chosen by Lot with its 386+ advocates.

Question #3- regarding supermajority. The first vote does not require more than top place. It is the voice votes that require an unequivocal majority when all are asked to vote to accept the top vote getter.

Question #4-How will the body agree to any given proposal? We have the permission of the conference organizers to carry out this vote. Anyone can call a conference and make a proposal and anyone can carry out a vote. Most efforts don’t require decisions by the general body. We didn’t vote on whether the conferences should be in Grand Mesa, Boise, St. George, Spanish Fork, Cottonwood canyon, etc nor whether the SC should make new scriptures, whether records should be archived or whether the topic in Phoenix should be on Wisdom. I’m good with that. And you?

You have lots of good questions. Wanna help?

- etluxentenebrislucet February 10, 2018

Hi Mc Kay. Thank you for responding to my questions.

Part One
“Supermajority, "witnesses." I am definitely not interested in reinventing the American political process here. No offense to those who have taken much time and thought and prayer to find out Christ's mind, heart, and will.

It appears the only difference with this idea is that we agree at the outset a “majority/supermajority/broad agreement” will decide the outcome.

I am genuinely sorrowful for everyone. I know many have laboured much already and I appreciate what they have created. I do not want to belittle the work of others.

You mentioned 1600+ have been baptized. How do you know that even? I must really be on the outer fringe of things here...Does that number equate to those who also have received the covenant?

It is my opinion that only a fraction of whatever number of those who received the covenant are participating here. This work is being done on behalf of all future covenant holders, right? Or am I mistaken and reading too much importance into all this? That means only a few will create a statement of principles for the whole anyway.

My husband is one of those NOT participating, at least not since August 5th. And yes, that is their choice. BUT, perhaps it has more to do with there not being any good ideas or outcomes making it worth his/their time and effort? I would not feel wise or confident in doing something my whole family has not taken an avid interest in helping me accomplish. Know what I mean? And are we not supposed to be viewing each other as FAMILY?

For each and every proposal thus far, have any of them worked at the family level for all y’all? Was there an outpouring of Spirit and gifts as a result? Or fruits of repentance? Or

is it not supposed to accomplish such things? Again, am I making too much of a simple statement of principles? Why is it even important to identify principles for ourselves? Is it to show unity? The one faith, one baptism stuff?

I agree with what Rob Adolpho has tried to express, that what has been offered thus far, though having some light and truth, still yet does not have what he calls spark. And why is that? Or has anyone been bowled over by what they have read in a particular proposal?

Recently I re-read the King Follett talk. I was astonished at how I felt as I read it. I could feel light pouring into me. I cried in gratitude and amazement. I have experienced similar when reading what Denver Snuffer has written or hearing what he says. Why? Because of the anointing they each had/have. They are individuals filled with the Spirit and when they speak that is what comes through. We have all felt it, right?

So why are our proposals not having that same effect upon each of us? Do we even care to do that? Could it be because we are not also filled with the same level of light and Spirit? Perhaps some few of us individually are (cannot claim it to be me), but have those persons written a proposal? Would we want them to? Would we be able and willing to lay down our wants to have a statement so filled with light and truth and the Spirit we can tell it as we read it because we become enlarged with light? Do we desire to have others receive and experience the same? Or have we become too invested and too attached to “our” proposals? Do we want to show others The Way or our way?

- etluxentenebrislucet February 10, 2018

Part Two
I believe I have been given answers all throughout this convoluted and tiring experience to craft a G&S, but I struggle to know how to express myself. I do not desire to condemn or compel or debate, yet I do not sense we have gotten it right yet. I recall often Denver saying the path before us is filled with peril and that it ought to be challenging. I am gettin’ my arse kicked, y’all. But I am grateful Christ has brought me to this point and trust in His faithfulness to continue to help me.

It very much feels like we are going backwards in a circle with any idea that continues to be founded upon voting, at least for now. Some few will always be on the outside. I want to find a way that is inclusive, if possible.

As I stated earlier, if there are those who are determined to get the job done first and foremost over each of us doing the hard labour of getting our hearts right with Christ, then there is not much I can say or do at this point. It would only come across as contentious. I would rather learn in this moment to lay down my weapon—my words, to even bury it as the Anti-Nephi-Lehies, than continue to wield it in ways that further hurt others. I can peacefully say I won’t dispute, even if others rejoice that they have achieved “mutual agreement.” (For the record, I disagree with the scripture committee’s view that desiring unanimity as mutual agreement is “a flawed perspective.” Not because I think I have to be right, but because of what I have experienced as a wife and a mother, a matriarch to a family on earth; plus, I am an Idealist. There are some very basic things my family as a whole would say we all agree to or believe, without disagreement, dissension, or dispute.)

Maybe I should be asking for us not to follow through with this idea and show patience a little longer? Rob Adolpho has said he is working on something. Maybe we can choose to wait to hear him and any others out?

One of the many gems in the King Follett message is this:

“If we start right, it is easy to go right all the time; but if we start wrong we may go wrong, and it will be a hard matter to get right.”

I feel this is why we are struggling still—we have not started aright. Thanks for responding.

- LynneMcKinley February 10, 2018

Amen.

- Log February 10, 2018

Dissent
verb
verb: dissent; 3rd person present: dissents; past tense: dissented; past participle: dissented; gerund or present participle: dissenting
1.
hold or express opinions that are at variance with those previously, commonly, or officially expressed.
"two members dissented from the majority"
separate from an established or orthodox church because of doctrinal disagreement.
synonyms: differ, disagree, demur, fail to agree, be at variance/odds, take issue; decline/refuse to support, protest, object, dispute, challenge, quibble
"two members dissented"

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

The Nonmancaaf Swhafugs group held a vote on all of the available documents, with five different levels of support for each document. The results were posted a few days ago. What is the difference between what their vote accomplished and this new vote proposal? What would we get out of a new vote that was not resolved with the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs vote?

Kiyoko Ball

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

I TOTALY AGREE...

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Excellent

- McKay February 10, 2018

Kiyoko: What would we get out of a new vote that was not resolved with the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs vote? Good question. The major difference is the outcome I expect. With the nonmancaaf swhafugs vote there was not the expectation that the outcome would be acted on. There is with this approach. Nothing was resolved in that poll, was it? Just information.

With the pre-approval of the SC to publish in the scriptures the outcome of the vote as long as the process is followed, we have the promise of success if the people support

the top vote getter by a supermajority and we don't fumble the ball somehow. With the lots process, it's as though a flag was thrown on the one yard line even though the ball carrier was sure he had scored. Okay bad analogy.

This post is not the place to try and persuade the committee. The earlier post is, The Role of the Scriptures Committee in the G&S.

Reasonable people can start with the same facts and arrive at vastly different conclusions. So we have talked at length with the committee until arriving at this solution. That does not preclude Cherry Ann and Jim O or anyone else from doing the same. No one that is proposing this approach will stand in your way but we intend to move the ball across the finish line unless you can get the refs to overturn the ruling on instant-replay.

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Mc Kay:

I appreciated your honesty about the struggle the SC has had. Of their dilemma you said, "On the one hand how do you refuse to govern and refuse to make decisions for the people and yet on the other hand be true to your commission, faithful to the word of the Lord. How could the SC possibly publish something they believed didn't follow what we were given in The Answer."

Your response fits precisely with what I believe was already fulfilled by the Lots process and document. You said: "Ultimately it comes down to trust. We have tried to persuade everyone including the SC that the people must be trusted on this decision and leave it in their hands."

I couldn't agree more.

If I were to surmise the content of your response to how I understand it and feel, it would be: The SC must refuse to govern and make decisions that the people have a responsibility/right to make, and everyone involved must be willing to trust that the will of the people reflects sufficient understanding of fulfilling the will of the Lord in this matter. ["everyone" includes the SC and any who dissent from the body's chosen preferred document].

I must be honest, your answer actually gives credence to what Cherry Ann and Jim O'Rullian have stated in their comments posted earlier. From the SC post outlining the strict GS requirements again, it is evident that they, too, do not really question whether the Lots GS meets the outlined criteria. Thus, publishing the Lots GS would not put them in a position of having to publish something that didn't follow what we were given in the Answer. It clearly meets the criteria and makes that a non-issue for them.

The root of the struggle seems to be that the SC does not want to appear to be a hierarchy making the final call on a document by publishing it…potentially offending those who oppose whatever the document may be; yet those who have gone to the trouble of meeting all the requirements have their hands tied and are at the mercy of the SC in order to move forward, and thus, inadvertently, we have created a hierarchy while attempting not to have one.

One of the greatest forks in the road we have come to as a group from this entire GS matter is "will we inadvertently create another LDS type hierarchy situation among us, or will we resist that temptation."

We can avoid that mistake if two things happen 1) The SC trusts the people and lets this be resolved by the voice of the people, truly doing nothing more than publishing what the voice of the people decides, and 2) the people who have already followed all the rules and requirements requested by the Lord must not allow the SC to inadvertently take away their ability to state what it is that they desire and follow through with the Lord's assignment unencumbered.

Part 2 continuing...

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

part 2....

If there are 90% + people in the movement who already believe that the work has been completed, the document has been mutually agreed upon, the Lord accepted it, the servant accepted it, the labor to reach out to all those who dissented was repeatedly done (even being able to name them and explain their reasons for dissent), and the people have asked the SC to follow through with the voice of the people by publishing the mutually agreed upon document…and then the people now agree to allow the SC to say the voice of the people hasn't really spoken, it isn't enough…then are the people themselves culpable of allowing a hierarchy to develop right under our noses?

What is the responsibility of the ordinary believer to put an end to what is beginning to be viewed as control by a committee that is breeching appropriate boundaries of power in this situation? This is an honest question [made in compassion, not accusation] that I have heard MANY in this movement express as they've tried to decide whether participating further in the requests of people to vote is inadvertently acting just like we did in the LDS church (obeying orders from those we suppose have the right to run things).

It is a question I am grappling with myself to decide if the cloak of charity I throw over this new development is actually contributing to a furtherance of the problem. Is my cloak of charity to actually participate in something I believe has already been appropriately and fully accomplished, or to just attribute good intentions as the motivation, to those involved in further complicating and repeating the entire issue? I ask that honestly.

As per the voice vote requiring the super-majority, I remain concerned that this decision, with movement-wide ramification, would be made based upon attendance of a conference. The difference between this vote and standing and saying "yes" out loud to accept a personal covenant (which occurred at a conference, too), is that the covenant could also be done at home watching live, or even afterward, and be counted by God…and one's personal vote did not impact anyone other than himself.

As per my 4th question: "How will the body agree to any given proposal?" You explained how you had asked permission of the conference organizers to conduct the vote. I think you may have misunderstood my question.

What I was wanting to know is this: Your proposal is the result of a direct request by the SC for people to make suggestions of how this entire GS matter could be resolved and submit their ideas to the GS site. My question was not regarding your right to ask for a vote. My question is deeper.

If the SC is truly leaving it to the people again to figure this whole thing out, then ultimately someone's proposal will be selected as the method upon which the GS matter gets resolved. But just because a proposal is made, does not mean the body has to

agree to it. In order for there to be any staying power to moving forward with your proposal, you, or anyone, needs to get an agreement from the people that they like your idea and are willing to comply with it.

continued in part 3....

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Part 3 continued...

For instance, if another group of people come up with a proposal of how to resolve this in the next day or two and present it on the site…we will need to decide between the two. Perhaps the people do not want EITHER of the proposals suggested. There must be a mechanism whereby you ascertain whether or not the people agree to go along with your idea, and the SC cannot be the ones to decide the method since they are claiming “hands off.” So any proposal must have a way of knowing if they’ve persuaded the body or not? Otherwise, you are inadvertently compelling the body to accept the results of your actions, because of the nature of the project we’re talking about.

If you do not get approval before carrying this out, you will open Pandora’s Box. For why should the results of your method be honored if you do not get approval of the body to act, when the Lots proposal went to all the effort to get approval before acting and had 87% movement-wide permission to go forward? Even after getting permission the 93% approving the document are being ignored, thus your proposal which will consist of a divided vote among numerous documents, with a final voice-vote being taken with many not in attendance, and without getting a movement-wide approval beforehand will be a prime target to continued dispute. I can see it coming.

This is where I was complimenting the Lots proposal. They never acted on their proposal until they got permission from the people to carry it out. In my opinion, you all would need to acquire the same approval by the people before implementing this approach.

I appreciate you taking the time to thoughtfully respond. I hope my dialogue is still considered respectful. I am just continuing to struggle with how this method is going to accomplish anything more than what they Lots already did.

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

I FOURTH THE MOTION!

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

I laud the pure desires to be helpful. But I wonder why the SC would agree now, when they didn't before? Why didn't they agree to publish the Lots? They played the game fair and square, to keep with your football analogy. There was nothing done that should have precluded them from crossing the finish line. There still is not anything precluding them from crossing it. The SC's un-involvement was already declared prior to their efforts and should have been practiced faithfully... so why penalize them the Lots when it was not their error? Why not use instant re-play and see that a bad call was made, stopping them for no reason from crossing the line. Let the game resume where it was and let the "bad call" be corrected, and let them pick up the ball and go across the line?

February 10, 2018

- Anonymous

It's a good question, Lori. As I read it, I realized that it has dual application.

"What do we think of someone who bows to the will of another, as Christ Himself did for His Father?"

What if the 30, 20, 10 or 1 bowed to the will of another? What if the few decided to bow to the will of the more...just because they wanted to show their love for their brothers and sisters? It is a very good question, indeed. Worthy of contemplation.

I like that you expressed that you believe we collectively DO want to do what is right. I think you're right.

Warm Regards.

- Log February 10, 2018

The one rule of the Guide and Standard game is that the G&S be adopted by mutual agreement. This means that if there if any dispute over the adoption of a proposal, then that proposal cannot be adopted because it breaks that one rule which defines the game: mutual agreement.

Whatever you do while playing this game, unless it conforms to that one rule, mutual agreement, which defines the game, it is not legal.

Appeals for a rule change should be addressed to the Lord, since it's his rule, and not the SC, since it's not their rule, and attempting to suborn the SC - trying to persuade them to promise to use a proposal which violates the one rule of the guide and standard game - violates the agreement we all made in the third question in the covenant.

Each one of us is supposed to be persuading people to honor the covenant to keep the Lord's will - for example, adoping a guide and standard by mutual agreement - instead of persuading them to dishonor the Lord by failing to do his clearly and explicitly stated will, for example, by trying to get them to adopt a guide and standard by majority rules.

The game was designed by the Lord to allow one of us to block the rest of us. It is how mass error gets checked. That's what happens if you play the Lord's game by the Lord's rule. Of course, all bets are off if you don't play by the Lord's rule, since you're not playing the Lord's game.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 10, 2018

Cherry Ann,

We are asking you to go the extra mile.

The Lots group makes a good argument that they have done every thing that is required. We are asking you to do more than is strictly required. And there are three reasons you might consider doing it.

1-If support for the Lots document is overwhelming as you suggest, then the voices of 500 people at the conference being raised in favor of the Lots document will go a very long way towards settling any lingering doubts about which document the folks want.

2-If the scripture committee agrees to publish whichever document the folks choose, then your headaches regarding the inaction of the scripture committee are over.

3-Allowing people the opportunity to voluntarily, freely, open-handedly support the majority's choice at the conference, even though it wasn't their first choice, shows kindness and patience. Your current position can win minds, but an excess of kindness and patience can win hearts.

You bring up a number of valid arguments in favor of the Lots position. I don't want to dispute any of your points, but it should be said that reasonable people see things differently. For example:

1-You said, "The Lord required the document be written by "MY PEOPLE." That is one possible interpretation of "The Answer."

When I read "The Answer," I see something else. "You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands…But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people…" I don't see the hands (at which the Lord requires a statement of principles) holding a pen; I see them raised in support of a statement of principles.

The Lord who is a careful wordsmith might very well juxtapose those two sentences to bring to mind the image of a vote. That might mean that everyone in the body of believers is NOT actually required to participate in the writing of a statement; it is enough that they support a document that has been produced by someone else.

2-You said, "The Lord made His hand known through the entire Lots process, and I believe He has spoken here. I also believe that if this be His voice, we ignore it at our peril."

Your language in this sentence attempts to convince by invoking the words of the Lord, words that I didn't receive, words that didn't come to me, but to someone else. I believe there is a better way to convince: "Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion…"

3-You said, "I believe the reason this is now such a mess is because the scripture committee…has actually CHOSEN to make the decision NOT to accept the voice of the people after the fact, and I believe, are ignoring the voice of the Lord."

Once again, the voice of the Lord is invoked. The voice of the Lord did not come to me confirming that the scripture committee is out of line, and I have doubts about your claim. Over and over in "The Answer" the Lord condemns not just the scripture committee, but all of us. Is it helpful to suggest, "we have finished our work, we have done our part, why don't the rest of you get on board?"

I bring up these three rebuttals not to try to persuade you that any one or all of them are the correct way, or only way, to look at things, but to make a larger point. Reasonable people can differ over where we find ourselves in this process, what was required in this process, and how to best organize the process so that we come to mutual agreement.

Despite the Lots group's conviction that they have done all that is needed, perhaps we need to think about what others feel is needed. I don't frankly care which document is ultimately chosen. But I do care about bringing everyone into the fold that we can, voluntarily, inclusively, using an abundance of patience and love. 400+ votes is a great start; 95% is admirable. Can we do more?

We are asking you, and the other Losters, to go the extra mile.
Gordon Platt

- Janeen February 10, 2018

I would like to put forth some thoughts...
In the councils prior to this mortality there were those who chose not to participate in this creation cycle as you and I did.

Laman and Lemuel had numerous experiences and still chose their own way.
We may have children who perhaps have chosen differently than we would have hoped. We don't stop loving, serving, praying and doing all we can for them no more than Lehi or the Lord did and does. However that doesn't mean we stand still our efforts to move forward.
We can acknowledge and respect those who have different views without their views keeping us from moving forward as we feel we should.
God did not hold up the forward motion of this earth experience because some didn't want to agree. Nephi eventually was commanded to separate from his brothers. As much as I love my children and do all I can, I still do not have the right to control them nor am I going to stand still in my progression while they figure it out.
They have lessons they must learn just as I do.
Yes, we should be long suffering and use persuasion, etc. but that doesn't guarantee the outcome.
If you don't agree with my thoughts that is totally fine. I am not willing to debate only express my thoughts for consideration.

- Anonymous February 11, 2018

So, someone desires to receive the Covenant. We read them the Prayer, the Answer and the covenant. What we read to them is..."You are not excused from writing a statement of principles..."

Do we say to them they don't need to worry about that, we got it covered and wrote it for you? Or... Do all future people who come into the covenant need to write their own statement?

- James February 11, 2018

Good point Anonymous. Maybe our mutual agreement is that we are held to the guide we claim to follow. It would be like stating our own wedding vows instead of having a minister make them up and proclaim them for us.

- McKay February 11, 2018

A better forum for this discussion is the earlier thread written by the SC but Chris Hamill is out of the country right now and he is often the voice of the SC so I'll take a stab at explaining something either many of you don't understand or don't accept.

To Anonymous and all others who believe the lots process meets all the requirements the Lord gave in the Answer.
I agree with you! and I'm sure the SC does as well. The problem is another document also does.

On August 5th, 2017 delegates from Idaho, Arizona, Colorado and Oregon met in Utah

with others in a four hour meeting to get “mutual agreement” on a Guide and Standard. All were invited to come. I came. Jim was there. Ultimately there was a unanimous vote to accept the G&S worked out at that meeting as the document to be appended to the scriptures.

So when you (anonymous) say that the lots group has “gone to the trouble of meeting all the requirements”— the SC agrees BUT so did the August 5th group.

When you say the assignment given to us was “resolved by the voice of the people” I Answer the dilemma was “not resolved”.

When you say (publishing the lots doc is) truly doing nothing more than publishing what the voice of the people decides” we agree but those same words could a+lso apply to the August 5th document.

When you characterize the SC as having said “the voice of the people hasn’t really spoken”, you misunderstand, the people have spoken twice! At least.

When you say the servant has accepted the lots document, the SC can find no corroboration.

In your mind and in Jim’s and Cherry Ann’s the August 5th document is in the past, no longer a valid entry. The Lord did a reset when He told “his people” they they were still required to write a set of principles. That is a logical conclusion but it is not the conclusion of the SC and they feel their conclusion is equally logical.

The Answer to the Prayer for Covenant was given to DS well before the Answer was read in Boise. The wording is that “you (all the people) are not excused from writing” and “I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people”. It is in its adoption not in its writing that the Lord uses the term “my people”. So the SC does not believe we can ignore that August 5th document. Many proponents of the Lots document do. That is the crux of the dilemma the SC faces. Help us solve their dilemma. They have no dog in the fight. They are neutral and only want to be faithful to their charge.

Therefore, to publish the Lots document is to ignore what the SC sees as a document which also meets all the requirements which the Lord gave in the Answer. No one proposing that the SC publish the lots doc seems to understand and acknowledge this conundrum. Address the dilemma and you solve the problem.

Which gets us to a solution. The solution of this group is a vote. What is yours?

I’m sorry for all the words. Words, words, words! Lord save us from drowning in our words. Help us here. We desperately need it.

- McKay February 11, 2018

Anonymous and James: How does multiple people writing multiple docs square with “ I require you to write A (singular) set of principles”?

- RobAdolpho February 11, 2018

McKay,
I like the presentation of the truth you laid out. It represents neutrality, where I think SC should remain. “Too legit to quit!” IMUA (move forward)!!!

Jim and James,
bros, you can’t deny he’s got you on the Aug 5th and Lotsters both qualifying and the answer is singular. His logic vs your logic, it all points to opinions battling out. May the truth lead us all out of this mess!

Rob & Q Adolpho

- James February 11, 2018

Would not the principle "Men are free to choose," meet the requirement? Do we not believe what Samuel said?

"And now remember, remember, my brethren, that whosoever perisheth, perisheth unto himself; and whosoever doeth iniquity, doeth it unto himself; for behold, ye are free; ye are permitted to act for yourselves; for behold, God hath given unto you a knowledge and he hath made you free. He hath given unto you that ye might know good from evil, and he hath given unto you that ye might choose life or death; and ye can do good and be restored unto that which is good, or have that which is good restored unto you; or ye can do evil, and have that which is evil restored unto you."

Since this principle is actually being practiced by the SC already (by backing away from any claim of authority or compulsion on "covenant makers"), and others want to choose differently than they do even still, it is clear what principles everyone follows or desire to follow. And that is simply, "Let us choose for ourselves," or "Women and men are free to choose their walk back to God," or "We allow all men and women to worship God how they will, and claim that privilege for ourselves," or "We allow all men, women and children to let the Spirit be their guide in wisdom's paths, that they may be blessed, prospered and preserved," or "We claim the Spirit of truth as our guide, and stand ready, watching for every communication that He will send to us."

Doesn't that seem light and easy? When those of other cultures and religious backgrounds discover this group and find that they must adhere to a special set of principles that they had no part in putting together, do you think they will look at it any differently than all the other oppressive religions which have required similar oaths? Cannot God speak to their language and understanding better than anyone else?

Also, if someone is declaring, "I want to choose for you," what does that say about the principle they hold dear?

I say let us individually decide for ourselves what principles which ring true (the ability to do THAT is the "set of principles"). Then let us engage in what we have declared as ours, and proceed to bear fruit. Or not. But in the end, it's on our own heads and none has to shoulder the burden of being "right" or "wrong" for another soul.

PS - The Lord made sure that these words especially (preached by Samuel) were included in the record we have. Perhaps there is a reason for this.

- James February 11, 2018

Rob,
Please see my response to McKay for several possible "singular" statements.

- James February 11, 2018

Likewise, is this not the same principle which Denver was commanded to follow, as he was not allowed to interfere in the development of the G&S? It seems to me that based on what we are already holding to as our standard in this process, we should have the answer.

- HuhWhatda February 11, 2018

James,

The way you wrote the above statement to McKay comes off as you pitching another statement of principles, using Samuel's words to justify it as legitimate. You simply suggest that we should govern ourselves, and that's right to me. However, your ideas can also be understood as "...everyone just do whatever they like, and see who bears fruit," ...and that does not fit the requirement of "A People," ...unless that is what all agree upon. And that brings us back to square one, what do we all agree upon?

You support the lots, and the Lotser's have the opinion that the voice of the people was the majority, and majority ought to rule the day. However, the argument of the Aug 5th is the very same argument. And you have done a lot of work trying to win that fight, calling people to mitigate the numbers, since percentages don't tell a complete story when people simply don't vote, showing a "no confidence" in the process. You're stuck with making the same argument, in total opposition. You can't both be right, but you can both be wrong.

Comparing all of the documents out there, very little differentiates them all. Some use this as evidence to prove that ALL OF THEM could qualify, and this would have all been done a long time ago. I think that it's more accurate to state that since little differentiates one document from another, we need more light to move forward, more truth, ...and not more opinions.

What you have described, sounds to me like a very studious opinion. And I can see how from your opinion you can stand where you stand, supporting the Lotster's. But, you can also make the same argument in support of the Aug 5th. So we ought to keep working things through, allowing God to add light. Thus far, all of the answers given from God describe "God is on MY SIDE." None of them add more light to the subject matter of the assignment. For this reason, I have kept my distance from both Aug 5th and the Lotster's, moving towards King Follet.

You mentioned others not yet here, and how they'll feel about the documents on the table, and I agree with you, they'd easily see the effort as just another institution. However, that is not the case for the King Follet. No institution has ever made such a massive claim as that, ...nor would they ever!!! That is precisely why I am moving in that direction. What makes that direction more relevant to those people is, those principles are already embedded in their culture!!!!!!!!! Once you made the connection, not only would they not be offended, they would already mutually agree.

I still think that MacKay's comment laid you and Jim out!

Rob & Q Adolpho

- McKay February 11, 2018

The thing I like about your idea is that you are looking at solutions. You are “brainstorming”, considering ideas to get us over the goal line.

The language, as I read it, doesn't allow your solution. "When you have an (singular) agreed statement of principles I require it (still singular) to also be added (added to what? To the scriptures right?) as a (singular) guide and standard for my people to follow.

I can't see any possibility of doing as you are contemplating without ignoring the first revelation to "his people" in 175 years. I can't entertain that idea.

- McKay February 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JamesII February 11, 2018

Rob,
First of all, I think you have me mixed up with another James. I believe this is the first direct conversation I've had with you, and I don't know anything about mitigating numbers. Also, I don't prefer the Lotsers over anyone else, or if I do support them, I equally support the others, including the King Follet. In a forum like this, I suppose there is bound to be confusion about who we are talking to. But whatever background you thought I had, feel free to discard it. From now on I'll sign in as James II.

The Book of Revelation describes seven churches, all of which had their own distinctive culture and approach, as well as things they needed to work on. Yet, in name they were united in Christ. Why can't there be a Lotster Church and an August 5th Church and a King Follet Sermon Church, etc.? They are still one "people" in Christ... a people who are trying to discover the nature of the Lord in ways which work for them.

I will look more into the KF discourse which is drawing you in. I hope it leads somewhere.

By the way, if "the answer is always yes," as we have been told, what would it look like if everyone was asking the Lord the same question at the same time?

- JamesII February 11, 2018

I am not proposing this (please don't publish it), but suppose the statement of principles was something like what I suggested:

"Let every person choose for themselves how they will worship and approach God, then share the fruits of their discoveries. We claim the Spirit of truth as our guide, and stand ready, watching for every communication that He will send to us." I'm sure there could be more to clarify the statement, but I think you get the idea.

How does that not answer the "language?" The statement of principles is that everyone is free to approach the Lord how they may, yet we are still agreed that we are seeking Him as a "people." This approach has the ability to include any outlier on their own terms. It encourages us to walk a mile with each other, to "agree" with our "adversaries," because we are ultimately looking for the same thing. You have a truth which has worked for you? Please, I want to hear it. But I certainly don't want it imposed on me.

The truths which are, as Rob & Q say, "embedded" in other cultures will rise to the top as we seek commonality (brotherly love). Perhaps this approach is stretching the language a little, but it would be worth at least asking, IMO. He can always say no.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 11, 2018

Anonymous, thank you for pointing this out. I had not thought of that issue before. I will need to spend time pondering, praying, and studying that one out. I genuinely want to understand what Christ originally meant overall given your question.

PS--If I may request of those choosing to remain anonymous when commenting, please add a number or something to "Anonymous" so I can keep track of which Anonymous is saying what. Sorry. I don't mean to pick on anyone. I am just getting confused at this point. Gracias, mis amigos.

- HuhWhatda February 12, 2018

Wow, James II, thanks for clearing that up for me. Assumptions and opinions do just that, it's a shaky foundation no one ought to build upon. I seriously owe both James Fargo and Jim O'Rulian a serious apology for associating their opinions with yours. I have publicly done this, so I am prepared to take a public lashing for it, eating crow once again. Some people never learn their lesson, I tell you. I often get frustrated with myself when this happens, ...but I just can't seem to get rid of me. Thanks James II for calling me out! James and Jim, you can probably expect groveling. You deserve it. Anyone got a big cloak to throw over this guy? Fresh start anyone?

James II,

I won't leave your questions unanswered, but I'll try not to eat crow and swallow my foot at the same time. Having gone through the year long process of the Governing Principles, I have become very familiar with the similar concepts they have all put forth. I am also familiar with the differing angles they take to put it forth, one using an assignment and a meeting, the other using trusted quotes and equality. Joseph Smith, in Man Without Doubt, went through each of those similarly. At the conclusion of his life was King Follet.

I am grateful for your expression to look into KF, to consider my perspective. Where are you located, so that perhaps we can get together to discuss it? I love talking through KF, it is mind blowing! Any opportunity to discuss it, I jump on it like a young puppy, pouncing and licking faces. And that's probably what got me into this confusing mess in the first place. Only problem about acting like a puppy, when you look like a grown adult, ...instead of cute pouncing and licking faces, ...it sort of looks like a mauling! Maaaaaaa Baaaaaad!?

I'd love to meet you and apologize personally, ...but this time without a mouthful of foot (my wife constantly reminds me to stop talking as I'm chewing, she complains that it's just not pretty, and I spit all over people). PEACE?!

Chief Crow-foot-in-the-mouth,
Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Here are answers to two questions about process.

Anonymous said, “Surely, if we are not about force and compulsion, then even to advance forward with ANY proposal that is posted (including this one), there must be some sort of vote by the people stating they'll go along with it. That's one of the things I personally appreciated about the what the Lots people did...they FIRST got permission of 87% of the body before they proceeded.”

This vote DOES provide a way for people to say whether they will go along with it or not. In fact it provides four opportunities.

Step 1 — if no one submits any statements of principle they wish to have considered for inclusion in the scriptures, the process will come to an end
Step 2 — The vote between Statements must produce a clear majority or the process ends
Step 3 — The vote to accept/reject the majority's choice has to be nearly unanimous or the process ends
Step 4 — The vote to adopt the majority's choice despite those in opposition has to be a clear majority or the process ends

At every step, the folks and only the folks get to decide if the vote goes forward. If they don't want to use this approach to settle on a G&S it won't happen. But, let's honor everyone's agency in this process. Give us the right to at least try. And let's respect the scripture committee's agency as well. If they decide to give the thumbs up to this process, how is it respectful of other's agency to tell them they can't?

A second concern:

"(W)hat about all the people who will not be attending the conference. Off the top of my head I can think of 10 people I know who are not attending the conference due to schedule conflict/finances/proximity, who have been very involved in these matters up to this point. How will this proposal take into account the voice of these people when so much of carrying this out happens "live" at the conference?

Here's the answer. Folks that don't attend the conference will be able to vote by proxy. If you can't be there, you ask someone who will be there to stand in your stead. And we can help facilitate finding a proxy for you if you want. We will post the results of the first round of voting Friday night, so that you have time to communicate with your proxy.

Gordon Platt

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

This is just a repeat of Mormon votes and being pulled aside after Stake Conference if you disagree. I really feel bad for those who are going to be alienated by this. Let's come up with something new and unique that will help and comfort followers of Christ, not further hurt and alienate.

- Log February 12, 2018

The adoption of a guide and standard is about doing exactly and only what the Lord commands, requires, and asks of us.

The Lord requires of us to adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement - that is, to put a proposal that everyone has chosen not to dispute into the scriptures. We will know we mutually agree to the adoption of a proposal when none choose to dispute its adoption. That is the effect and meaning of the Lord's "clarification."

There is no authority in the covenant for declaring those who disagree with you to not be covenant participants. You have no power to excommunicate those who will not yield to the majority simply because they are the majority, nor do you have power to excommunicate those who do not yield to your revelations.

This proposal to vote does not, and by its nature, cannot fulfil the Lord's requirement that we adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement. The adoption of the majority proposals is disputed and putting any of them in the scriptures knowing their adoption is disputed does not fulfil the Lord's requirement, regardless of the outcome of any vote.

All you are accomplishing, if you succeed, is preventing the body from doing what the Lord requires, thus bringing the body under condemnation.

Your agency is to serve the power of your choosing: you either do exactly what God asks, requires, or commands, or you do what another power asks. That is your agency.

You are an agent unto yourself to serve the master whose reward you value the most. You cannot serve God and Satan. And Satan wants nothing except that you do something other than what God has asked, required, or commanded.

And God has required mutual agreement in this matter.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

“It’s the spirit here that counts. The time may be long, the vehicle may be strange or unexpected. But if the dream is held close to the heart, and imagination is applied to what there is close at hand, everything is still possible.”
– Robert Fulghum, All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

“Without realizing it, we fill important places in each other’s lives. It’s that way with the guy at the corner grocery, the mechanic at the local garage, the family doctor, teachers, neighbors, coworkers. Good people who are always “there,” who can be relied upon in small, important ways. People who teach us, bless us, encourage us, support us, uplift us in the dailiness of life. We never tell them. I don’t know why, but we don’t.
And, of course, we fill that role ourselves. There are those who depend in us, watch us, learn from us, take from us. And we never know.
You may never have proof of your importance, but you are more important than you think. There are always those who couldn’t do without you. The rub is that you don’t always know who.”
– Robert Fulghum, All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

There are many applicable lessons from kindergarten that will help our current situation. Although we think we have matured and are so much more knowledgable, we really do need to go back to being children and learn again how to treat each other. We forget the simple lessons of respect when we grow and gain the opinion that we are better and older and right.

From the Testimony of St Matthew 9:10 (from scriptures.info)
"And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the middle of them, and said, Truly I say unto you, except you be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. ... Whoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ... And whoever shall receive one such little child in my name, receives me. ... But whoever shall offend one of these little ones who believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone was hung about his neck and he was drowned in the depth of the sea."

- etluxentenebrislucet February 12, 2018

But, you Jared, have said you will accept nothing but your own proposal, and there are others who would dispute accepting it with equal fervor. So what do you suggest as a unifying remedy?

It appears folks have set up their tents and stakes, and no one wants to move camp...

- TBM February 12, 2018

>Do we not believe this to be the Lord’s voice?

I'm skeptical as to whether or not this is the Lord's voice.

That doesn't mean I can't live with the lotster's document though.

- Log February 12, 2018

This was sent to G&S Committee Friday afternoon.

A Proposal to Resolve All Conflict over the G&S in Faithfulness to the Lord

There is an approach to resolving whatever disputes may possibly exist with respect to the Guide and Standard that is faithful to the Lord in both word and deed: try an experiment upon the word of God and believe and do exactly what the Lord commands us all to do in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles. The Lord promises: "[W]hosoever believeth on my words, them will I visit with the manifestation of my Spirit; and they shall be born of me, even of water and of the Spirit" (D&C 5:16).

To believe on (trust in, or rely upon) his words it is necessary to obey them. Therefore, do these things which he has asked, without fail so long as you have power to obey.

*Love your enemies.
*Do good things to those who hate you.
*Bless those that curse you.
*Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you by exploiting your obedience to these commandments.
*If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to them without reviling.
*If anyone takes your cloak, don't tell them they can't have your coat.
*Give to every person that asks of you.
*Do not ask for your stuff back from any man who takes it from you.
*Whatever you want people to do to you, do exactly those things to them.
*Lend, hoping you aren't paid back.
*Be baptized by water by one of heaven's sent servants to show both men and heaven that you believe God's words and will do them.

This is the path of Christ. Let us take as long as we need as a people until we are each doing all these things faithfully and equally, as he has asked of us: "Each of you must equally walk truly in my path, not only to profess, but also to do as you profess" (A&C, p. 3).

Then we will be of one mind with God and his Christ, as Joseph taught,"being filled with the fulness of the Mind of the Father, or, in other words, the Spirit of the Father: which Spirit is shed forth upon all who believe on his name and keep his commandments: and all those who keep his commandments shall grow up from grace to grace, and become heirs of the heavenly kingdom, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; possessing the same

mind, being transformed into the same image or likeness, even the express image of him who fills all in all: being filled with the fulness of his glory, and become one in him, even as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one" (Lectures on Faith 5:2).

Then we will all see eye-to-eye and know that the Lord's doctrine, his law and commandments, his gospel, is the Lord's guide and standard.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda February 12, 2018

To: All, concerning VOTES (1 of 3),

Our God is an unchanging God, and therefore, he does not repent. Repentance requires changing, and if our God were a changing God, he would not be God. Since He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, ...His patterns are unchanging too. In our isolated thinking, we have forgotten the unchanging-ness of God, and think we now have to innovate in our current circumstances, bringing things to a vote. None of the successful councils indicate a vote, even though our LDS traditions teach of a vote in heaven, where Christ was voted in as our leading politician.

The pattern from the first Adam-ondi-ahman, to Enoch's city, to Melchizedek, …that pattern indicates two components: a father that preached repentance, and the children who repented. As an unchanging God, we can assume that what is being commanded of us in this Governing Principles assignment is not unique to us, but was always a condition of every Zion. So, following the pattern of the Ancient covenant Fathers, we can extrapolate a few concepts. We all agree that Denver represents the one who preached repentance, speaking truth that shook us all to the bones, …otherwise you would not be here. The question is, “Are we the children who repent?” The assignment upon us is to indicate our condition of repentance. Joseph Smith preached repentance, but the early saints fell apart by their jarrings and strife, malice and contention. What they produced in the preface of the D&C was shot down, as we have experienced, and Joseph regretfully ended up doing it himself. The early saints efforts to repent can be seen in the implementing of D&C 20, having written a document incapable of producing Zion. It was a document representing philosophies of men, mingled with scripture. Ours must represent truths expounded by Denver, making all men free to govern themselves by truth, containing our opinions, not to use them to exercise compulsion on one another, through a vote.

God’s ways aren’t ours, and repentance is the process of making God’s ways ours. If we are successful at making God’s ways ours, we would be the prototype of a saved being, or in other words precisely what Christ is. In the past, it was light that men had in common that caused them to unite in one voice, and that is the work before us now, …it is a LIGHT thing. However, the way we have been pitched by the different sects of documents has not taken to do the work of adding light. The new book of John tells Peter to feed the sheep as they grow, increase, and are added upon. That is the process of persuasion that leads to pure knowledge that greatly enlarges the soul. However, at every corner during this project, we have a reallllllly looooong meeting, and then we conclude the work with a quick vote, …trying to cut corners for revelation to grow, increase, and add. The typical exasperating comments are, let’s be done with it, get’r done, we got better things that we can do, etc. The repentance of the people cannot be represented in a short order vote. We must do the labor of putting aside opinions, in exchange for truth that speaks for itself, …rather than skipping the work to get more truth, and voting in opinions as if they are true. God’s ways are to circumscribe all truth into one great whole, not skip the necessity of acquiring truth to complete the job half-hearted.

- HuhWhatda February 12, 2018

(2 of 3)

Continuing on the idea that God's ways aren't our ways, …I believe that truth speaks for itself, and that is why we have recognized the message of Denver, to be in this circumstance we are now in. It is the degree of truth we have acquired that determines the sacrifice we are willing to offer. Currently, we all have varying degrees of truth, and also varying degrees of opinions. When truth replaces opinions, so that we are filled with truth alone, that is when we are willing to sacrifice all things accordingly. All of our headaches regarding this project is totally voluntary. Each of us can end the headache by simply leaving. But, it's the truth Denver has restored to us that makes us willing to offer a degree of sacrifice now, to endure this assignment. None of us were initially present to convince the next person of the truth Denver taught. Even if we may have introduced it to someone, if they are here with us, it was ONLY because each of us individually have been spoken to by God. When a Governing Principles document has been written and is presented, that speaks that quality of truth, …no one will have to convince the other that it is mutually agreeable. They're voices will rejoice, because they witness Christ in it. That has always been God's way, respecting agency, while offering abundance.

In 3 Nephi 11 is an example of the mutual agreement I have in mind, where they all witnessed Christ one by one, and then shouted as one voice. Although those Nephites never acquired Zion, they did establish a terrestrial order for some time. Some have asked me if we all must see Christ first, and I answer No. But the symbolism is accurate. If a Governing Principle is to be accepted by mutual agreement, we will have to witness Christ's mind and will (complete truth) in the document, thus producing mutual agreement. Right now, it is obvious that none of the documents on the table provide that, resulting in multiple efforts to force a vote. I am saying that rather than compulsing a vote, why don't we go back to the drawing board, to rethink and question ourselves in fear and trembling, to determine where we went wrong. Let's not skip the work of LIGHT we are required to do.

I have made it clear that Joseph Smith's King Follet Discourse should point our minds in that direction, to establish further truth in the Governing Principles. So far all the documents tell of steps needed to be taken to do what we currently do in this movement, but none of them give context of why we do it. Yet, every last one of us has fallen in love with Denver's message because it has given us the why. Denver has taught us that if we don't preserve Joseph's teachings (a father), the Lord will not complete the restoration through us. Interestingly enough, Denver says it in the last paragraph of his talk on REPENTANCE (PTR pg. 107).

- HuhWhatda February 12, 2018

(3 of 3)

In conclusion, I submit that God is unchanging, and that repentance requires us to change, so that God's ways are our ways. Father's have been sent as witnesses to teach. But, if we, the children, are to turn our hearts to the Father's who have been and who are in heaven, then we must express our collective repentance as children by responding as one. The Governing Principles project is our opportunity to express our repentance, refusing contention, to build a house of order. When a document is

produced that expresses that completely, no one will need say, know ye that the Lord directed it, for all will know that the Lord directed it, removing all the wasted time campaigning, forcing opinions, opinion polling, etc.

Mahalo,
Rob & Q Adolpho

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Mc Kay (concerning your question to me quite a way up the thread)

You have legitimate questions that I am sure others have, too. I am aware of the conundrum the SC feels the August 5th document brings to the table and that this is a major reason for the "hold-up" in publishing the Lots GS. It is my compassion for their perspective that had me take the time to offer my previous suggestions. But as the topic has re-surfaced, I would like to explain how many view the matter. For me, the ultimate difference in how the two documents fulfill what is required, is found in the details of the history that got us here. Here's the gist.

1. The August meeting involved an official public invitation to only 2 representatives of each fellowship (male and female) and was limited to involving only those in 5 states.

Compare this to the Lots inclusion of the entire identifiable world-wide assembly through an extensive effort to inform and outreach through multiple mediums, with ALL covenant individuals placed on equal footing…while including an invitation to review every existing GS produced to that point, including the August 5th GS. (A claim is made that the August meeting was open to everyone. If this is so, this invitation was not broadly known, nor adequately advertised…perhaps it was only made among the inner-circle email list of 80 that existed, as a last minute offering…but I cannot find any official SC communication except the invitation to send a male and female fellowship rep.).

Evidence of the extensive outreach made by the Lots proponents was manifest in one of the seven being from England, one from Texas, and one from Oregon, as well as families adding their names to publicly support the initial proposal from Japan and Germany, among other places across the country.

Also, with the Lots GS, opportunity for input was given to the entire assembly on an individual basis, for three days after the initial draft was made. No other document qualifies with that type of assembly-wide inclusion/participation…no "go-between representatives" were required to express one's ideas to those assigned the task of writing.

The August 5th vote was pre-covenant and included at least 50+ identifiable votes of individuals who did NOT continue on and enter into the covenant a few weeks later; making the two documents and their votes comparative of apples to oranges, rather than apples to apples. (to be cont. part 2)

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Part 2 continued to Mc Kay....

Because of the timing of the creation of the documents, the Lots GS kept the assignment relevant to those who viewed the Prayer, Answer and Covenant, as truly from the Lord, and had willingly entered into the covenant.

1. The August 5th GS was not published due to the executive decision of the SC upon which no one had power to convince otherwise (I sympathize with the events that made this so, I am not criticizing) …even though great attempts were made to persuade them to reverse their decision, including a website to petition them, they held firm in their decision to not publish the August GS.

Neutrality and non-governance was declared by the SC on the 13th of August, and the people were still further told they needed to move forward in figuring out a way to persuade the assembly to create something else that would meet the requirements, with a promise that they'd publish it if it did (October 8, 2017 SC post).

2. The genesis of the August document was from an unintentional place of hierarchy (those on the committee directing how it was to unfold) vs. the Lots effort truly resulting by the ground-level assembly uniting in equality, to include all covenant holders in order to fulfill the requirements of the Lord…while requesting and receiving permission from the assembly to act before moving forward in any way. No other document received permission from the assembly before proceeding.

3. The Lots document was the only document that qualifies as originating from the assembly at large that did the following: was taken to the Lord immediately upon completion, with an answer received from Him and made public, that was also presented to Denver with their personal testimony of the Lord's answer to them (the seven)…all this being done BEFORE any voting took place by the assembly to adopt the document.

When the voting took place, it incorporated the necessary wording verifying that the document was being "mutually agreed upon" by the individual if a vote was cast affirmatively. When the 93% cast their vote to adopt the Lots GS, they did so knowing the above declarations had been made, and believing that the matter was going to be closed and the document published if sufficient "yes" votes manifested.

Additionally, it is my understanding that the seven presented the Lots GS to Denver with their testimonies on a Friday, the vote to adopt by mutual agreement began the following Monday - Friday. By Wednesday of that week, the SC was presented with the new revealed definition of mutual agreement. Many see this as a direct tender mercy of the Lord to have compassion upon the diligent efforts that had been exhibited by the assembly to set aside their differences and unite on this matter. All we had to do now was not dispute. A way was literally granted us by the Lord to succeed in fulfilling His requirements. The only hold-up became having the SC follow-through with their October 8th promise. Many have felt at the mercy of a seeming hierarchy…even though I do not believe the intent has been to become a hierarchy.

Part 3 continued....

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Part 3 continued....

1. It is the only document adopted by the mutual agreement of the people, that also entailed a 40 day out-reach to any who remained in dissent after its adoption. Every name recorded and every reason for dissent was noted. All concerns were measured against scripture.

No other qualifying document has completed this type of outreach. Are those who were involved in creating the August 5th document, that had 9% dissent, prepared to also go out and conduct an outreach to find those who still oppose their document? Apples to apples would require it.

While there are additional points that could be made explaining the internal differences between the two documents, your question is not about the merits of the content, but about the standard met that qualifies each document for consideration to be published, due to meeting the specified requirements the SC outlined in their recent post.

I have attempted to respectfully lay out just some of the key reasons why most of the people who support the Lots GS consider the work done, having met every established requirement to a fuller degree than all other documents, including the August GS. I don't even think they are comparable on equivalent levels for the reasons outlined. I liked the August document and supported it at the time, but when comparing the level to which the documents meet the requirements of the Lord and include the covenant assembly, they just aren't even close. It is not that people do not understand the conundrum felt by the SC, but their minds think through the matter differently and see this as apples to oranges...with a 93% agreed upon and extremely qualified document waiting to be published. It appears that we hold two different opinions; and that is okay. It is even Zion-like to disagree, and hold opposite opinions if we do not contend. And I do not consider this contention, rather discussion.

I hope this helps you see how some believe the conundrum is already resolved. But I get that it may not persuade you. I hope, though, that you would at least consider implementing some of the suggestions I offered concerning your proposal. I feel confident that a vote will still result in the Lots GS gaining approval of the assembly, but I do not feel it is a necessary step and runs the risk of creating a greater divide, rather than the healing you hope to accomplish. My solution: …To continue your football analogy…is to hope this "instant replay" clearly shows the SC that the Lotsters actually DID cross the goal line, and to have the SC take off the referee uniform and allow the will of the people to go forward through their own self-regulation.

Thanks for engaging in the dialogue. I'll go silent now.

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Mc Kay

I apologize that when I copied my comments into this thread it altered the numbering and I did not notice. There were supposed to be 6 different points I addressed. I hope you could follow.

- James February 12, 2018

Thanks for your apology Rob, but no hard feelings nor offense taken…simply a case of mistaken identity, easy enough to do in an online forum such as this.

The REAL James Fargo :)

- JamesII February 12, 2018

PART 1
Rob,

No need for apologies here, brah. I should have looked more closely at who had been talking in these posts and made it clear that I was a different guy. While it's the best forum we have, there is something to be said about sitting down with a person and talking story with them face to face. I'm down in the heart of the beast (Utah Valley), so if

you are ever around, I'd love to meet up and chat.

I have been having a conversation with a friend lately which have to do with being “one” and “unique” (or diverse or sundry, etc.) at the same time.

The question was asked by McKay: "How does multiple people writing multiple docs square with 'I require you to write A (singular) set of principles'?"

Here is an answer: The same way a teacher gives a singular assignment to a class with many participants. One way see the G&S assignment is that the Lord is a Teacher. The Teacher says to His Class (My People), "Your assignment is to write a short essay (a statement of your principles). It needn’t be too long or detailed." In most cases, homework is to be carried out on your own; however 'mutual agreement' is what allows us to group up together as we see fit--1 person, 10, 100, whatever. It makes sense there could be many who team together with the same "answer," if they wanted to. My friend said, “The A&C does say that we ought to learn how to disagree peaceably. This approach allows us to do that, to SHOW that. We can think differently, disagree, and get along in kindness by having many witnesses.”

And the goal we are looking to get to is in Jeremiah 31:33-34:

"But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Continuing with my friend’s thoughts, “When this occurs, everyone will stand on their own, individually, in God. The Lord writes His law (one) in their hearts (many), and He is the only Teacher, not each other. It seems that THIS is the highest standard (or guide or ensign)--one which is written within. It is many witnesses expressing the same thing, each standing on their own. As seen in the scriptures, it is unique or "sundry" for each. John witnesses his own testimony, as does Adam, Nephi, Isaiah, and so on.”

If you look at a menorah, each of the seven sections branches out away from the one next to it. But turn the menorah sideways and it all appears to be singular, with no candle holder above another. (https://www.ajudaica.com/Jerusalem-Silver-And-Gold-Seven-Branch-Menorah/item11873) It is one in your hand. There are some who have already come to mutual agreement on a G&S, though they are different between the groups. That is still mutual agreement. They have taken their own up as a standard for themselves, and at least one has published theirs on Amazon. This allows everyone to do as they will to fill the "assignment." Nothing is compelled on another. Each learns from (or comes to 'know') the Lord directly.

- JamesII February 12, 2018

PART 2

Yet we can still learn from each other. I look forward to hearing about the merits of the King Follet discourse from one who has looked into it and (presumably) put the principle to practice. Maybe I'll adopt some of those principles as my own, while still keeping the doctrine of Christ in mind. The Lord will teach me along the way through the Spirit, in a language and understanding that is different than yours or anyone else's.

All this time spinning our wheels has shown us something. We have put on display our

own guiding principle, which is that we want to be free to choose. Never mind the contention which has occurred. The Lord will forgive us of our iniquity and remember our sin no more...IF we can let Him put His law into our inward parts, and write it in our hearts.

- JamesII February 12, 2018

One thing I might add, Rob, has to do with your expression to do these things “in fear and trembling.” We must each come to our own understanding of what that means, but I believe the source of that idiom came from Psalm 2:11. Or even better, Psalm 2:10-12:

This is the King James Version of that passage:

“Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.”

And the MSG Version of 2:11:
“Worship God in adoring embrace,
Celebrate in trembling awe”

And the Voice Version:
“There is only one God, the Eternal;
worship Him with respect and awe;
take delight in Him and tremble.”

The word “fear” took on the connotation of “afraid of danger” in the Middle Ages, but the root of the word is *per, which means “to try, risk.” Other words from this root are “approach, appropriate, promise, prove, provide” and many others. It is also related to “fare,” as in traveling, and “forth,” and “forward.” “Tremble” is akin to “shake” or “dance.”

I don’t want to be one of those guys who nitpicks or gets caught up in semantics, but if “fear and trembling” is going to be put out there, I’d like to at least offer another interpretation of it besides the one which depicts an authoritative god who causes us to quiver because of our unworthiness. To me it is about being confident, even joyous in trying something different and new. In our case, as you have pointed out, it could be simply tossing out the thing that isn’t working and having the confidence that we won’t be upbraided for giving it another shot with a unique approach which hasn’t yet been attempted. I don't know about how it is for you, but "creation" requires a lot of experimentation and risk-taking. But the process is a fun one, or at least can be.

- Dani February 13, 2018

And what if the "more" bowed to the words of Christ alone because we love the Lord. Imagine how much more humility and unity that could bring.

- Anonymous February 13, 2018

Gordon,

Thank you for your response. I know there's lots of "anonymous" comments so it's hard to know who is responding. I am the one who asked the questions you are answering.

Can you clarify further on your comments above:

Step 1 - Since the SC already stated that the Lots meets the qualifications and noted that all others had to show how they fit, too...is your understanding that if no one submits a GS to be considered that qualifies, that the SC would go forward with publishing the Lots?

Step 2 - How are you defining a clear majority? Let's say there are 4 documents up for vote...one gets 50% and the other three split the remaining 50% in some manner. Is that a clear majority? And do you not worry that this will open a can of worms that was already resolved by having 93% agreed upon one document?

Step 3 - Is this the question on the ballot that asks the people if they are willing to accept whatever document gets the majority even if it isn't their first choice?

Step 4 - Is this the vocal vote at the conference? If so, this was one of my questions you answered with having someone stand in proxy for those not attending. If you are using a voice vote, are you saying that the only voice vote that really matters is how many are opposing? If my voice vote is blending in with the "yes's" it really isn't pertinent if I'm not there? Because you're just trying to identify the no's so that you can talk with them?

I understand that you feel that the process itself is allowing people to decide if this proposal is to go forward. I do not see it the same. I feel that if there is a proposal of this nature, which is attempting to get the entire assembly to have to agree to resolve the mandatory GS issue according to a specified manner, it must have agreement before hand to proceed. Mc Kay compared this proposal to the right the anyone has to just call a conference...not permission required. I do not see them as comparable. A conference has nothing "mandatory" or "binding" about it. But this GS matter is a requirement by the Lord, and thus, takes on a different nature regarding getting agreement from the assembly, IMO. But I respect your view to see it differently and appreciate your explanation.

I also appreciate you answering those other questions and hope it isn't too bothersome that I am asking for more clarity. Trying to have a good grasp/understanding.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 13, 2018

Anonymous, what did you mean by this?
"Every name recorded and every reason for dissent was noted."

Whose names were recorded and where and why?

I just have no idea what you are referencing here. Thanks.

- Anonymous February 13, 2018

From what I understand, the 7 Lotsters took 40 days and invited anyone willing to reach out to them personally for one-on-one contact. They extended this invitation several times in their communications. In addition to speaking to those who had opposed their document, they sought to find any who had missed the vote or chosen not to vote that was under covenant. They said they spent many individual hours engaged in this outreach effort. They desired to find those who had voted in August that did not vote in November because initially there was about a 70 vote discrepancy between how many voted in each. The SC had asked them to account for this difference. They were able to find over 100 people and made that report in their final post on this site. Over 50 did not vote because they had not entered the covenant. Many others were disinterested or

burned out.

They did NOT ever share those names with anyone, including the SC, but kept a record of numbers involved (each representing a real person they spoke with) and the reasons that people gave for not participating in the vote.

They gave a general report of all of this at the beginning of January on this site. It's hard to follow all of this and realize how much was done by them because there is information overload at times.

Hope that helps.

- AdrianLarsen February 13, 2018

To be honest, I'm baffled by this proposal. I sincerely appreciate the attempt to bring this to a resolution, and to appease the remaining few who oppose (or at least have not voted in favor of) the Lots document. But I remain confused for the following reasons:

1. If the goal is to come to mutual agreement, insofar as its possible, this implies coming together rather than dividing apart. We must get to the point that we choose not to dispute. Given that we are very nearly at that point already with the Lots document, I simply don't understand how inviting other documents and starting over with the voting will bring MORE unity than we already have. To my limited brain, it appears such an approach will only invite further division, rather than further unity. This approach appears to promote disputations, rather than reduce them.

2. As far as I know, nobody disputes the actual words written in the Lots document. Some dispute the process, or like other documents better, but that is not the same as disputing the document itself. Therefore, there is a colorable claim that we already have mutual agreement, and that this current proposal undercuts that mutual agreement. You would have to get further details from the 7 Lotsters, who personally reached out to and spoke with every dissenter they could possibly find.

3. The recent 40-day vote sponsored by the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs people demonstrated both increasing apathy and increasing confusion with each additional vote. Opening it up to more documents proved counterproductive in their effort. There was no unity, no clear winner, and nothing decided. Will that same path bring different results this time merely because the scripture committee says this is the last vote?

4. It's been expressed that the scripture committee views the August 5 document and the Lots document as essential equals in meeting the requirements and qualifying for vote. And yet, the two documents are so completely different in how they were started, developed, written, voted upon and completed that it comes down to apples and oranges. Others have already laid out those arguments. Given that the stark and massive difference between the two documents seems apparent to so many, but not to the scripture committee, this new vote comes across as an attempt to, yet again, establish the Aug 5 document as the final, despite claims of neutrality. This is not an accusation by any means, but rather reflects how people are perceiving this proposed effort.

5. It is good, laudable, and godly to seek peace and and end to disputations. And truly, I have no dispute regarding people, process, the scripture committee, or any of the like. But I do draw the line at truth. "Peace should not be made at the cost of truth. Truth must be the only goal." If this new round of voting produces a majority in favor of a document that contains scripturally demonstrable falsehood, I will not sacrifice truth to end dispute.

(Continued)

- AdrianLarsen February 13, 2018

A Proposal: Now that I've stated my concerns about the present proposal, I'd like to offer something constructive. Here's an alternative way this could be handled. Why not simply stand at the first conference session and say the following:

"Fellow covenant holders, it appears we, as a general body, have reached mutual agreement on the Lots document and we are prepared to publish it in the scriptures as the Lord has required, if this is indeed the case. Because the Lord has defined mutual agreement "as between yourselves, you choose not to dispute" we now desire to know, before we proceed, if there are any who dispute the adoption of this document. If you choose to dispute it, will you please raise your hand?"

Any raised hands can then be noted and addressed personally in a private meeting at some point during the conference weekend to ascertain whether their dispute is with the actual document itself, or based on some other factor like, their preference for another document, their desire to write it themselves, their issues with process, or another factor outside the document itself.

If they dispute the words as written, the dispute must be carefully considered against the standard of truth as contained in scripture.

I would suggest that in each case (meaning each person who raises a dispute) a member of the Lots committee and a member of the scripture committee meet together with that person to understand and document their dispute, and ascertain whether the dispute is over the document itself, or some other issue.

If there are no disputes with the document itself, it gets printed. If there are disputes with the document, and either the Lots committee member or the scripture committee member is persuaded the dispute has merit and must be addressed, the lots committee will be invited to revise the document to eliminate the dispute so adoption can proceed.

If it can be revised before the second conference session, announce the revision(s) made, the end of the dispute(s) that invoked the revisions, and ask again if there are any disputes. If not, it goes in. If there are yet disputes to the document itself, it is tabled until next conference.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 13, 2018

That helps a lot. Thank you. Information overload for sure.

- Donald February 13, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 13, 2018

I don't understand this. It has always been known there are some who dispute the lots version of a G&S, or voted no to it. Has it not been felt that did not matter because it was only some few and a "majority" accepted it by vote, which was good enough? How does this suggestion create a different outcome? Is it hoped that even if some few still disagree, maybe they could be persuaded to simply not dispute?

Is this idea being offered because the SC has refused at present to accept it as the one to be published and perhaps another round will convince the remaining doubters? But what about Jared/Log, who has said he will dispute everything not his proposal?

And that whole scenario about identifying disputers, taking them privately aside for discussion, etc. feels uncomfortable. I mean, I would want no part of that on either side.

No offense meant. I just don't see how this will help. But maybe some want the opportunity? I am curious how others feel.

And what if Christ was suggesting to us that we don't dispute because we all liked or agreed with what has been created, and felt there was literally nothing to dispute over? Maybe that is another way of viewing it. Just some thinking on my part.

- Log February 14, 2018

Adrian Larsen writes: "As far as I know, nobody disputes the actual words written in the Lots document."

I do dispute the actual words written in the Lottery document, and have explained why in the following posts.

What We Don't Need

Where It All Went Wrong

Founded upon The Rock of Jesus Christ

Answers to Questions about "Founded upon The Rock of Jesus Christ"

You are hereby publicly informed that I dispute the content of the Lottery document, and you are hereby publicly informed that we do not mutually agree upon the Lottery document, for I dispute its adoption.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 14, 2018

To make a critical issue clear:

We shall not agree, meaning I shall and do dispute, the adoption of any guide and standard that features any content from or through Denver Snuffer.

The reason is simple: leading men to trust in men, or to look to men for guidance, is to bring upon them the curse of the Lord, which means they are severed from his presence and, if they do not repent of trusting in men, they do not escape the chains of hell, thus they have been led to destruction which, according to the words of Alma, is to murder them.

If you will of yourselves perish by trusting in Denver Snuffer, you have that power and privilege and can instruct others to observe your faith within your fellowships, taking upon yourselves the personal responsibility before God for the effect of your individual teachings. I have no commandment from the Lord to lead men to destruction in that fashion, but am bound by his law and the terms of the covenant to not agree to any such attempt to murder God's children.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 14, 2018

Jared, by that logic, we cannot use the words of scripture, or the words of our Lord, because they, too, came to us through men. Nor do we have a covenant because it came through Denver. Nor can we write a guide and standard because it will be produced by men.

Singling out Denver for exclusion, while accepting the words of other men is absolutely illogical. Either the Lord speaks through servants or he doesn't. If the Lord claims the words, the mouth is irrelevant.

- AdrianLarsen February 14, 2018

Yes, there are people who voted against it, but who have said they do not dispute it. They simply prefer something else. As far as I know, when the seven reached out to everyone they could and personally discussed the issues, the disputes all had to do with things outside this document. Process, people, preferences. Not the actual words.

Now, I could be wrong. I'm not one of the lotsters and I don't know what they know. But I believe the actual number of disputes with the document is extremely small.

- Log February 14, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 14, 2018

Adrian,

I exclude the words of any living man who may be trusted in, and use only the words which Christ himself spoke by his own mouth, and not through a servant.

Denver, you see, is alive and around to be seen and trusted in - those who trust in him are cursed, and those who lead others to trust in him murder them.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 14, 2018

And where will you get the words which Christ himself spoke by his own mouth and not through a servant? We have no records written by Christ's own hand. ALL His words that have come to us, have come because a man, not Christ, delivered them to us.

- Log February 14, 2018

The prophets whose words were compiled into the scriptures are not around to be trusted in. Their words may only be believed, and, if their words are believed, their words will be attested to by the Holy Ghost.

On the other hand, a living man who may be perceived by the carnal senses is around to be trusted in, relied upon, taken for a guide - precisely the things the Lord curses people for, and as the Lottery document, and most others, do with Denver Snuffer: raise him up

for a light and a guide.

These things shall not be without my dispute.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 14, 2018

I've tried to explain more here: That They May Stumble

Joseph tried to correct the Church, but it was too late.

President Joseph Smith read the 14th chapter of Ezekiel--said the Lord had declared by the Prophet, that the people should each one stand for himself, and depend on no man or men in that state of corruption of the Jewish church--that righteous persons could only deliver their own souls--applied it to the present state of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--said if the people departed from the Lord, they must fall--that they were depending on the Prophet, hence were darkened in their minds, in consequence of neglecting the duties devolving upon themselves, envious towards the innocent, while they afflict the virtuous with their shafts of envy.

The problem isn't fixed by swapping the Brethren for Denver Snuffer. The problem is fixed by ceasing to trust in men and relying solely upon the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 14, 2018

Jared, I see your point. I really do. But I still find it illogical.

You claim covenant status by means of a covenant that came through, and was administered by, Denver Snuffer. Does that make you guilty of trusting in the arm of flush, and therefore worthy of cursing? Of course not. You trusted in the Lord's words, not the man.

Likewise, I believe that using the Lord's words precisely because they came from the Lord, regardless of who spoke them, living or dead, is appropriate as long as we recognize them as the Lord's words. Of course we don't elevate the man. But neither do we reject the words merely because the man who spoke them is still alive.

Rejecting living prophets in favor of dead ones is nothing new. The Pharisees did it to Christ. The religionists of the day did it to Joseph Smith. Let's not fall into the same error.

- Log February 14, 2018

Adrian,

What you pose as a rhetorical question is, in fact, not a rhetorical question. Grudges, reviling, enmity, and contradicting the word of God is not the behavior of a blessed people.

And the man has indeed been elevated. And nobody is talking about rejecting his words - only excluding all of them from the guide and standard.

The Pharisees, in fact, rejected John. What you ought to consider is why John still had

disciples after he proclaimed Christ, and consider again that "cursed is he that trusteth in man, or maketh flesh his arm."

Jared Livesey

- Cherryann February 14, 2018

Jared, dead prophets can't deliver the words of Christ. They are all, obviously, first recorded by living prophets. By your logic, ALL prophets must be ignored until they are dead, for only then do their words matter.

Seriously?

The scriptures were ALL written by prophets who were alive at the time, and who taught the people—while alive. So the people in their day shouldn't have listened then, either? Perhaps they should have killed the prophets sooner so they could heed their words? By your logic, why should God even send prophets at all?

I am dumbfounded as to why you consider yourself a covenant holder when the covenant came through a man you very publicly refuse to trust. Why accept that, but no other words from him?

I have no desire to engage in debate with you, only to clarify this point you are actually using as your argument. I'm sorry, but I find it completely illogical and anti-scriptural.

- Log February 14, 2018

The only relationship anyone need ever have had with Denver Snuffer is simply to have believed him when he testified that he had seen Christ, and to have believed that Denver Snuffer spoke truly that the Lord has renewed the commandment to be baptized again, and then to actually be baptized as a witness before God and heaven that we had believed the witness.

Then we were to repent of all our sins in obedience to the commandments of Christ, looking to Christ alone, and regarding Denver Snuffer as no more and no less than any other living man. We would have then been witnesses of Christ ourselves, pointing people to Jesus.

Alternatively, we could have repented without ever hearing Denver Snuffer's name, and been led by the Holy Ghost to all things we needed to know and all things we needed to do, and obtained the same result.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 14, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 14, 2018

CherryAnn,

I make no argument, but repeat the words of the Lord.

"Thus saith the Lord: Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm,

and whose heart departeth from the Lord."

When our reasoning brings us into conflict with the word of the Lord, that should be the cue to change our minds - which is what it means, quite literally, to repent.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet February 14, 2018

Adrian, what I was meaning and said poorly was I do not see how your suggestion or even the above proposal is going to change the outcome from what has already happened. I do not believe that if we keep voting, keep trying to persuade those who disagree, or reach out to any and all will create a condition any different than what we presently have, and that condition has been shot down by the SC. (Which I am still unclear about why exactly.)

It appears there will always be some who do not vote, who disagree, or who even dispute. So, now what? If the "majority" of ninety-something percent was not sufficient, what will be?

I appreciate all the work and labour that has gone before. I also appreciate that people are trying to find a solution.

But I feel alarmed, upset, and cannot understand why we are where we are at this point. Christ has asked us, repeatedly in both scripture and His recent Answer to us as one whole to love one another, to be tender with one another, to cloak one another in charity. It does not appear we are interested in doing so. I surely hope I am mistaken, however, and just not close enough to most to see accurately. I worry we care more about a statement of principles than we do one another.

- McKay February 14, 2018

Et lux, you said, “Is this idea being offered because the SC has refused at present to accept it (the lots doc) as the one to be published?

Yes, this idea was proposed as a way to get a G&S not only that 386+ support but that the SC will publish. Yet, no one other than those who brought this proposal forward have expressed even a tiny bit of support for the idea among the comments so far. None. And not a breath of support for the Aug 5th G&S. I am surprised.

I hope no one ever asks me to report on the movement as a whole. The response to our proposal has convinced me that I simply don’t think like others. If this proposal is weighted toward the adoption of one document over another it is in favor of the lots document because the popularity of that approach right now is very high YET overwhelmingly it is those in support of the lots document who distrust this vote. I’m flummoxed.

McKay

- etluxentenebrislucet February 14, 2018

McKay, I am sorry for all that is happening. I do not understand much of it at this point. I feel very torn, but absolutely unwilling to dispute any document at this point. For myself concerning this proposal I just do not see how more voting will fix anything or create a different scenario than what we have right now with so much division. Perhaps we

missed an important opportunity last summer to build stronger relationships and trust? Have we been too focused upon writing a statement and not enough upon our hearts and one another? I don't know. I just feel distressed now. I appreciate people trying to find a solution, but I wonder if the best answer does not involve voting or more proposals at this point. Why are we all here? Why did we all want this covenant and rejoiced when the opportunity was given? Where is the love of our Saviour in this tumult of words and ideas? I pray we will find Him again.

- McKay February 14, 2018

I am impressed by the polite and respectful exchange. Thank you all for your thoughts.
McKay

- TwoCents February 14, 2018

Part 1
I for one believe the Lord is being merciful when he sends a messenger with a message that is adding truth and light into the world. In the days of Enoch, he had hundreds of years to work with his people, years we don't have. We were blessed with Joseph Smith who did what the Lord asked of him. We were blessed with the truth and light he taught us. We were warned by God to heed his message. We have been blessed with servants in our day that speak truth and light that enlarge our souls. We have been blessed with the trials of this last year to learn. The Lord in the Answer stated, "Nevertheless, there have been sharp disputes between you that should have been avoided. I speak these words to reprove you that you may learn, not to upbraid you so that you mourn. I want my people to have understanding." I for one am grateful for the understanding given to me this last year. Many words that I thought I knew changed. What I've come to understand is that the lexicon I obtained through the LDS church was very different than God's lexicon. Even amongst ourselves our lexicons are vastly different.

It seems our language is confounded. I believe that reading the Book of Mormon can help us develop the same lexicon, as it is the most correct book available to us. What the Book of Mormon teaches is to be directed by God's words. Nephi was a great example of this: he continually obeyed the Lords voice to him. This reminds me of what I've learned about Adam's day. In Adam's day, Adam taught, by way of example, to not question, doubt or rebel against God but to instead live by every word of the Lord even when he didn't understand "why." This is a system that was taught to Enoch, which he was governed by. The Kingdom of God is His, He is the God of this land and of the whole earth; therefore, he should be leading and not man. God is the same yesterday, today and forever. Therefore, if it worked for Enoch to follow the system Adam taught then wouldn't it work for us? What was Joseph Smith trying to teach before he was killed by "friends?" The Lord must bring Zion, because mankind cannot (READ: DS blog post- All or Nothing series)

- TwoCents February 14, 2018

Part 2
My point is everything about us needs to change and a new way of life must be organized. Enoch's people repented. I find it very interesting that in the Repentance talk DS stated, "The first order of repentance is to remember what God gave to us through Joseph. You do that, and then you find God is perfectly willing to pick it up and move it forward. You don't do that, and God will simply wait for you to get around to discharge the duty that is devolving upon you. God vouched for Joseph Smith. God spoke through him. I don't have the right to move one of his words. But I do have the right to listen to him, to follow what came through him, and to lay hold upon the blessings that were

promised as a consequence of remembering him. To remember the words of Joseph is to remember your Lord. Remember Him. And do not let anyone tell you that they hold some authority that allows them to neglect, change, discard, veto, forget, or contradict what God told you through the voice of the Prophet."

I don't agree with the Lots document or any other document because from what I have read none of them remember what God gave us through Joseph. They have an image of godliness, using "pull" quotes to represent his words, but ignore the greater message that circumscribed his efforts offered in the King Follet Discourse. While I am certain they, as individuals meant well, their glossing over such significant concepts is a reflection of every turn of this project in every document. We constantly rush ahead, and then get stuck, and then try again, …only to rush ahead once more. We must not skip the work to be mutually agreeable. I don't blame the people for our failure to be mutually agreeable. We simply haven't found a document to produce it. But here we are again, rushing to a vote. Let's stop rushing the vote, allowing mutual agreement to be a byproduct rather than the end in mind, and hunker down to do the work of writing something that enlightens.

Q

- Anonymous February 14, 2018

I've seen this King Follet idea referenced for months now but never heard or seen any actual proposed document.

Why is that? If that is the route to take then why have it's proponents not produced anything for anyone to view or discuss? And instead spend a lot of words pointing out errors of others?

Perhaps the King Follet based standard is forthcoming. And if so, I'm excited to read it.

- Karen February 14, 2018

McKay,

I've been reading through all the comments and found this sentence by you.

"The response to our proposal has convinced me that I simply don't think like others."

I had to chuckle, because I wonder if there is ANYONE in the movement who has NOT thought this in the last year about OTHERS in the movement. I believe that is truly how most of us feel or have felt at some point.

What I'm learning through this whole process is that it is okay that I don't think exactly like others, and that they don't think like me...even when we are all unified with faith in Christ and a covenant with Him. Perhaps, and hopefully, the unity in how we think will come in time, but for now, IF I can learn to genuinely (not fake it) not feel resentment or take offense because of the difference in thinking, then I'm moving in the direction the Lord desires so that we can dwell in peace.

I'm stating the obvious, as you know, but if we can express the different ways we think in an honest, respectful manner (with no discord), then we ARE moving in the right direction; despite occasionally feeling like you're the only person who thinks a certain way. :-)

By saying that, I know you enough to know that you feel love and kindness toward those who don't think like you, too, and are perhaps just feeling taken back by people not agreeing with what seemed so logical to you and Gordon; because your intent was pure and your thoughts very clear to your mind. That's the thing about having only persuasion at our disposal...sometimes it just doesn't have the effect we thought it was so clearly going to have, and then we are just left with patience, love and long-suffering.

I wanted to mention one more thing.

You followed by saying, "If this proposal is weighted toward the adoption of one document over another it is in favor of the lots document because the popularity of that approach right now is very high YET overwhelmingly it is those in support of the lots document who distrust this vote. I'm flummoxed."

I agree that your proposal favors the lots document. I appreciate that support. But as I read what is being said, I would say it is not that those in support DISTRUST the vote, it's that in addition to believing it will be divisive, rather than unifying...those supporting the lots believe they were handed a sort of bait and switch and that they already voted for and completed what the Lord has asked...and they see the scripture committee as making the decision to restrict them from moving forward and they feel that a hierarchical line is being crossed.

It seems they feel they are being somewhat coerced when they feel more voting is neither justified, nor wanted by the people. Perhaps they feel subtle "control" happening.

I know that none of this would not be the intent of the scripture committee. I've spoken with many of you and don't believe that would be intentional; but perhaps it is worth stepping outside how things are seen within the circle you are in, and considering that the assembly (not involved in the inner meetings) are actually experiencing and perceiving something different on their end. Therefore, to look with their eyes as to why it may be coming across different than you intended, may help. Perhaps it isn't about "thinking" differently, but about their overall perception of what is going on.

Just a thought to consider, to perhaps help you not feel so flummoxed. :-)

Much love,

Karen

- TaushaLarsen February 14, 2018

Q, I appreciate your insights. I too feel that where we need to go as a people, is where Enoch's people went. We need to repent and develop great faith, even SAVING faith. And yes, we have less time to do it.

I also believe that what Joseph started teaching in his King Follet discourse, Denver has picked up and added to with the Holy Order talk and transcript. There is so much we need to learn. Ignorance is certainly our greatest sin.

As for the G&S, maybe we just DO need to finish this assignment, so people can stop stressing and worrying about it, and move on to learning about how to gain greater faith - the kind of faith we need to accomplish future assignments - the kind of faith that

produces the signs that follow those that believe.

It seems that the G&S assignment is a preliminary assignment for God's people to agree on a basic set of principles to live by, as well as to teach others who are just learning about God's latter day work. The G&S is just the beginning for us. Maybe once this assignment is finished, our focus can shift to obtaining greater knowledge and finding and teaching the lost sheep remnant. Maybe then we can take the larger steps that are needed to become as the people of Enoch.

Praise God for all the new knowledge he has given us.

I hope to God we can just move on. So much greater knowledge is available if we can change our focus and become single to God's glory and will.

- Dani February 15, 2018

"... Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the Celestial kingdom, otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself (D&C 40:1). If we can't over God in this "light thing," there will be no easier assignment. We learn to live now by the higher law or we spin our wheels into eternity.

- Dani February 15, 2018

obey God

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

We may actually be closer to Enoch’s people’s accomplishments than some who have not yet discovered the truth, have considered. It is a misrepresentation and a misreading of the scripture to think it took a very long time for Enoch’s people to achieve a Zion state. Some, who wrest the scriptures, think it took 365 years for Zion to be achieved by Enoch and his people. In fact, Zion “was with” Enoch and his people FOR 365 years before they were eventually taken up. If you look carefully at the scriptures, and do the math, Zion “was with” Enoch and his people from the time Enoch was nearly 65 years old. They had Zion for 365 years. Tough life! 365 years in Zion! Wow! We may be able to do that, only for a thousand years?

Moses 7:

“68 And all the days of Zion, in the days of Enoch, were three hundred and sixty-five years.
69 And Enoch and all his people walked with God, and he dwelt in the midst of Zion; and it came to pass that Zion was not, for God received it up into his own bosom; and from thence went forth the saying, Zion is fled.”

Having corrected that false tradition, I would like to speak some additional truth that has not yet been opened up. Why it hasn’t, puzzles me to no end...

Why has no one yet asked the question: “where does the Scripture Committee get the power, or authority, to decide anything about the GS?

There was a discrete period of time when the SC had an assignment and authority for a GS statement. That discreet appointment came and went without success on the part of the SC to produce, submit, and have accepted, a statement. There has been no indication from the Lord that the SC had, or has, any authority or power concerning the

GS following the discreet assignment given it to produce a statement. This is the truth.

In the Answer and Covenant revelation, the Lord clearly (and rightly) praises the SC for its accomplishments respecting the restoration of the scriptures. The Lord also clearly mandates a new direction for the GS initiative in that same revelation. There is nothing in the revelation that appoints any person(s), or committee, to oversee, approve, or disapprove, any aspect of the GS work. Instead, the Lord clearly assigns the covenant people to accomplish the work and present a statement to Him for inclusion in the guide and Standard, (the scriptures).

We have acted (like dumb sheep) as though the SC had some authority from some unknown source to make all kinds of calls and decisions about the GS. The authority for the SC to make any binding calls about any aspect of the GS process ended when they failed to produce, and present, and include, an acceptable statement to the Lord before the covenant revelation.

More.....

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Part 2

I am not afraid of truth. I love it, and embrace it regardless of whose proverbial tally whacker may get stepped on while revealing it. I love and respect our fellows on the SC. I really do! I have come to love Chris Hamill and consider him my brother. But, I'm sorry, I am not able to find where the SC has any legitimate authority or power with respect to the GS post A&C?? As I have already stated, precedence does not a law make, especially when it is without merit.

The SC inserted itself into a process that now belongs to the people alone. It ended up making decisions in the name of equity and justice that really just messed things up! A lot!!!

This is not to scold or to dispute with anyone. I'm simply pointing out what I believe to be absolutely true. No more, no less. (And with very little tact and diplomacy - I know)

The proper thing to do from here is to allow the people to conduct the people's business unimpeded by any one, or any committee, who have no more authority than what might be allotted by the people. Which authority hasn't been legally allotted (except by the people's apathy and acquiescence)? Since we are aspiring to be a people who will not abide anybody usurping power among us, this is a perfect time for us to say, whoops! We messed that one up! and allowed usurped power when we never should have. Let's deal with the whole thing honestly, and with a spirit of love, humility, and repentance, and just move on. Let's let it go.

If the people were unfettered to do the people's business as Mosiah suggests we should, (Mosiah 29), the people would finish the assigned work better than if there was any overseer besides the Lord. The directives and suggestions of the Lord have been earnestly sought after, with a genuine desire to do only His will, for completion of this assignment. The common consent voice of the people has become a travesty that must be re-established if Zion is ever to come among us. Even one more "vote" will fairly kill any confidence among this people that their voice means anything at all.

I ask the SC to step aside with respect to the GS process and its outcomes. The SC has no authority over the GS, or the covenant people whose job and assignment it is to provide it to the Lord. Precedent at this point has no meaning regardless of past

decisions and judgements. If precedent ever did have any binding meaning after the SC was decommissioned from the GS responsibility by the Lord in the Answer and Covenant revelation, it was only the lazy acquiescing nature of a people who have been too accustomed to being led like dumb sheep that created the allusion of authority in the SC. Furthering past mistakes will not fix or help anything going forward. Truth assures this.

By this, I do not want, or desire, division of any kind, with any man, (or woman). I ask every concerned soul to go to God and ask if the truth has been spoken here or not. I desire only to serve and please our God who is truth.

Steve VanLeer

- TwoCents February 16, 2018

Hi Steve,
I have a few questions for you, since you seem to understand what happened in Enoch's day(I'm not being sarcastic:).
1. How long did Enoch work with his people before his people became Zion?
2. Why is it that he continued to work with the people of God after God called his people Zion and they were of one heart and one mind?
3. How long do you think it took him to begin to build the City of Holiness? When the Lord called his people Zion did that occur before the "City of Holiness"
4. We don't live 365 years like they did, typically our life span is 78 years (which only leaves you a couple years-just kidding) so out of the 365 years at what point do you think the people became Zion? Are you saying when Enoch was 65 all his people became Zion?

And since we are on the topic of wresting the scriptures, maybe you can help me out, because no one has answered my previous question about voting:

1. If the scriptures are to be our standard to govern our daily walk. Where in the scriptures does it talk about voting? When did God use that type of system? Where in the scriptures does it clearly define the voice of the people? Based on the traditional culture of my people that means something different than voting or raising of hands, so I see those scriptures differently than you.

Q

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

I will not contend with any person - but since you have asked specific questions of me personally, I will answer you.

As to Enoch and His people, for those who do not yet know, wait a short while and ask them. They are shortly to come.

As to "voting" appearing in the scriptures - show me where in the scriptures it talks about "the sacrament" - I will then show you where "voting" appears in the scriptures.

Steve VanLeer

- Log February 18, 2018

The quick and decisive test of any of these proposals is to ask "can this proposal result

in the adoption of a document whose adoption is known to be disputed?" If the answer to this question is yes, then the proposal cannot be relied upon to fulfill the Lord's requirement. We know such proposals are wrong because their outcome cannot be known to fulfill the Lord's requirement. There is no need to consider the rationales of their proponents, as they don't matter; only the outcomes do.

The proposal by Gordon Platt, Jeanene Custer, Donald and Christy Danner, Paul Durham, and Others fails this test, as it explicitly proposes to adopt even documents whose adoption is disputed after all is said and done. Therefore, this proposal is wrong. There is no need to consider their rationales, as they don't matter.

- Anonymous March 06, 2018

I have one concern with this proposal, and that is the part below:

3-Then, if they are opposed still, we will announce on Sunday the 25th that there remain three (or however many) opposed to the proposition that has otherwise carried by the nearly unanimous consent of the conference, and ask the conference if as a body they are willing to proceed/adopt the chosen statement of principles despite the opposition by three (or however many). If this carries by a clear majority vote of the conference, then it is adopted, and the chosen statement will be added to the scriptures.

It seems to me that this part is trying to achieve by process what should be achieved another way. I may be way off on this suggestion, but… what if we replace this part with something more faith-based? What if instead of having this vote if the majority is still met with opposition after we have taken our opposing conflicts to the Lord to know His part, we take this situation to the Lord? We return and report. We say, “We have done everything we know to do to reach mutual agreement, and have gotten close, but still have not reached it.” And we ask for further guidance in the matter, even if it means, like the potter’s clay, we must scrap what we’ve done and begin again. I realize this may not be a popular idea with the questions of who does the return and reporting? And who can we trust to receive the true answer? But perhaps we can begin by all having this prayer in our hearts, and trust in the Lord to tell us His part, so that we don’t have to manipulate the outcome with processes.

Sarah S

- TBM March 07, 2018

I agree with Sara S. If we don't have mutual agreement at the end of the process (and it is unlikely that we will) I propose that we publicly admit our failure to the Lord, and ask Him to give us a path forward.

This is better than going forward without mutual agreement (i.e. if there are those who still choose to dispute).

A Proposal to Resolve All Conflict over the G&S by Faithfulness...

Monday, February 12, 2018

There is an approach to resolving whatever disputes may possibly exist with respect to the Guide and Standard that is faithful to the Lord in both word and deed: try an experiment upon the word of God and believe and do exactly what the Lord commands us all to do in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles. The Lord promises: "[W]hosoever believeth on my words, them will I visit with the manifestation of my Spirit; and they shall be born of me, even of water and of the Spirit" (D&C 5:16).

To believe on (trust in, or rely upon) his words it is necessary to obey them. Therefore, do these things which he has asked, without fail so long as you have power to obey.

*Love your enemies.
*Do good things to those who hate you.
*Bless those that curse you.
*Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you by exploiting your obedience to these commandments.
*If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to them without reviling.
*If anyone takes your cloak, don't tell them they can't have your coat.
*Give to every person that asks of you.
*Do not ask for your stuff back from any man who takes it from you.
*Whatever you want people to do to you, do exactly those things to them.
*Lend, hoping you aren't paid back.
*Be baptized by water by one of heaven's sent servants to show both men and heaven that you believe God's words and will do them.

This is the path of Christ. Let us take as long as we need as a people until we are each doing all these things faithfully and equally, as he has asked of us: "Each of you must equally walk truly in my path, not only to profess, but also to do as you profess" (A&C, p. 3).

Then we will be of one mind with God and his Christ, as Joseph taught,"being filled with the fulness of the Mind of the Father, or, in other words, the Spirit of the Father: which Spirit is shed forth upon all who believe on his name and keep his commandments: and all those who keep his commandments shall grow up from grace to grace, and become heirs of the heavenly kingdom, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; possessing the same mind, being transformed into the same image or likeness, even the express image of him who fills all in all: being filled with the fulness of his glory, and become one in him, even as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one" (Lectures on Faith 5:2).

Then we will all see eye-to-eye and know that the Lord's doctrine, his law and commandments, his gospel, is the Lord's guide and standard.

Jared Livesey

Comments

- Anonymous February 12, 2018

Well this is new Jared.....good to see your novel approach :/

- TBM February 13, 2018

Makes sense to me.

- Noname February 13, 2018

TBM: Makes sense that we should all live the quoted Sermon and doctrine? Or makes sense that by so doing we will all suddenly come to unity surrounding Log's G&S as the Lord's true choice?

One of those makes sense, the other kind of doesn't. There are already people attempting to live the quoted doctrine and scriptures but who do not see eye to eye on Log's G&S.

The author's public ultimatum is that only the author's G&S can be adopted or else he has stated the body will be destroyed. His positions, per him, are permanent. I think we should be free to live the Sermon quoted without predictions and obligations that we'll assuredly agree with (only) the author's G&S by the end…. Or else face destruction.

- Log February 14, 2018

Come and try an experiment upon the words of Jesus Christ, for all that he commands is possible to those that believe him. Those who will do as he commands with full purpose of heart, acting no deception and no hypocrisy before him, can be of one heart and of one mind by his power and shall be if they endure faithfully in his path, according to his promises.

What other destination is more desireable than the Lord's presence? What other guide should we wish for than the Lord? What other standard should we want to be measured against than the Lord?

Jared Livesey

- Taylor February 14, 2018

I guess what I'd want to know regarding your proposal is this: Should people enact this proposal, (which hopefully they are already trying to do) are you ok with people not arriving at the same conclusion as you regarding the G&S? Legitimate statements in some of the other G&S proposals are viewed as coming from the Lord too. So they too would be choosing the same destination and carrying the same wishes for the Lord as their guide as you are.

If you intend to maintain your same G&S position, which is that you will not, and will never conceded to any other but the one you put forward, then I'm left uncertain how this proposal addresses the current dilemma.

Please correct me if I have misstated anything. If we as a body all decided to deliberately live the sermon you quoted for a season before revisiting the G&S topic, with no strings attached, and no preconceived ideas as to what the G&S outcome would look like at the end, then I'd be on board.

- Log February 14, 2018

Taylor,

I am nobody's judge.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 14, 2018

Taylor,

If you believe we will be born of Christ, as he said, and become of the same mind, through keeping the commandments of Jesus Christ - the Sermon on the Mount - as Joseph taught, then this proposal addresses how we come to a unity on our guide and standard while remaining faithful to the Lord.

With a new heart and obtaining the mind of God, we will be unified - and it is done through keeping the commandments of Christ as he gave in the Sermon.

Jared Livesey

- Jeff February 17, 2018

"There is enough revealed in the Book of Mormon to tell you what you must do to become part of His people. You don't need me, or a program, or a leader, other than Christ. He has offered the opportunity for each of us to become part of His people."

http://denversnuffer.com/2010/08/2-nephi-30-7-8/

- Anonymous February 20, 2018

I just entered this blog today. As I read the proposal by Log (Jared) it would contain the Lord's statement of the Doctrine of Christ and the Lord's commandments as given at the Sermon on the Mount. What is the question about that as a proposal?
Isn't this to be a proposal we all agree on? What is the disagreement with Jared's proposal? I too submitted a proposal in Sept, it was the Lord's summary of the Sermon at Bountiful as found in 3 Nephi 14:12, called the Golden Rule. That is what the Spirit whispered to me, the Lord's own words which He obviously considered paramount for His children.
James Russell Uhl

Just Some Thoughts

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Just Some Thoughts
By Chris Park
When Christ came to deliver a message to the Nephites but they were too dark in their minds to receive the message He came to preach, He said to them,
" *I perceive that ye are weak, that ye cannot understand all my words which I am commanded of the Father to speak unto you at this time, therefore go ye unto your homes and ponder upon the things which I have said and ask of the Father, in my name, that ye may understand and prepare your minds for the morrow and I come unto you*

again." (3 Ne. 8:1)

He had a message. He was commanded of the Father to deliver the message and he did that. But He recognized their inability to understand, so He told them to go home and mull it over in prayer and meditation.

Joseph said on one occasion,

" *We have reason to believe that many things were introduced among the Saints before God had signified the times; and notwithstanding the principles and plans may have been good, yet aspiring men, or in other words, men who had not the substance of godliness about them, perhaps undertook to handle edged tools. Children, you know, are fond of tools, while they are not yet able to use them.*

Time and experience, however, are the only safe remedies against such evils. There are many teachers, but, perhaps, not many fathers. "

Many teachers indeed. Not many fathers indeed.

He also said,

" *had I inspiartion [inspiration], Revelation & lungs to communicate what my soul has contemplated in times <past> there is not a soul in this congregation but would go to their hom[e]s & shut their mouths in everlasting silnece [silence] on religin, till. they had learnd somethi[n]g. why be so certain that you comprehend the things of God. when all things with you are so uncertain."* (Discourse, 13 August 1843–A, as Reported by Willard Richards)

Things with us are uncertain. We do not understand the words that Christ delivered to us in the Answer. Like the Nephites and early Saints, we should shut our mouths and go back to our homes and spend time in prayer and meditation until we have learned something.

If you just thought "I already do that; I don't need to do that" you're the one that needs it the most.

We know even the original scribe, Enoch, was slow to speak. (Gen. 4:2) Are we better than Enoch?

It's said in the epistle of Jacob that we should, " **let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak,** slow to wrath; for the wrath of man works not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay aside all filthiness and excess of wickedness, and receive with meekness the grafted word, which is able to save your souls. But, be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves, for if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a mirror; for he beholds himself and goes his way, and straightway forgets what manner of man he was. But whoever looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. **If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridles not his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is vain**. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the vices of the world."

Perhaps if we went about doing this, we'd know what to do after a couple years. Fact is, we don't know what to do. This process could be much more organic than we want it to be. You can't force a tree to grow. Just happens as you nourish it. Then about five years later, you enjoy some orange juice.

I know people who are printing and distributing their preferred document. What if we just let that process play out? Perhaps in a year or two of time and experience and seeing how certain documents work we'd all end up agreeing on and using one. And in five years we could add it to the scriptures because everyone would already agree on it and be using it.

I know people are worried about some imaginary time constraint because the Lord said "[...]if you cannot [agree upon a statement of principles] you will be unable to accomplish

other works that I will require at your hands."(A&C, p. 8). But nothing in that statement puts a limit on the amount of time we can take to accomplish this task. Imagination can be a tricky thing and we would do well to remember, "A fanciful and flowery and heated imagination beware of; because the things of God are of deep import; and time, and experience, and careful and ponderous and solemn thoughts can only find them out."(TPJS, p. 137)

Why not just be still?

Here are some relevant wisdom quotes from the book of Proverbs:

He that has knowledge spares his words; a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

Even a fool, when he holds his peace, is counted wise; he that shuts his lips, a man of understanding.

A fool has no delight in understanding, but that his heart may reveal itself.

A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calls for strokes.

A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.

The words of a tale-bearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

He that answers a matter before he hears, it is folly and shame unto him.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

The poor uses entreaties, but the rich answers roughly.

The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright, but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.

Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.

He that keeps his mouth keeps his life, but he that opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

The heart of the righteous studies to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

Comments

- etluxentenebrislucet February 13, 2018

Well said. I appreciate this and feel reminded I have much to learn.

- DougLarson February 13, 2018

But the people didn't go back and meditate. The Lord sensed they desired for Him to stay, so He did. Then He got creative and used healing the sick and blessing the children to teach them, and it brought angels down in their midst. He instituted the sacrament and gave the 12 power to give the Holy Ghost. Then when He did finally depart, the people didn't go back and meditate, they did the opposite... they noised about and quickly gathered as many as they could.

So it seems to me that what is more important than ever-learning and studying is the desire of our hearts. Do we have the faith to be healed? Is there another group who already has the law written on their hearts that we could ask the Lord to visit and bless so we could learn?

Pondering and praying would possibly work, but my guess is that there are things which wouldn't take 5 to 10 years too. The Lord appears to be as adaptable as we are.

- JimORullian February 14, 2018

These are great thought Chris. Thanks for taking the time to put them together. In the past year I have considered carefully the idea of waiting this assignment out indefinitely until we all come to the same mind on it. To participate in the conversation, I just wanted to add a couple thoughts of my own on that.

First, it's unlikely that the entire body of believers will ever view things the same way and that is probably as it should be to maintain creativity and original thought which we can all benefit from. Zion will most definitely be composed of those who have the same heart and mind but we will not be clones. And there may even be more virtue and righteousness in moving forward while allowing others to be right even when we disagree with them. We either learn this lesson now the easy way or maybe later the hard way.

Second, while there is much to be said scripturally, proverbially, and even logically for holding your peace while learning from others, there is equally as much to be said for hastening to be obedient to the word of the Lord. One of the things we have all come to learn in this movement is that we are our own rate-limiting step. The Lord is perfectly willing to pick the ball up and move it forward as soon as we are and I for one would like to see greater things than this come to pass in my life and the movement as a whole. I'm very excited to see what assignments come next and if I have to be stuck in the mire of Guide and Standard Hell for several more years, I may just open a vein…

But perhaps the greatest reason I see for getting this matter concluded as soon as possible is to avoid the installation of a perceived hierarchical committee whose tenure lasts indefinitely. The "scripture committee" began as two independent groups of people coming together to accomplish a very specific task. That task is now long overdue and needs to come to completion ASAP. When it does, this committee needs to dissolve and further work on the scriptures needs to be handled by others to relieve their burden while promoting and maintaining a sense of equality. Long standing committees are how false traditions creep in and develop into official policies and procedures.

Thanks again Chris….you have a great mind. Love ya brother.

- Taylor February 14, 2018

Enjoyed the thoughts Chris.

Similar thoughts have been on my mind. A resolution that is totally organic, from the bottom up. Fellowship/family style.

If the movement said for example: Hey for the next 12 months, each fellowship choose your G&S, and actually live it, then at a future conference you come back to the table, share what you learned, and persuade each other based on your evidence of having lived it. Having seen first hand what is sufficient and what may be missing. Maybe two groups decide to unite after hearing real live testimony. Maybe 3. Maybe more. No one is coerced, no one imposes anything, all voluntary. Until eventually those desirous can unite. From the bottom up.

I bet in March a bunch of people would unite on one G&S if there were no impending publication of said G&S right then. A trial period maybe. Then next year we revisit the topic and see what people learned. This gives time and patience and opportunity for experience to help do the persuading. Then, when the movement has matured a bit, the mutually agreed statement, whatever it is, takes shape naturally by people who know each other better.

Just thinking out loud. When anyone tries anything new, trial periods offer experience without all the formal implications of something being set in stone.

- TBM February 14, 2018

So the scripture committee is like a Mr. Meeseeks--it wants to serve its purpose so it can end--

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUYvIAP3qQk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEGrOy4rGac

- Jeff February 19, 2018

LOL. Yes please.

- ChristopherPark February 22, 2018

You guys make some good points. Definitely some things there to consider.

A Proposal to Build on the Progress Thus Far

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

A Proposal to Build on the Progress Thus Far

Background:

It appears we are very close to mutual agreement on the Lots document. Very few still choose to dispute it. Addressing those disputes seems the best way to come to mutual agreement, rather than opening up a new round of voting with more documents and further division. It seems counterproductive at this point to abandon the progress that has been made and start the process over with more documents. I would even go so far as to suggest the people have not been asked if this is their desire and if such an approach is authorized by the covenant body.

The people were, however, consulted about the Lots document, and its process was authorized by the voice of the people, clear through to adoption. Therefore, I suggest the best approach is that we build upon, and bring to completion, the approach already ratified by the voice of the people, rather than starting a new process by committee fiat.

Proposal:

I propose an announcement be made at the first session of the March conference somewhat along these lines:

“Fellow covenant holders, it appears we, as a general body, have reached mutual agreement on the Lots document and we are prepared to publish it in the scriptures as the Lord has required, if this is indeed the case. Because the Lord has defined mutual agreement “as between yourselves, you choose not to dispute” we now desire to know,

before we proceed, if there are any who dispute the adoption of this document. If you choose to dispute it, will you please raise your hand?"

Any raised hands will then be noted and addressed personally in a private meeting after the conference session. I would suggest that in each case (meaning each person who raises a dispute) a member of the Lots committee and a member of the scripture committee, randomly drawn, meet together with that person to listen to, understand and document their dispute, and ascertain whether the dispute is over the document itself, or some other issue.

(Examples of other issues include their preference for another document, their dispute over who wrote it, their issues with process, or people, or another factor outside the document itself.)

If they do not dispute the document itself, adoption can continue.

If they dispute the words as written, the dispute must be carefully considered against the standard of truth as contained in scripture, by the two who meet with the person. If either the Lots committee member or the scripture committee member is persuaded the dispute has scriptural merit and must be addressed, the lots committee will be invited to revise the document to eliminate the dispute so adoption can proceed.

If it can be revised before the second conference session, the revision(s) will be announced in the second session, together with the agreed end of the dispute(s) that brought about the revision(s). At that point it will be asked again if there are any disputes that have not yet been raised. If not, it goes in. If there are yet disputes to the document itself, it is tabled until next conference.

Strengths of this proposal:

1. It builds on the unity we've already achieved, rather than fracturing it.
2. All are free to make their voice heard, if they so desire, knowing their dispute will be heard and carefully considered.
3. It allows for flexibility and a mechanism to resolve disputes, if at all possible.
4. It enthrones the scriptures as the arbiter of truth.
5. It exactly follows the Lord's word and definition of mutual agreement, rather than merely proposing a majority vote wins.
6. It is achievable, and may result in completion of this assignment.

I recognize this proposal also has weaknesses. I further recognize this approach may not be the best one, or the right way to proceed. It is merely my suggestion as a way to move forward in keeping with the established will of the body. I offer it because the Scripture Committee asked for recommendations, and I want to support the body in bringing this assignment to completion.

Having proposed this, I will refrain from commenting on it, defending it, or arguing about it, and leave it for others to discuss the relative merits or problems with it. I do not wish to dispute, and if I've gotten it wrong, please offer corrections or improvements.

Adrian Larsen

Comments

- Log — February 14, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Karen — February 14, 2018

I've read through this twice, now. I absolutely 100% agreed with the background given to explain the reasoning for this proposal and the 6 strengths mentioned.

This is a solid proposal that refrains from undermining the completion of the assignment given us by the Lord that so very many have already mutually agreed to.

It takes what has already been done and builds upon it in a manner that seeks to understand those who yet oppose, without unnecessarily un-doing all that has been done to unite.

It allows for some alteration to be made to the document IF valid reason is given based on truth/scripture and not opinion.

It shows respect for the thoughts and perspectives of those who have already given their agreement through their vote, yet shows a willingness to not go forward without addressing those still "un-persuadaed." This strikes a nice balance between both groups not being short-changed, or disregarded by the other. This would be the 3rd FORMAL effort to reach out and try to understand and hear those not in complete agreement... those formal efforts were/would be: 1.) the three days after the writing of the rough draft of the lots, 2.) the 40 days following its vote for adoption, and 3.) during this general conference. (Additionally, there have been months of discussion on this site).

It refrains from the unnecessary cycles of voting that seem to always be offered as suggestions and have potentially no end in sight, that show disregard for the expression of votes that has already occurred.

It allows those who have already received confirmation that the Lord has given His approval to this effort to "be still" and allow God to do His work, without feeling constantly compelled to have to re-engage in a discussion that tempts to discord.

It eliminates an appearance of "control" by anyone, yet it shows respect for the Scripture Committee's final request for solutions to the GS situation.

It also uses the scriptures as the measure of truth, not personal preference.

Plus more.

Love it.

The only suggestion I can think of off hand is that perhaps having people voice their opposition in front of the entire congregation is too public. Some may feel this is an intimidation, or may not even be present for the conference.

Since the conference is the intended time to come to a resolution, perhaps a way can be made that those who want to oppose can do so privately prior to the conference and the same proposed method of resolution could be carried out...a SC member and a lots member privately meet before the conference with the one in disagreement. Upon the

request of the one disagreeing, a record could be kept stating what their subject matter was and how it was resolved and made known to the assembly (without names)...IF the one in opposition felt that doing so would provide transparency and keep everyone abreast of what has occurred to lead to the hoped for mutual agreement. I'm thinking out loud on that, so it may be a weak suggestion.

Karen

- etluxentenebrislucet February 15, 2018

But do we not already know there is at least one person, possibly more, who will dispute? So why go through the motions like this, dragging hearts and minds through a process that will not bring about what the SC has stated is required?

"AS A PEOPLE we need to MUTUALLY AGREE which document we choose to append to our scriptures WITHOUT DISPUTE."

I know where Log/Jared stands. I don't know where others who feel equally as strong for their chosen proposals stand. Even if Jared was the lone ranger of dispute, we as a whole are faced with a unique situation. Shall we learn to "agree with [our] adversary quickly," or not?

We can either choose to feel resentful towards _____, or we can become meek enough to do the really hard thing of bowing to the will of another in this matter of a G&S.

Additionally, what can we offer and create as a whole that allows individuals to follow their chosen G&S they feel Christ has inspired while not requiring everyone else to follow along in a straight line as school children?

A single statement of principles...

- etluxentenebrislucet February 15, 2018

One thought more:

Given the terrible tragedy of yesterday in FL, and all the tragedies individuals, families, and communities are experiencing daily, what do we have to offer a world that is spinning ever downward into chaos?

We seem to have so much knowledge yet lack the wisdom to apply it.

How do we make this covenant not about us but all about CHRIST? What do we have to tell the world about HIM?

- Log February 15, 2018

The dissenters don't have to get the approval of the majority to dissent. They also are not required to justify their dissent to those from whom they dissent.

It is known that we do not mutually agree to the Lottery document, and the document was disputed from the time the content was announced.

We already know there to be scripturally based dissent to the Lottery document.

If the Lottery document - or any other, for that matter - were changeable based on knowledge of scriptural dissent from it, it would contain no words from Denver Snuffer: Thus saith the Lord: Cursed is the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

The Lottery document still contains words from Denver Snuffer.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 15, 2018

And disputing the adoption of a document has occurred, whether or not the one(s) disputing the adoption of the document choose to attend the conference(s), which are proposed to feature forced voting, forced arbitration, inquiries, records, and so on, all of which are intrinsically hostile and destructive of harmony.

Jared Livesey

- Janeen February 15, 2018

I don't mean this as being flippant, however there is a good book, "Breaking the Habit of Being Yourself, how to lose your mind and create a new one".
We have heard over and over that we must become new creatures, willing to let go of all we think we know and in some cases feel.
The world is changing rapidly and many of us are still using our old paradigms to navigate it.I wonder what we would think and feel if we chose to truly create a new mind.
Just a thought.

- Anonymous February 15, 2018

Any proposal to reconcile this conflict which can possibly result in the adoption of a disputed document is wrong.

Just as the adoption of any document which leads men to trust Denver Snuffer, as opposed to persuading men to rely upon Christ alone, is wrong.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 15, 2018

There once was a dog with a tail. The tail wanted to wag the dog. The dog was in a tizzy about theological correctness and became paralyzed. So the tail wagged the dog.

- Log February 15, 2018

By the nature of this dispute - for voting cannot make wrong into right - there not only has been no progress made, but there cannot be progress made without a change of hearts and of minds.

One proposal thus far made does effect a change of hearts and minds and produce unity in righteousness.

If we are willing - that is, desiring - to do all things whatsoever the Lord has commanded us, then let us be up and doing.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 15, 2018

You are one strange dude Jared....God bless you brother...

- HuhWhatda February 15, 2018

I find it really odd that rather than questioning the work produced of the Governing Principles presented, …the current effort is to question those who openly disagree instead, blaming them for our failure to be mutually agree-ABLE. Enormous efforts have been made to qualify and disqualify opinions, so that a final outcome can be established, so that we can check that assignment off the checklist, looking forward to better stuff in the future, ...like restoring the remnant? Huh, what-da?! Mutual agreement is the by-product. The effort is the Governing Principles. Yet, all I have ever heard from the beginning was a condemnation of those who won't produce the by-product, those who don't mutually agree. Opinion polling is no different than what has been described as the lots effort to mitigate the statistics to win over the argument of the Aug 5th document. Votes do not express the hand of God running this thing, it expresses the same compulsion that is always used to push forward an opinion. If it were not opinion, and instead represented truth, no one would have to convince me to be mutually agreeable. No one convinced me to walk this path but God. So I blame the documents, against Adrian Larsen's opinion that nothing is wrong with it. Every last one is incomplete, including the non-existent King Follet effort, because we as a people are incomplete, fighting to make a by-product!

At every corner we quickly slam together a document, and then spend days, weeks, and months trying to get everybody on board. Why not spend days, weeks, and months working on the document, understanding perspectives, writing together, coming together, instead? The repeated pattern so far is to have a single looooooooongass meeting, and a quick short-order vote, …and then it's the short-order vote we end up fighting. False deadlines have magnified the problem, and Karen recently put up, yet another deadline, which will cause more rushing of the pass. Jim O'Rullian hopes to sustain the lotsters percentages, holding the opinions of percentages as justification for printing it already. When we do shoddy work, why do we expect the successful by-product? We don't have the by-product because we keep skipping the work, which is the content of the document.

I find it really odd that those fighting so hard to get their opinions validated by a vote have no intention of paying the document much attention once it is printed, and placed in the Guide and Standard. Some think it is only an instruction manual, others think it simply a brochure for new converts, and yet others think this is only a practice to do better things. All of it is projecting your idea of Zion on God. If God has commanded this of us in preparation for Zion, every Zion had to do something similar. This isn't only important, it's something far different than any of the documents have assumed.

My point? Let's keep working on a document, rather than using what little authority we have, as we suppose, to exercise unrighteous dominion, forcing a vote, forcing a result, forcing mutual agreement, …forcing a by-product.

Robert Adolpho

- Anonymous February 15, 2018

There's no point working on a document because one person will accept no document

but his own.

- Lohmeiers February 15, 2018

With reference to Adrian’s proposal:

I agree with and support the proposal as written. I believe it is wise and fair, and is the best way forward given our present stalemate.

-Matt Lohmeier

- RobAdolpho February 15, 2018

That’s like saying God have a commandment, but forgot to prepare a way for us to accomplish the thing He has commanded. I believe it is not only possible, but to add to that, it’s one of the only options not endured through. All the focus has been on MAKING IT MUTUAL AGREEABLE. We want the by-product of success, not the labor.

Rob Adolpho

- Karen February 15, 2018

Rob,

I was wondering what you meant by me (Karen) being responsible for creating a false deadline?

Are you referencing my comment in my "suggestion" portion above about General Conference being a time intended for resolution? If so, that is not an idea I came up with. That is coming from the Scripture Committee's back on their February 8th post, that I believe you expressed appreciation for them writing.

This was sentence was in the final paragraph written by the SC:

"A direct effort will be made at the conference in Phoenix in March to resolve the matter."

I'm sorry if it came across to you as if the idea to do something at Conference was mine, or seemed I was the author of an artificial deadline.

Because you pointed out my name specifically as being responsible, I thought I better clear that up, so it wouldn't confuse others reading, too. I was merely continuing forward with the Scripture Committee's request for proposals that are intended to resolve the GS at that point. I think that Adrian's and Gordon's proposals both offer the conference as times for resolution, too...all their ideas for a "time-table" were probably based upon the instruction given in the SC post, as that's where I first saw it, too.

Just wanted to make sure I wasn't getting credit where credit wasn't deserved. LOL

Love you brother.

Karen

- DevinFausett February 15, 2018

With regard to Adrian’s proposal, regarding the Lots proposal, my wife (Krista Fausett)

and I agree wholeheartedly and support this document as our guide and standard.

Let me further state that on Jared's own website he clearly states, "Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say "yes" when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer, they should consider me as not being part of that covenant. I failed in a test of personal integrity pertaining to question 1. I lied by saying "yes." I repent me of this lie by making the truth known."
Let me repeat one line here, and let us put this matter to rest: Jared (Log) clearly states "they should not consider me part of that covenant." He admits he made the covenant and then withdraws from it. Therefore to reach mutual agreement, without his voice is still reaching mutual agreement. I'm sorry, but I'm just pointing out his own words and since his words have been the most adversarial on this whole topic, why don't we point out the elephant in the room, which is that he has already withdrawn. Jared, I wish you good luck in all your endeavors, but the vast majority have voted, accepted and want to move on with what the Lord wants us to do next, so please for the sake of Zion, step aside, lay down your weapons of war and whatever ambitions are causing you to try to hijack this attempt at building Zion and lets all move forward.

God bless you all and let's finalize this in Phoenix.

- Log February 15, 2018

"Let me repeat one line here, and let us put this matter to rest: Jared (Log) clearly states "they should not consider me part of that covenant." He admits he made the covenant and then withdraws from it."

The very next post on my blog says this:

"So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in?

You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it.

You can't unring the bell."

A covenant from God cannot be gotten rid of by saying "I withdraw."

I would know.

Jared Livesey

- James February 15, 2018

This sounds like a reasonable and inspired solution to our current situation. I completely support Adrian Larsen's proposal because it honors the voice of the people, takes into consideration the positions of those with differing views, respects God's hand in our efforts to fulfill His commandment, and enacting it will limit further division and contention among us.

Someday we will all look back at this and have a good laugh.

James Fargo

- Log February 15, 2018

It is not wise to stake the salvation of the body on a gamble that I am not a member of the body.

It might be advisable to inquire of God rather than gamble.

Here is the formula for such inquiries.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

It's that bolded part that people have the most problems with, since diligence in keeping the commandments of the Lord is a function of belief in his words and faith, or trust, in him. For example, if you understand that "Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again" (Luke 6:30) is one of Jesus's commandments, and you elect not to do it, then you have no promise that he will answer your inquiry.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda February 15, 2018

Stop the presses, hold on, and wait a minute,

There are some difficult observations that we ought to consider before trying to finish an assignment we haven't even taken the time to understand. There is a lot of congratulating for hard work, or for hosting a meeting, or in support of differing proposals to move forward going on. Yet, one significant question hasn't even been addressed, “What's it all for?”

We see what we want to see and hear what we want to hear, rather than waiting for the Lord to lead and direct every step. In the absence of knowledge, we substitute zeal. We have gotten really creative at writing our own stories, painting the preferred document as the hero of the story, and those who oppose it as the villain. Everyone knows that to the victor goes the history. The victorious Smith and Wesson society has been retelling our history, such that the Indians prefer to play Cowboys in a game of Cowboys & Indians, …since Indians are vilified.

God is unchanging, and His ways aren’t ours. Repentance is making our ways His. I’m not certain that in this project, so many opinions have skewed God’s ways more towards ours, ...and that’s an abomination. It’s no wonder, the by-product of our efforts thus far is stagnant or even regressive contention. Even when we do it with a doily cloth and soft wispy voices, using a general authoritic pentameter, ...it’s still a train wreck. ...Or was I not supposed to say that out loud?

Question: While we are so busy getting r'done, voting and casting lots, figuring out how we can move forward to restoring the remnant, and acquiring the answer of acceptance from God, ...when did we ever figure out "What this thing will be used for?" What's the function of it? Once printed in the Book, is it simply forgotten? Or does God have more to tell us before we lock and load and fire, to complete the assignment?

Think About It: The temple will be built atop the land. The land is tied to the covenant. The covenant is incomplete without the Governing Principles. Yet, no one has asked the question of how all of these connect. We have written Governing Principles without seeking God about how it relates to the land covenant and the temple? We would be fools to think they are not related. God's ways always have order and purpose to them. I don't see how we can be done with the Governing Principles assignment when something so simple as this hasn't even been on our radar?

You wanna be done, and you can be. Just walk away. However, I'd prefer submitting to God to make my ways His ways, allowing Him to instruct, rather than filling in the silence with zeal.

Karen, I appreciate you identifying the original source of the time deadline as being the SC. While you may not have originated it, repeating it has the same effect, it hasn't changed what I was addressing about magnifying the confusion being caused to rush the pass. Actually, the more of that kind of thing that gets repeated, the more people get frantic, as you have legitimized the time crunch. I don't recommend it sister.

Look, I know I keep bringing up difficult things that we must face, but to me, this is ALL OR NOTHING! Either I trust in God alone, and be ALL IN! Or I cut corners, follow crowds, respect men, and get NOTHING.

I take this serious. I am not simply repeating myself. I am trying to add light to the subject, introducing better perspective, rather than pushing your opinions with percentages, numbers and votes. It's so that we don't cut our own throats before we ever begin, like the ancient saints. I want to repent, and express my repentance with you all in this Governing Principles document, making my ways God's. It will not happen until we do the work of understanding the assignment, and one another.

PEACE!
Rob Adolpho

- Log February 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda February 15, 2018

You might want to consider what Denver has said about the Zion effort in his post on All or Nothing, September 2016. It has more insight to this project, in light of Zion, ...precisely where this project should be viewed in context of. It's seven different blog posts, so the number ought to catch the attention of those who like numbers.

I've been studying it in depth, and the fifth seems to speak loudly to my heart, about this all starting with a small group, and growing from there. I've yet to finish the last two.

Happy research,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda February 15, 2018

Dear, The Real James,

Sorry for the mix up, and thanks for the response. Although this online stuff makes me look Anti-James, I love you bro. Jim too, but don't tell him I said that, he'll think I'm softening up.

You oughta check out Denvers post on All or Nothing, Sept 2016. You might view this assignment a little differently. But, hey, you might not, right?!

Shoots,
Rob Adolpho

- Log February 15, 2018

Rob,

I was merely trying to find out if you were asking a question that you wanted to engage in dialogue about.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

A final word on my covenant status:

My covenant status is not a matter of how many people hold the opinion that I am not a covenant participant.

The sole action necessary on my part to enter the covenant was to have stood and said "yes" when the officiator so instructed the audience. I did so.

There is no exit clause from the covenant within the text of the A&C, which is to say the text of the A&C does not admit the possibility of exiting the covenant by any actions or words. Those who assert my confession to having falsely answered "yes" to question 1 and statement that I should not be considered a covenant participant suffices to terminate my status as a covenant participant make this assertion without any textual support in the A&C. There are also no provisions within the text of the A&C for excommunication from the covenant.

As it stands, I consider myself a covenant participant and my participation in the G&S discussions - including my permanent disputation of the adoption of any document other than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles - is done pursuant to the instructions pertaining to the G&S in the A&C, the covenant obligations, and the requests, requirements, and commandments of God.

Jared Livesey

- DevinFausett February 16, 2018

Jared, and anyone else out there who feel that by having taken the covenant obligates you to continue to “contend” as Jared is, let me put your mind at ease. If you’re worried that the Lord is holding you to or requiring you to keep contending about this subject, you don’t need to worry any further. See, the Lord has given you a break from worrying

about that any further. D&C 82:10 states that “I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise. So, the Lord will absolutely hold up his end of the covenant if you do your part, but since you feel like the Lord is holding you to the covenant, despite you withdrawing from it, you need worry no longer...the Lord clearly states that, “when ye do NOT what I say (as your contending is proving to do) ye have no promise”. See? You’re absolved from this promise or covenant because as you have chosen to continue to contend (rather than lay down your weapons of war) you have already disqualified yourself from the covenant and “ye have no promise”. Problem solved. You may go your way in peace and leave us to ourselves to complete the guide and standard task amongst ourselves, and we can go our separate ways in peace. Or, if you’d like to repent and come peacefully continue with us, and accept the will of the masses, or choose to be an agreeable participant in Zion, then we would love to have you continue further with us. The choice is yours, but the Lord clearly spells out that you’re absolved from worrying about a covenant if you think that contending over it is your obligation since you mistakenly accepted the covenant. We love you, and want you to be happy, whether that means with us as a team player or on your own path in whatever way will make you happy. Zion will have no strongmen, not you, not anyone. Further contention only solidifies your disqualification of it, so please repent and become as a little child on this matter, for your own sake.

Love you brother,
Devin

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Jared brings up a fascinating theological issue. He says:

"So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in?

You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it.

You can't unring the bell."

A covenant from God cannot be gotten rid of by saying "I withdraw."

First of all, the above statement implies that the covenant entered into was invalid from the beginning by virtue of the fact that he did not "QUALIFY" based on the terms of the covenant.

Wouldn't that make the covenant null and void?

But there is a deeper question at the heart of this issue.

Is it really true that a person cannot withdraw from a covenant they did not really intend to enter into?

Is that sound doctrine?

Seems to me the ramifications are pretty far reaching.

If I am baptized as a baby into Catholicism, I guess I must honor that covenant and always be a Catholic.

As an adult, if I enter into covenant that I later want to repent of, am I bound to stay in

that covenant?

If I am duped into a false ritual because of my own ignorance, and because I was never told up front what manner of satanic signs and wonders I would be entering into, I guess I am sealed up to Satan despite my own ignorance and naivety.

Is it really true that a person can never reconsider a mistake they made and repent of it?

Does God really hold people hostage after they realize they should not have entered into covenant?

There are scriptures that state that God is no longer bound in his part of the covenant once a person reneges on their part of the covenant. That seems to be the extent of the issue and it implies that people do have the option to withdraw from a covenant.

Logs comment that he must execute the covenant he entered into "until he is crushed under it" seems to be suggesting that he has no hope of a positive outcome and only sees personal devastation from entering into it.

Does an outlook like that qualify him to be holding so many other people hostage in their attempt to honor their covenant with a brightness of hope?

This is a serious theological issue that Jared has brought up.

One worth pondering.

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

Where you talking to me, Rob Adolpho? I didn't think so, as you were addressing Devin Faussett. I have heard the "can't unring a bell" argument here before, so I wasn't sure you were addressing me. I never saw the question, but I have to be honest bro, you repeat yourself a lot, so sometimes I scan your responses. Who knows, I might be guilty of the same thing, ...but in this forum we walk on egg-shells, lest someone point the finger at us, accusing us of being too rough, too mean, too low, too vulgar, etc.

So, I'm a bit confused at what you're talking about. I've done this before, where I've addressed someone, thinking they were someone else (Sorry James II and THE REAL JAMES). Just lookin'out and clarifying.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

I appreciate everyone's efforts on behalf of all of us to keep the commandment which the Lord has given us. I have learned much through this process and my love for others has increased and grown. I am seeing so much talent and ability and uniqueness among us. I can see the Lord's hand moving and it amazes me. He is a teacher and He is teaching us. I have so much gratitude for all of you. Do we still have a lot of work to do in taking all the knowledge that is in our heads and moving it into our hearts? Yes. But, I have seen more love and charity and willingness to work together than I have seen dissidents. I see more good among us and a desire to please the Lord. I want to thank everyone for their efforts on this assignment. I appreciate this proposal and the spirit behind it which is to continue to build on the unity which the Lots document is closer to than any other completed work. Thank, you, everyone.

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

The Strength of Zion will come from those who are taught correct principles, ...and then GOVERN THEMSELVES. It is contradictory now to enforce a vote, when men are supposed to GOVERN THEMSELVES.

The going trend is, lets get this done, ...and SAY we've done it already. People, we got work to do, and the work is inside of you. Let's be the kind of people who ask questions, letting God direct, removing our opinions with truth. Shifting sands of opinion is unsafe to build on. Thus far, all we have before us are opinions. And just like the prophesy of Gentiles, methods are conjured to enforce the opinions as truth. Albeit they are couched in passive aggressive terms like proposed rather than commanded, suggestions rather than legislated, and recommendations rather than enforcement. Despite how we dress up our words, the motivation behind it remains unhidden.

We ought to Govern Ourselves. And if the by-product of mutual agreement isn't attained, with problems that have been unaddressed, ...then lets be vigilant and diligent, and seek more answers from God to once more Govern Ourselves. If our next effort doesn't work, we must look inside us. Let's force God to interrupt our self correction, to communicate we are done! It's a whole different story when we hear The original supporters saying, We are done! Then the Aug 5th people claiming, We are done! Adding to it all, the lots claiming God said it's enough. If we are done and it's enough is God's communication to you, ...then be done and stop all your efforts to make it done for me, to make it enough for me. God never told me that. Keep working on this has been my instruction.

Enoch had much more time than we have had to produce Zion. God walked and talked with Enoch in a Terrestrial environment, instructing them to become celestialized. Once celestial, they could not remain on the Earth. If Enoch will return as prophesied, our task is not only to dwell in the presence of Christ, but to receive His instructions, so that Enoch can return because we are like them. It begins with the work to Governing Ourselves, like Enoch.

Rob Adolpho

- Log February 16, 2018

Rob,

You asked: "Question: While we are so busy getting r'done, voting and casting lots, figuring out how we can move forward to restoring the remnant, and acquiring the answer of acceptance from God, ...when did we ever figure out "What this thing will be used for?" What's the function of it? Once printed in the Book, is it simply forgotten? Or does God have more to tell us before we lock and load and fire, to complete the assignment?"

I said in response: "If you are asking, I can answer."

From what you say here, however, it's clear by your next post where you recommend researching Denver's writings you weren't asking a question you wanted any of us to answer.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

Rob,

Zion does begin with us governing ourselves - by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom.

That law is the Golden Rule.

Those principles are the commandments of the Golden Rule, which collectively are known as The Sermon on the Mount.

Hence The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

3 Nephi 15:9-10

9 Behold, I am the law, and the light. Look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live; for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life.

10 Behold, I have given unto you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments. And this is the law and the prophets, for they truly testified of me.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

We can really make ourselves miserable with what we perceive to be from God and in reality is just our own stubborn interpretations. We must overcome our unbelief and our egos in order to continue in light and grow as a spiritual being worthy of more light. You can philosophize and justify many sins by scriptures, or conversely, that many actions are sins, by the scriptures. Turning yourself in circles until you are so dizzy, you literally can't see the truth. God does not have part in our every dispute - most of the time it is our problem alone.

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

Regarding the SC (1 of 2),

I have noticed a partiality for or against the SC, depending upon their (SC) position, for or against the document being pitched. They have at times leaned too much one way or another, but seems to have self corrected, to maintain neutrality. When you're in heavy surf, waves crashing all around you, rip tides pulling one way, against your desired position, ...neutrality is tough to hold and maintain. Self correction is a difficult work in and of itself, and we haven't even begun to describe the complexity of catching and surfing a wave.

I have heard complaint from the Lotster's, most recently Jim O'Rullian and Steve VanLeer, concerning them being disgruntled with the refusing of the SC to let them print their document. They think they have done sufficient for the vote to be cast and to be done, and are frustrated by the SC, ...so they turn to accuse them of having too much power over the executing of the assignment. Whereas if they were the executors, they'd already accept their own document, right? Of course they would have their justification that they have percentages, they have the odds of the lots, they have made the phone calls, etc. and so forth. And their argument is that the SC is unjust, and needs to get out

of this.

People in their circles of influence have chimed in, to add credibility to their opinions against the SC. Adrian's most recent proposal here looks harmless at a quick glance, but is couched in terms of reasoning, that what he understands what God is looking for, “actually is” exactly what God is looking for. His suggestion for a vote at the conference to remind us not to dispute, just before asking if anyone will dispute, is like holding an axe overhead and asking, do you support the lots document? It’s already in dispute, but the strategy seems to be to make a lot of noise celebrating the win, so no one can hear the dispute. If God works in whispers, through the meek, through babes, …how will they ever here God talking when they’ve already begun the celebration? To make it worse, those who dispute will be interviewed to “hear their view?” So, we are going to send two home teachers, to “hear them out?” …And then what? Blood atonement, …or something similar symbolically like cutting them off if their reasons aren’t good enough (like most people already think about LOG/Jared Livesay)? There are legitimate reasons that this is repeating actions, expecting the by-product of success.

By simply removing the thing that seems to most obviously be in the way, the SC, what then will fill its place? This assignment is to end the committee mindset, end the hierarchy, to be mutually agreeable, to be self-governed, instead of just looking like we be mutually agreeable, being governed by voting. If it’s self-governed, …who knows what that looks like, right?! Thus, the need for God’s part.

The way Zion “grinds to dust” the kingdoms of man is not by force, it is by faith and pure intelligence. They begin with a seed, within the laws of controlling government, because they live a law of self-governance far higher than the controlling government, producing no interference with the world. Our citizens will live far above their laws, based upon “Principles.”

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

(2 of 2)

That’s why I think this assignment is not accomplished by any of the documents on the table. Where is the solution written in the proposed Governing Principles for NEVER requiring a committee to settle disputes, differences, mutual agreement? The laws set forth in the statement of principles must represent the law that would go forth, to establish how we govern ourselves so far above the governments of the world, that we can live in peace, even within their ruling and reigning with blood and horror.

I hate the idea of a hierarchy, but I have no problem with referee’s, if they maintain neutrality and call the game fair, until we establish this Governing Principles that no longer require them.

The scripture committee has my support, until something comes forth that represents God’s part.

Rob Adolpho

PS. I received a call regarding me using names, and coming off as a personal attack. I do not intend to address anything more than the argument put forward. I address names since they are the ones promoting the idea, and in this forum, simply addressing ideas has no relevance in isolated terms. I cannot address anonymous, since they seem to want to add to the conversation, without being accountable for their input. Besides, I already screwed up with associating James Fargo (THE REAL JAMES) with James II, …and I’m grateful to know that I was addressing the wrong guy, so I can self-correct. I

expect to be held accountable for everything I put forth, and hold myself accountable to try to add light each time. If I've have hurt, I did not intend to. I write my ideas carefully, so that I address the ideas and not the people. I believe the people are good, but the ideas, …well, I think they suck. I'm trying to not suck so bad. In the white culture of Utah, it is polite to address a large group, hoping that those within the group get the hint, but not directly. That might be your method of approach, but it is not mine, and it doesn't come off as kind to me at all. Most times it seems passive aggressive. However, some may just be reserved, and I can respect that about them, celebrating that they are getting involved, like Matt Lohmeier. I appreciated the call, and cleared the air, regarding the matter. But, perhaps those who have been named may feel the same way. E kala mai ia'u (please excuse).

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

I agree about the law, but I stand differently about the Rock document. You ok with me having my opinion, not colliding with yours? I know you have a strong stance, and I get that. Stand all you must, brutha!

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda February 16, 2018

Oh, perfect. So, ...we good?

Rob Adolpho

- Log February 16, 2018

Rob,

I am just explaining why the answer is what it is. If you still question whether the Lord's law and commandments is his guide and standard, then you are not persuaded that his path is the only way and hence you look elswhere for light.

You are, of course, permitted whatsoever thoughts you care to think - it's not like I have any power, real or imagined, to make it otherwise.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

Devin, do you want Jared to leave the covenant group, to be as one of the billions who has not received it? Is that a preference or a wish? "Team player?"

For Jared or anyone else who feels they entered into this covenant opportunity, I openly accept them. I want to welcome and embrace them, not looking for legalistic ways to say they are "disqualified?" or cannot participate or be here in this moment. I will not interpret what they feel in their hearts as Christ's will for their lives.

Jared believes this is where he is to be, I welcome him. Perhaps he, like Esther of old, has been brought to be among us for such a time as this...

I do not view Zion as a "team" we need to recruit "players" for. I actually find that idea rather offensive. This is not a game to me nor I am here to be a "team player." I am here to come unto Christ and all that entails, which is built upon learning to love others and to

offer them charity.

I believe others who have not yet awakened to the truth and knowledge we have been given will come because of Christ, His love, and an awakening of a seed planted in their hearts long ago by Messiah; not because their "team Zion" made it to the 'Celestial Bowl'...What a tragic thought!

Our words and actions will speak, are speaking, our love or lack thereof...that is what I feel to repent of most right now.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

I do not feel Jared is holding me hostage, never have. You have asked some questions that would be good to take up with Christ the Lord.

I am choosing to accept someone/anyone who feels they are part of this covenant opportunity, without reserve and with a desire to learn with them how to love others.

I have concern at this point that some are looking for ways to "disqualify" Jared or not be required to include him in our mutual agreement. I hope my concerns are baseless.

We should be focused upon getting our hearts right before Christ, seeking His heart and mind and will in order to create a statement of principles that will enable a people to truly become His PEOPLE.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

I always feel more hopeful after reading your comments, Rob. (Not to be weird or praising about it.) I am feeling much disheartened this morning. Christ's words to be tender with one another, to love one another ring in my ears constantly. I feel beaten down, literally. It's as though people do not care about the heart work, their heart work, and only want what they want. I am willing to not dispute, but my heart is broken...I feel no sense of rejoicing over US. Lori

PS-Rob, I am genuinely interested in learning more about what can be offered by building upon what Joseph left us in the King Follett Sermon. I hope time enough will be given. God bless.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

PS-I do not always agree with Jared or how he expresses things. I do not believe I need to. I do not agree with most on this G&S issue. But I do need to be willing to listen and learn. I am willing. I am also willing to meet Jared where he feels he needs to stand, and not because I think one of us is above the other either. But because I looked at what he is able to offer and I see truth, wisdom, and light. I see teachings, doctrine, and commandments I want to build my life upon. People are important to me.

- Dani February 16, 2018

Although have met many beautiful souls in this movement, I largely don't understand this people.

You reject the words of Christ as found in the scriptures and the power of the Holy Ghost to teach you all things saying these are insufficient guides.

You would direct those who know nothing of God's work to follow a man (to curse them), a man who says that he finds such reverencing of him "disgusting."

http://denversnuffer.com/2013/12/disgusting/

You ignore God's command for mutual agreement and invent ways to get around it: claiming what God really meant was majority rules or that dissenters are not "of the body."

You profess love with your lips, while you bitterly refuse to leave the 99 to save the one.

Having no disputations among us is not a matter of shutting up claiming unity when we are actually divided. We will not be able to withstand God if we are clinging to the leg of another and thus do not know why we stand where we stand. Look what happens to the chaff after all.

Zion must be built up on principles of righteousness. We receive more faith as we are faithful. We understand repentance by repenting. We understand obedience as we obey. We are willing to sacrifice when we are filled with the pure Love Of Christ.

I agree with the Saunders that we should give people the benefit of the doubt and believe that we are all doing the best we know how. That doesn't mean we can't learn how to do better.I agree with the Adolfos that we should not be in such a rush and instead allow ourselves to take whatever time we need to become of one heart. God has already spoken this to a few of you, giving you revelation to believe. And I agree with Jared that we should seek to direct first ourselves and then others to obeying Christ's commandments that we may know Him.

To see if we will obey is, afterall, the reason we are here (see Abraham 6:1).
So when it comes to things of Eternal consequence, we should be doing no more and no less than what God commands, just as Christ did no more and no less than what His Father commanded. Therefore, we should not seek to put forth things other than what God commands into any guide and standard.

Those who obey will know the Lord and be one; those who know the Lord and are one are Zion.

One more thing: For those of you who insist on using methods of control and manipulation, I formally record my dispute against the Lots document due to both the process and the final content.

May God have mercy on us,
Fawn Livesey

- Dani February 16, 2018

*Adolphos. (voice to text error)

- SomeGuy February 16, 2018

As a general observation, I think we are very much living in fear of each other. Especially when we disagree with someone we don't know very well, or have not met. There is no relationship, so fear is to be expected. You almost can't deny the fear

reaction inside the heart or mind when someone you don't know disagrees with you on something you both have placed God level stakes on. Then we just all dig in our heels. Not because we are so right, but because we are afraid of the harm we perceive the other capable of.

I think fear is often what is driving these issues. Fear that the other person will, somehow, or in some way do or say something that will or could harm you or cause you to be cursed, or cut off or displease the almighty.

My hope with this comment is to perhaps identify a root causing much of our disagreement. I believe its fear. I can only deal with my own. I pray God helps all of us come out of fear. I don't know that we can love each other while simultaneously fearing the hell out of what someone else will do to us via their G&S.

- Log February 16, 2018

Here's a question:

Which is worse? A set of scriptures without a Guide and Standard added, or a set of scriptures with a fraudulently adopted Guide and Standard added?

And, to be perfectly clear: any disputed G&S which gets added to the scriptures will have been adopted fraudulently.

For me, it seems that the scriptures with a fraudulently added Guide and Standard would be worse, since it would be conclusive public proof that this people not only cannot do what the Lord shall ask of them but will lie and decieve men to appear righteous, while scriptures without a Guide and Standard would at least be an honest admission of inability, with the potential to still get it right.

But what do you think?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Part 1

I fully support Adrian's proposal as a way to resolve any outstanding issues regarding the GS. I do so based on the following truth I believe needs to be realized and accepted by the covenant people. There have already been those who ascribe untrue motives to what I am about to say. I am not persuaded or moved by any man's voice. Here is truth. Those who fear this because it may make "waves" - I say find your guts and stand for something true.

Why has no one yet asked the question: "where does the Scripture Committee get the power, or authority, to decide anything about the GS?

There was a discrete period of time when the SC had an assignment and authority for a GS statement. That discreet appointment came and went without success on the part of the SC to produce, submit, and have accepted, a statement. There has been no indication from the Lord that the SC had, or has, any authority or power concerning the GS following the discreet assignment given it to produce a statement. This is the truth.

In the Answer and Covenant revelation, the Lord clearly (and rightly) praises the SC for

its accomplishments respecting the restoration of the scriptures. The Lord also clearly mandates a new direction for the GS initiative in that same revelation. There is nothing in the revelation that appoints any person(s), or committee, to oversee, approve, or disapprove, any aspect of the GS work. Instead, the Lord clearly assigns the covenant people to accomplish the work and present a statement to Him for inclusion in the guide and Standard, (the scriptures).

We have acted (like dumb sheep) as though the SC had some authority from some unknown source to make all kinds of calls and decisions about the GS. The authority for the SC to make any binding calls about any aspect of the GS process ended when they failed to produce, and present, and include, an acceptable statement to the Lord before the covenant revelation.

More.....

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Part 2

I am not afraid of truth. I love it, and embrace it regardless of whose proverbial tally whacker may get stepped on while revealing it. I love and respect our fellows on the SC. I really do! I have come to love Chris Hamill and consider him my brother. But, I'm sorry, I am not able to find where the SC has any legitimate authority or power with respect to the GS post A&C?? As I have already stated, precedence does not a law make, especially when it is without merit.

The SC inserted itself into a process that now belongs to the people alone. It ended up making decisions in the name of equity and justice that really just messed things up! A lot!!!

This is not to scold or to dispute with anyone. I'm simply pointing out what I believe to be absolutely true. No more, no less. (And with very little tact and diplomacy - I know)

The proper thing to do from here is to allow the people to conduct the people's business unimpeded by any one, or any committee, who have no more authority than what might be allotted by the people. Which authority hasn't been legally allotted (except by the people's apathy and acquiescence)? Since we are aspiring to be a people who will not abide anybody usurping power among us, this is a perfect time for us to say, whoops! We messed that one up! and allowed usurped power when we never should have. Let's deal with the whole thing honestly, and with a spirit of love, humility, and repentance, and just move on. Let's let it go.

If the people were unfettered to do the people's business as Mosiah suggests we should, (Mosiah 29), the people would finish the assigned work better than if there was any overseer besides the Lord. The directives and suggestions of the Lord have been earnestly sought after, with a genuine desire to do only His will, for completion of this assignment. The common consent voice of the people has become a travesty that must be re-established if Zion is ever to come among us. Even one more "vote" will fairly kill any confidence among this people that their voice means anything at all.

I ask the SC to step aside with respect to the GS process and its outcomes. The SC has no authority over the GS, or the covenant people whose job and assignment it is to provide it to the Lord. Precedent at this point has no meaning regardless of past decisions and judgements. If precedent ever did have any binding meaning after the SC was decommissioned from the GS responsibility by the Lord in the Answer and

Covenant revelation, it was only the lazy acquiescing nature of a people who have been too accustomed to being led like dumb sheep that created the allusion of authority in the SC. Furthering past mistakes will not fix or help anything going forward. Truth assures this.

By this, I do not want, or desire, division of any kind, with any man, (or woman). I ask every concerned soul to go to God and ask if the truth has been spoken here or not. I desire only to serve and please our God who is truth.

Steve VanLeer

- Log February 16, 2018

Actually, the appeals to the SC are simply a matter of expedience since they are the only people among us with actual power to put anything in the scriptures.

That's why it's logically necessary to gain the SC's complicity in any scheme to defraud the Lord of his requirement that a G&S be adopted by mutual agreement.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

The Lord's requirement is mutual agreement, mind, not "the voice of the people," also called "majority rules," which should not be followed, according to the Book of Mormon and the Lord's observation in the A&C that this people does not desire that which is right.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

All who will, may humbly join those who do mutually agree. Disagreement and failure to unite is lesser by far. Choice by agency is sacrosanct.

- Log February 16, 2018

Truth and righteousness takes precedence over agreement.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

What do I think? I think you are perfectly right in what you say! A fraudulent GS would be one where a whole people were held hostage by one who disagreed with the people’s voice yet prevailed to have his wishes granted. That’s what I think. You’re right! I agree!

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Agreement, “you choose not to dispute among you”, is righteousness and acceptable to Him. Agreement in Christ is Godly and righteous! All who will, are invited to unite with those who already agree together in Christ and choose not to dispute among us.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

"Since we are aspiring to be a people who will not abide anybody usurping power among us..."

Steve, that is not even on my radar. I am aspiring to fill my heart with love for everyone both within this covenant and presently without. At one time I had felt like there was a majority who were imposing their will upon me as they pushed forward their ideas and wants. But I am choosing to offer charity and not feel forced or compelled, much as I do not feel held hostage by Jared. I still very much disagree with the lots document, but I would rather break my heart than break the bonds of this family.

I am sorry if you feel like the SC has taken some kind of control over this process. May I suggest you extend charity and try to understand their reasoning? Perhaps Christ has spoken to them that we truly do not have our hearts right yet? Perhaps we are lacking yet as a whole? Perhaps we have taken a misstep and need to correct ourselves?

I do not desire for the members of the SC to step down, aside, or to walk away. Their work is unfinished yet. I trust this process still yet. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

If all we ever choose to believe is that every G&S other than our chosen one is "fraudulent" how are we ever to fulfill Christ's command? Are we truly unable to learn how to cooperate in a spirit of love and respect? It appears we do not know Who we worship.

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

Lori,

A fraudulent G&S is one that is published in the scriptures despite its adoption being disputed.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

Also, if a G&S is adopted fraudulently, that is, despite being disputed and thus not fulfilling the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, it is not men who have been defrauded, save it be those innocents whom the document and its proponents lead to destruction, but the Lord who has been defrauded.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

I bid my anonymous interlocutor to ponder the following words, keeping in mind the majority, who, of course, are united.

Exodus 23:22 You shall not side with the majority to do evil; neither shall you speak in a dispute to get the majority to pervert justice.

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

The tail wagging the dog.

- Log February 16, 2018

That is a consequence of the Lord requiring mutual agreement. That analogy, however, could be replaced with the image of a rock climber who took too great a risk and is hanging onto a rock with one hand stuck in the crevasse of a rock while the rest of her dangles over an abyss, the fall into which would kill her. Evil spirits counsel her to despair, take her knife and sever her hand, and fall.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

Fortunately we all left the LDS church in order to resolve your issues with “siding with the majority to do evil”. And you have had little success in persuading the majority to Pervert justice. So we seem to be good on all points! You have the most uncanny way of pointing out how things really are Jared! Thank you once again!

- Log February 16, 2018

Perverting justice and doing evil in this case would be advocating the fraudulent adoption of a guide and standard which is disputed.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

And perverting justice and doing evil also would include attempts to suborn the SC into complicity with any scheme which may possibly result in the fraudulent adoption of a disputed G&S.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

You are not more sincere than others.

- Log February 16, 2018

I only have to be telling the truth.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

What an analogy, can I join the rock climbing one with some thoughts of my own? (Read with some humor)

Dangling on the rock with a hand that refuses to move or even allow other body parts a valid point of view (hence the dangling) ain't nobody goin nowhere....

Turns out the other body parts do work. The one hand is too stuck to see that the other hand is also holding on, just at a different spot. The feet too are functional but don't speak up that much due to how loudly the one hand keeps insisting it's right. But alas, the hand says it's permanently stuck. Can't even see the feet. Or see much of anything in that crevasse. So the feet wait patiently and quietly, and jokingly amuse themselves that there is scriptural precedent for cutting off a hand that offends rather than the whole body perish.

Ok I'm done. This was not meant to be overly serious. If the body is described as uselessly dangling by a hand then we ought to get to have a little fun in response. :). A good laugh does a body good.

If we are going to disagree I hope to at least smile as we work through it. I can only wonder how fun it is for a hand to be carrying all that weight from a crevasse. :)

Jared please know I intend no offense. Just using the analogy to express another view.

- Log February 16, 2018

Your humor does suggest to my mind a question: why should there be any disagreement about taking the Lord Jesus Christ for our guide and standard among his nominal people?

What could the possible point of disagreement actually be? Thus far, nobody has offered anything that wasn't self-contradictory or in contradiction to the scriptures.

If we wish to walk in his paths, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we do so.

If we truly want unity and peace amongst ourselves, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we obtain it.

If we want Zion, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we obtain it.

If we want to enter into the presence of Christ, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we do so.

If we want to see and know what Joseph knew - for he said if you could but gaze into heaven for 5 minutes you'd know more than you would ever know by reading everything ever written on the subject (which means that reading other's experiences does not give you knowledge) - it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we do so.

All these are the things people say they want - what therefore can their objection to accepting, practicing, and teaching his law and commandments actually be?

What can possibly excuse doing anything else?

Jared Livesey

- Log February 16, 2018

Just to fulfil the forms: I reject Adrian's proposal.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

I, as a nobody, would like to say that:
I love and support Adrian’s Proposal. I like the way the lots’ document has come to pass along with the content and see great benefits/needs met in handling it the way Adrian has proposed. It seems to move forward wisely (as the people have already voted) and seems to meet all scriptural priorities all while being a fair and (realistically) do-able approach to sort out any concerns or problems individuals may see.

The brother of Jared asked to find a way to light the vessels yet, the Lord left it to him to figure it out, imperfections and all. The Lord accepted his best proposal and made it work. To me this isn’t all that different conceptually. We can only strive for our best, love eachother along the journey, and come to a conclusion to present to the Lord. Let’s not delay and allow the Lord decide if our efforts were worthy! I fear further delay or beginning again is unnecessary for the result the Lord is requiring. It won’t be Perfect and we won’t have done it perfectly... we are but highly imperfect people with good desires. But if we worked meekly and with all that we could ...it doesn’t mean the Lord can’t make it work perfectly, in the end. Forgive me if I’m wrong, I very well may be. But this is why I support Adrian’s proposal as the best way moving forward and laying down our effort to the Lord.

- Log February 16, 2018

I suppose I need hardly point out these things -

If we truly want to love one another and be filled with charity and regard each other as precious, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we obtain it.

If we truly wish to be free from all servitude to sin, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we obtain it.

If we truly wish to fulfil the assignment of producing the G&S according to his commands, it is only in and through keeping Christ's law and commandments that we do so.

Since the solution has been before us for a while, what is the true objection of Christ's nominal people to acknowledging, practicing, and teaching Christ's law and commandments, when they have by covenant already agreed to do exactly these things (Covenant Questions 1, 2, 3, and 4, and the Lord's commandments in response to those who entered into the covenant)?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 16, 2018

I agree with your approach. Thank you. And thanks to everyone and their best efforts to obey the lords command. Hope to see you all in March.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

Jared, what is your perspective on why both moments in history where Christ Himself taught His law and doctrine did not bring about Zion?

It struck me recently that even though two groups had Him and the commandments, neither survived intact sufficiently long enough to produce a third Zion.

I guess I am wondering what the first two groups (City of Enoch and Salem) had and accomplished that the latter two (three, including Joseph's moment) did not. A fulness of scriptures? A father?

I am sincerely curious to hear your perspective (and from others) on if a statement of principles comprised only of what you propose is sufficient to truly create a group of diverse individuals with one heart and one mind. Or could something more/different be required? After all, Zion is and will be unlike anything we are at present familiar with. Hence our great struggles at present. Lori

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 16, 2018

Lori,

Yes, The Rock of Jesus Christ is sufficient to bring forth Zion if Christ's words are believed sincerely and done as written with an eye single to God's glory, no matter the cost to oneself. No more. No less.

As for your question about why the Jews and the Nephites failed to bring forth Zion, that is best answered by the Lord. I will give a hint, though: notice there is nothing in his doctrine about teachers, priests, and elders, yet the Nephites had these nominal distinctions among them, thus they were not equal. Notice that in the Sermon in Matthew and in Luke, there are not prophets, evangelists, apostles, seventy, bishops, deacons, elders, and whatnot, yet the Jews had them, thus they were not equal.

How can we ever be one if we are not determinedly, purposefully equal? Thus there cannot be committees, prophets, managers, leaders, rich, poor, "authorized servants," and whatnot among us. This shouldn't be a problem, since they aren't a part of Christ's doctrine. Each man must stand for himself before God, exercise faith for himself, and keep the Lord's commandments for himself.

There cannot be any greater than the least of us. We cannot be respecters of persons;

we cannot esteem any man higher than any other man, for that is to transgress the law of God (James 2:9).

The Sermon is equality in action. But this, and other things concerning the law of God, can only be understood by actually putting it into practice as it is written. Therefore, if any would learn from God the meaning of his law, and understand the problem that it solves, go put the Sermon into action. Put it to the test, in prayer and faith, and see what happens. Plant the seed, the Sermon, in your heart by believing it uncritically and literally, even as a child would understand it, and tend it in prayer and faith and deeds.

Jared Livesey

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

Where can I read a complete copy of the AC?

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Michael, that can be found on Denver's website on the downloads page underneath the heading PDF Downloads. Look for Answer and Covenant. Here is a direct link: http://denversnuffer.com/papers/.

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

Jared, do you really know you were acknowledged by God as having entered into His covenant? And if you do, does that mean you eventually received an answer to your post conference inquiries as to whether the Boise covenant was of Him (ie His covenant)?
And again, if you do know you were acknowledged by God as having entered His covenant when you (in your own words) lied at the conference, how did you come to know this? Did you actually here his voice, were you infused with the knowledge that you had entered into a covenant He offered in Boise (even though you lied), or are you reasoning from some text? Please reply.

P.S. to be clear, I'm requesting that you answer these questions here, and if you are really trying to live the sermon on the mount, I remind you that you've stated (rightly or wrongly) that one of the implications is that we grant all requests made of us. Please reply.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Thank you, Jared. There is much I just don't comprehend yet about what we are trying to create here; so little has been revealed, at least to me. I do know it has to begin in myself and in my home though, not esteeming myself higher than others. And living the talk of Christ's law is definitely a challenging task I am taking seriously. Sometimes it all simply makes sense, as I study the scriptures, but there are some strong personalities here and everyone shouts...and I care about individuals... Thanks again for answering me. I will continue to seek. Lori

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

Thank you.

- Log February 17, 2018

Michael,

All I have to say on the subject is all I have already said here, and as you have read it, you know all I have to say on the subject.

To be clear: I have nothing more to say on the subject than what you have read.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 17, 2018

Hi Fawn and Jared. You (Fawn) have said you don't understand this people, and I really understand that. I also don't completely understand what is going on with us. I have also not understood some particulars of your perspective and Jared's, so since I fall under the category of those you don't understand, i hope you'll be patient with me while I explain why I haven't been able to see eye to eye (or heart to heart) on The Rock document thus far.

I agree that the Doctrine of Christ and Sermons should be in any document we adopt. One of my hang ups has been your (Jared's) insistence that we can't used quotes that come from Denver, using the cursed is the arm of the flesh verse. This has seem wrongly applied to me, and insistence that we can't use any of that appears wrong to me, not because I revere the man, but because I believe that doing otherwise is faithful to this scripture: RE 3 Nephi 13:5 says, “And woe be unto him that will not hearken unto the words of Jesus and also to them whom he hath chosen and sent among them; for whoso receiveth not the words of Jesus and the words of those whom he hath sent, receiveth not him, and therefore he will not receive them at the last day."

This does not say we are cursed if we receive the words of the people He has sent. Rather, it curses those who don't. If we must not use any words or messages from Christ that came through imperfect vessels, than we could not use any that came from scripture. Even the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermons came to us through such imperfect vessels. What seems to matter most is if the God of heaven is the originator of that specific message or quote. So, to me, to say we can't have a guide and standard with quotes from a specific messenger sounds like a rejection. Using the Sermons and the Doctrine of Christ makes perfect sense to me, but having those two things at the exclusion of any other things God has seen fit to give us through an imperfect vessel, that He may expect us to observe or know in addition to them, doesn't seem like something I should agree to. To do that sounds like the "some of Christ" described as inheritors of a Telestial glory in LE D&C 76 because we're willing to receive some specific parts (granted, they are very important parts) of what He's given us, but not all. "And because that I have spoken one word, ye need not suppose that I cannot speak another, for my work is not yet finished, neither shall it be until the end of man, neither from that time henceforth and forever."

There's also this verse in RE 3 Nephi 5:10 "...and behold, he stretched forth his hand unto the multitude and cried unto them, saying, Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you and to be your servants. And unto them I have given power that they may baptize you with water; and after that ye are baptized with water, behold, I will baptize you with fire and with the Holy Ghost. Therefore, blessed are ye if ye shall believe in me and be baptized after that ye have seen me and know that I am. *And again, more blessed are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me and that ye know that I am.* Yea, blessed are they who shall believe in your words and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized, for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost and shall receive a remission of their sins..."

-Sarah S

To be Continued...

- Anonymous February 17, 2018

Part 2

To place that last verse in the correct context, this was the Nephites gathered at Bountiful that Christ was speaking to. They were the "more righteous" who were spared. They were the ones who had all seen Christ in their own Second Comforter ordinance at the beginning of this visit. This does not say that those who heed their words are cursed. It says the opposite. Those that heed their words are *blessed*. It even says that they that heed their words are *more blessed*. As an aside, I have wondered why they could possibly be more blessed. I think it may be because those who have received the Word of God to fruition are enabled to not just be blessed themselves, but also to be the means of blessing others, but that's not relevant right now.

The difference between blessing others or not seems to be in the Word of God. If we have some of it and don't share it, we are not blessing anyone, but we are cursing ourselves. Likewise if we have some of it, and share it, but someone it is shared with does not receive it, they are cursed. They would have been cursed less if we hadn't shared it, but then we would have removed their opportunity to be blessed by it. But we can't bless anyone without the Word of God, despite the risk of them being cursed by it. This is why your (Jared's) reasoning on what should go in the guide and standard, based on blessing or cursing also doesn't make sense to me. The Word of God has the potential to bless and curse, even the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermons. The Word only curses those who won't live according to the direction and knowledge He's given us, or those who would abuse it for their own gain. But we can't be blessed without it. The Answer says our guide and standard must bless others. If we include things from Him, despite all the imperfect vessels all of His written word has gone through, then we are allowing them the opportunity to be blessed.

I'm not trying to be pigheaded, but maybe I will seem that way. I am looking for a better understanding of this mess from God. I really do want to do this the right way, with a document that meets the criteria and is pleasing to the Lord. I believe this is what you both want to. The above reasons are why I seem to be at odds with you, though I don't want to be. This is why I can't exclude other documents from the running. This is why The Rock does not seem like the best one to fit the criteria to me so far. Hopefully, this helps us to understand each other better, even if we still don't see eye to eye.

-Sarah S

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 17, 2018

Michael,

I have answered you as far as I am going to on this subject.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 17, 2018

Sarah,

Though you have addressed my wife, may I respond?

Jared Livesey

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

Jared,

I don't see answers to these questions here, but I haven't read every comment you've posted on every comment thread here, and some of these threads are quite long, and maybe (as you've suggested elsewhere) I'm a little dull sometimes--so if you have answered the questions I asked here anywhere, would you please kindly repeat yourself here?

For your convenience, I will repeat myself.

The questions are these:

Do you really KNOW you were acknowledged by God as having entered into His covenant?

And if you do, does that mean you eventually received an answer to your post-conference inquiries regarding whether the Boise covenant was of Him (ie His covenant)?

And if you do know you were acknowledged by God as having entered His covenant (when you, in your own words, lied at the conference) how did you come by this knowledge?

Did you actually hear his voice?

Were you infused with the knowledge that you had entered into a covenant He offered in Boise (even though you lied)?

Or are you reasoning from some text?

As a courtesy, please reply.

Or make plain that you are refusing my request.

- Anonymous February 17, 2018

What's that word for someone who preaches one thing but does another?

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

Does that mean you're publically refusing the above request?

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Michael, if I may ask...this convo, what is your intention? Why do you only want Jared to

respond?

For me, I am done with people throwing shade on Jared for his willingness to be honest, to suggest he should not be here, or any other version of "we don't want you."

He's here. Let's learn to accept and love folks where they are at in their journeys. There are a lot of people in this world who do not look, sound, or even believe in ways we think they ought. If we cannot learn to be accepting of one such as Jared, we surely are unwilling to love and accept a polygamous family or gang member or politician.

We must learn to focus on what we do have in common and let Christ build us up together from there.

Truly we are all imperfect and very flawed. Let us drop our tendencies toward Pharisaical accusations and debates and cloak each other in charity with love unfeigned. We are not Christ's until we are willing to do that.

Will others unfamiliar with The Living Christ recognize Him in our words and actions here? Do any of us bear His image in our countenances? Or are we still marred by our treatment of each other? Let's come unto Christ and be healed by Him, and thus be healed in our relationships. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Is it refusing when he has already answered elsewhere? Please stop this. If you are upset, angry, frustrated, or otherwise disgruntled by something Jared or anyone else has said or done, please take it to Christ. Let Him heal, soothe, and bear you up. HE WANTS US TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER. Please, let's try and do that. Please.

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

"Is it refusing when he has already answered elsewhere?"

Yes it is, because I haven't read any answer to these questions anywhere, and I asked him to repeat himself here if I missed something.

That was my request, and if he has answered these questions somewhere, and he refuses to repeat himself here, he is refusing my request.

"If you are upset, angry, frustrated, or otherwise disgruntled by something Jared or anyone else has said or done, please take it to Christ."

I just got done praying for Jared, all my aquaintances, all their families, and all those they hold dear

I didn't say I was angry or upset about anything, and I would respectfully ask you to stop judging me unrighteously, and to stop imputing motives to me.

- Log February 17, 2018

Michael,

It means what it means.

If you want to know from God on whether Joseph was a prophet, the Book of Mormon to be true, Denver Snuffer a true or false servant, the covenant to be from God, and if it is whether you should enter it, ask of God and not men.

Ask of God, and you shall receive.
Knock, and it shall be opened to you.

And cursed is he who trusts in man, and who takes flesh to be his guide, and whose heart departs from the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 17, 2018

Michael:

I have already answered you on these questions as far as I will answer you on these questions. You have read what I have written here: you already have been answered as far as I will answer you.

Jared Livesey

- Dani February 17, 2018

Part 1 of 2

Sarah, I will attempt to answer you to the best of my ability. I do not have the gifts of Jared to know the scriptures as he does, so I ask that you extend me charity as I will probably miss something.
You cite this scripture:
RE 3 Nephi 13:5 says, “And woe be unto him that will not hearken unto the words of Jesus and also to them whom he hath chosen and sent among them; for whoso receiveth not the words of Jesus and the words of those whom he hath sent, receiveth not him, and therefore he will not receive them at the last day."
Regarding those Christ chose and sent, 3 Nephi 13:4 says, “They did go forth upon the face of the land and did minister unto all the people, uniting as many to the church as would believe in their preaching, baptizing them, and as many as were baptized did receive the Holy Ghost.”
My understanding is that this is the purpose of the prophets to cry repentance and faith in Christ and to renew the commandment for baptism. I accept that and did accept that in recent years, both before and after hearing that message repeated by Denver Snuffer. So, yes, if we are going to say that Denver is one of these called servants, that is how we receive them and that is what we are required to believe.
Sarah, you say,
“Using the Sermons and the Doctrine of Christ makes perfect sense to me, but having those two things at the exclusion of any other things God has seen fit to give us through an imperfect vessel, that He may expect us to observe or know in addition to them, doesn't seem like something I should agree to.”
Who says you can’t preach Denver Snuffer if you want to? Go ahead. There is no provision for saying that anything that is outside the Guide & Standard is suddenly banned from our instruction, but it is the body that is trying to force what others must

accept. The Rock of Jesus Christ contains nothing that has not already been supposedly accepted by this body as followers of Christ, so to say that it “doesn’t seem like something [you] should agree to” doesn’t make sense to me. (The small little preface statements to my mind are the same as the preface statement that the lots document includes, basically saying this is what this is and can be changed.—from my perspective, not necessarily Jared’s).
You also cite this scripture:
RE 3 Nephi 5:10 "...and behold, he stretched forth his hand unto the multitude and cried unto them, saying, Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you and to be your servants. And unto them I have given power that they may baptize you with water; and after that ye are baptized with water, behold, I will baptize you with fire and with the Holy Ghost. Therefore, blessed are ye if ye shall believe in me and be baptized after that ye have seen me and know that I am. *And again, more blessed are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me and that ye know that I am.* Yea, blessed are they who shall believe in your words and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized, for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost and shall receive a remission of their sins..."

Two things here: 1- Ask yourself who are “these twelve”. Since that is very specific, why should we presume that Christ was speaking of anyone other than the specific individuals he mentions? 2- notice that what Christ asks people to receive of these twelve is the same as discussed above faith and baptism so that they (or we if you prefer) can receive the Holy Ghost.

- Dani February 17, 2018

Part 2 of 2

The scriptures are pretty clear what happens then:
2 Nephi 14:1 “And now, behold, my beloved brethren, I suppose that ye ponder somewhat in your hearts concerning that which ye should do after ye have entered in by the way. But behold, why do ye ponder these things in your hearts? Do ye not remember that I said unto you that after ye had received the Holy Ghost ye could speak with the tongue of angels? And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels save it were by the Holy Ghost? Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost, wherefore they speak the words of Christ. Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ, for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do. Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye cannot understand them, it will be because ye ask not neither do ye knock. Wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark. For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do. Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and there will be no more doctrine given until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. And when he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh, the things which he shall say unto you shall ye observe to do.
Ultimately, it comes down to whether we accept the truth of the scriptures, and the scriptures state that we must receive the message of faith in Christ through repentance and baptism to go any further and further means receiving the Holy Ghost.
As for the lots G&S, it makes statements that are problematic at best. For example,

As a people, we agreed to the following methodology in its creation:

As you can see, since agreement in this task, according to the Lord, means mutual agreement and not majority rules, this claim reads falsely.

Again, the lots document:

we confined ourselves to the words of the Lord as found in our canonized scriptures and given to His servants Joseph Smith Jr. and Denver Snuffer Jr.

As far as I know, there is no reason to suppose that the words from Joseph Smith or from Denver Snuffer are “words of the Lord” since that would be prefaced by a statement such as that found in the A&C document: “I, the Lord say to you:…”
Sarah, you say, “I agree that the Doctrine of Christ and Sermons should be in any document we adopt.”
The lots document says something similar and then actually leaves the Sermon out:
The greatest instruction given by God at any time, to any generation, is a rule of community found in the Sermon on the Mount9 and in the Sermon at Bountiful.10 The Law of Christ is found there.11

The lots document cites the commandment that the statement be an “agreed statement of principles” while at the same time, this group is pushing this statement even though it is not agreed upon.
The lots document uses these words from Denver Snuffer to address the gathering of people:
Fellowships are informal, based only on the Doctrine of Christ, and require acceptance of Christ’s simple statement of His doctrine, faith to believe and act, repentance from sin and baptism.

It then lays out other standards by which people will apparently be judged:

There can be conferences that can be called by anyone, but must include seven women if the
business includes priesthood ordination.

If there are no poor among you, then excess donations should go to the temple, but they can be shared as your fellowship determines by common consent.68

…to name a few. And the “answer” to the lots document has similar problems.

- Dani February 17, 2018

Sorry for the weird formatting.

- MichaelBurke February 17, 2018

"If you want to know from God on whether Joseph was a prophet, the Book of Mormon to be true, Denver Snuffer a true or false servant, the covenant to be from God, and if it is whether you should enter it, ask of God and not men."

I am asking God these things, and I am trying to live the sermon on the mount while I wait for an answer from Him, and I asked you none of these things.

What I asked you was whether you ever received an answer to your inquiries regarding the covenant offered in Boise

By your own admission you didn't know it was of God when you said you did, and said you accepted it in Boise, and were asking God whether it was of Him long after the conference was over

Did you ever receive an answer?

And when you rhetorically ask what one should do if he's discovered that he's entered into a covenant he didn't qualify for, and that he was acknowledged by God as having entered in, does that imply that you now KNOW that the covenant offered in Boise was of God, and that He views you as having entered into it (even though your participation was, by your own account, based on a lie)?

And have you received this knowledge by some kind of direct, non-transferable infussion of knowledge, or are you using reason and deduction (ie reasoning from the text of the AC, and/or some other text or texts)?

These are the questions I'm asking you to answer here (while I'm asking God those other questions, trying to live by the sermon on the mount, and waiting for His answers to those questions I asked Him.)

These questions are for you Jared, not for God.

You are capable of answering them, I believe they're all relevant here (and probably of interest to others), and I ask you to answer them here (or to go the extra mile and repeat yourself here if you have answered them somewhere else.)

If you are trying to live the sermon on the mount, please answer these questions directly and clearly.

Thank you.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Are we stressing you out, Lynne. I'm sorry. I think people are just trying to communicate and understand all this. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet February 17, 2018

Thank you for sharing a bit of your story. Investigator = cool bean. :)

I am sorry for your loss and I hope your father has been able to experience some good recovery. It can be a long time though. My father passed when I was only 20. I am sorry you have experienced the loss of a parent. It is painful.

I don't even know what to offer about us as a group in this moment. We are still sorting ourselves out, though I would definitely say our hearts are true to what we believe and are filled with hope for Christ. I think it will be a tricky matter to discern Christ in our midst unless one is firmly grounded in scripture.

From my perspective, folks have felt Christ pointing them toward one proposal over all the others. Unfortunately we are not all feeling it is the same one. It is what it is, and I agree with them all for the sake of not disputing anyone.

Denver is not fallen, in my thinking and heart. He could fall, and for that we must each learn to discern and be watchful while not putting him up on a pedestal. Denver does not

want us doing that anyway. It isn't about him, and that is what he declares, repeatedly, for years now. It is about Christ and His work. Would we have a message without a messenger? No, but it should never become about the messenger for that means we're not looking to Christ. Would we be here with a covenant if not for Denver? No, but if all we do is talk about Denver and point to Denver how will others truly recognize we are Christ's? I think of Nephi stating "And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophesy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins." (2 Nephi, 25:26)

I try not to hold others up to whatever stick they say they use to measure by. I fail in so many ways as a Christian myself. If I can simply love and accept others I will not stand condemned before Christ. But if I become accusatory I can expect others would be right to return the same. Natural law stuff. I've never come across an account in the scriptures where someone was condemned for loving too much. Think Anti-Nephi-Lehies.

I think Jared is doing a good work here in the group. He might be causing some heartburn, but no one would mistake that he desires to follow Christ.

Perhaps Jared is doing exactly what Christ wants him to and is still in support of the message that has come through Denver? Perhaps we all are? But you are correct that he does seem to be on his own, but not completely. I would be 100% okay with accepting his proposal. It is the foundation upon which we should all be building our lives and fellowships. Denver has even pointed that out in his writings, blog, and talks. The original Christians all agreed on the doctrine of Christ and law of Christ from His sermons. They were diverse in other ways. That is how I see this covenant family. We've got our families and fellowships, with their unique needs and issues, but those two foundation blocks are what bind us to each other.

But there are lots and lots of folks who believe we need to also share the message that has come through Denver, and that's where Jared disagrees.

I feel like if we can agree on something basic and crucial for now and figure things out later, Christ is so good and is willing to work with us, but we've got to humble ourselves as a group first and show that uniformity of love Christians ought to have one with another.

There are some different interpretations of things Christ meant in His answer to us. Hopefully we'll get ourselves sorted out. I hope you find the answers you are seeking, too. Thank you for your kindness toward me.

- Log February 18, 2018

"Don't you remember posting that?"

Didn't happen.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 18, 2018

The quick and decisive test of any of these proposals is to ask "can this proposal result in the adoption of a document whose adoption is known to be disputed?" If the answer to this question is yes, then the proposal cannot be relied upon to fulfill the Lord's requirement. We know such proposals are wrong because their outcome cannot be

known to fulfill the Lord's requirement. There is no need to consider the rationales of their proponents, as they don't matter; only the outcomes do.

The proposal by Gordon Platt, Jeanene Custer, Donald and Christy Danner, Paul Durham, and Others fails this test, as it explicitly proposes to adopt even documents whose adoption is disputed after all is said and done. Therefore, this proposal is wrong. There is no need to consider their rationales, as they don't matter.

The proposal by Adrian Larsen fails this test, as all that needs to happen for a disputed document to be adopted despite its adoption being known to be disputed is for those who dispute the adoption of that document to not show up to one of the mandated voting / mandated arbitration meetings at the conferences. This can occur, as not everyone has the means to attend the conferences. Therefore, this proposal is wrong. There is no need to consider Adrian's rationales, as they don't matter

- MichaelBurke February 18, 2018

I believe I read that.

Are you saying that you weren't still pettitioning God for an answer as to whether the covenant offered in Boise was of Him after the conference?

Please reply?

- Dani February 18, 2018

I just wanted to add that I believe that we must and that we CAN obey Christ in this task (if we will just obey Christ in this task.

(Pearls of Great Price) The Testimony of John 10:17

You will bear fruit if you follow the things I have taught you. ... I am the vine, and you are the branches. ... If you stay connected to me, and my words live in you, you will ask according to my will, and you will be given the ability to accomplish my will. ... It will please and vindicate my Father if you produce abundant fruit, and that will prove you follow me. ... Just like the Father has loved me, I have in turn likewise loved you.

- Log February 18, 2018

What you have already read is as much as I will tell you.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 18, 2018

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- Log February 18, 2018

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- Log February 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 18, 2018

There are more ways than just the mentioned method by which Adrian's proposal is known on its face to potentially, or even guaranteed to fail to accomplish what the Lord requires of us. For example, if the Lottery person and the SC person do not agree with the Lord that the Lord curses all men who trust in men, despite Question 2 in the covenant wherein we agreed to self-correct by reference to the scriptures, then a scripturally-based objection to the Lottery document - that it leads men to trust Denver Snuffer - will simply be overlooked as though the scripture didn't exist. And then the disputed document gets adopted, and the requirement of the Lord dishonored.

Since the fact that the Lottery document would curse, harm, and misinform others by bringing upon them the curse of the Lord for trusting Denver Snuffer is in fact a known scriptural objection (there are others) to adopting the Lottery document, and this objection has not resulted in any changes to the Lottery document, we have reason to suppose this, and other scriptural objections, to the Lottery document will not result in any changes to the Lottery document, and that Adrian's proposal would lead to the Lottery document's adoption in any circumstance, which entails dishonoring the Lord's requirement.

Again, the simple test of these proposals is "is it guaranteed to do what the Lord requires?" This test is conclusive for any covenant participant who indeed does desire to be one of the Lord's people, for, as he said, "accept and do what I have required." We don't want to take a chance on merely appearing to do, but in reality failing to do, what the Lord requires. Only a fool will trifle with the souls of men, said Joseph. We would be foolish to trifle with the souls of the body by these unsound, unsure, uncertain methods.

Only one of these proposals does guarantee the result of producing mutual agreement upon a guide and standard document, and this is known on scriptural grounds, and we have agreed by covenant to do it anyways.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 18, 2018

Hi Q,

This is a very good question and worth discussing. I'm sorry I haven't responded sooner; I just saw your comment.

The Prayer for Covenant says this document is "a unified statement of principles for us to adopt." Denver asks: "that we not be required to provide a statement of principles, but the people be left to govern themselves" thus implying this statement should consist of principles by which we intend to govern ourselves.

This is what the Lord has asked. I realize some have "added to" these requirements to make this document into something other than what the Lord has specified, or alternatively have presumed it must be made to suit other purposes than those the Lord has given. For example, some have proposed this be used as a missionary tract, which is quite a different purpose than a guide and a standard.

The assignment is really quite simple. It is, in essence, "If you want to be my people, write up a set of principles you can all agree on, and intend to live by." This should have been a light thing. The Lord said if our hearts were right, it could have been done a long time ago. And taken that way, it really is a light thing; the Lots group got it done in seven

days. The Lord made it clear this is NOT a years-long assignment. It should be simple and easy to agree on basic principles we all accept.

The Answer says these principles must be adopted by the mutual agreement of the Lord's people. To me, if we "adopt" principles, it means we agree with them and intend to abide by them.

That being the case, I am using "dispute" as objecting to the principles presented and refusing to abide by them. Such objections can take several forms:

Disagreeing with the principles themselves. For example, "I disagree with the principle of baptism and therefore will not accept this document."
Finding falsehoods or misrepresentations in the document. For example, "Statement XYZ is false and incorrect, and must be corrected before I will agree with it."
Refusing to abide by the principles in the document. As in, "I object to this statement to the point that I refuse to be governed by the principles it contains or accept them as a standard."

Hopefully, such objections are based upon sound scriptural reasoning and understanding. The scriptures are currently our first and best arbiter of truth.

I realize there are other forms of disputes that have nothing to do with the document presented. Some simply want a different document. Others want many documents. Yet others want to take a few years to let this develop organically, and so forth. In my opinion, none of that has anything to do with the present question. If we are incapable of stating, right now, some simple principles we agree to abide by, there is no way in Hell we can be the Lord's people. (And we're already in Hell.)

When I read through the Lots document, I find it an accurate, scripturally sound, truthful statement of the principles we have all ALREADY EMBRACED by virtue of having taken the covenant. I find it entirely adequate to fulfill the Lord's command, as written. And I find it wise in word and kind in deed to bless, benefit, and inform those who will come after and who are just starting on this path. I do not object to governing my life and conduct by the principles contained in it, because they are true.

- AdrianLarsen February 18, 2018

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One other thing I would add: These principles are universal. ALL who would be called the Lord's must abide by and do these things, regardless of their background, heritage, culture or prior religious beliefs. These steps cannot be laid aside, skipped or neglected. It is a kindness to make them known clearly and forthrightly to anyone who seeks to follow the Lord.

Adrian and Tausha

- Log February 18, 2018

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- Log February 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 18, 2018

Adrian says: "When I read through the Lots document, I find it an accurate, scripturally sound, truthful statement of the principles we have all ALREADY EMBRACED by virtue of having taken the covenant."

In the light of Adrian's proposal, this is understood to mean he discounts the scriptural objection to the Lottery document that, because it leads men to trust Denver Snuffer, the Lottery document curses, harms, and misinforms those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

Adrian is saying that by entering the covenant, one already by their deeds evidenced that they trust Denver Snuffer, thus to make the objection that the Lottery document leads men to trust Denver Snuffer is simply hypocrisy. Adrian has phrased this differently at times, using the word "illogical" in the place of the intended meaning of "hypocritical."

In fact, it may or may not be the case that by entering the covenant any particular individual demonstrated trust in Denver Snuffer. Nevertheless, the Lord has said, and we have agreed by covenant to self-correct wherever we are in conflict with the scriptures, that "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man." Therefore, those who presently think we are able to trust Denver Snuffer without being cursed have agreed by covenant to self-correct.

The Lottery document leads men to trust in Denver Snuffer, as it consists mostly of Denver Snuffer's words, thus leading men to look to Denver Snuffer and not the Lord Jesus Christ for a guide and a standard, or for principles.

A word on the argument from hypocrisy - this old tool of the devil has been around long enough to earn a Latin name: the argumentum ad hominem: tu quoque.

We recognize the argument from hypocrisy used as a tool of manipulation and therefore being from the devil when the poor teenage girl is manipulated by her older, more experienced boyfriend in the back of his parked car - "Come on, Suzy, you've already let me touch you in such-and-such a place, you can't say no to going further now; it won't be so bad, and, heck, you'll like it!"

Likewise, we recognize the argument from hypocrisy being used as a tool of manipulation and therefore being from the devil in Adrian's argument against the Lord's words (paraphrased): "You have already trusted in Denver Snuffer by entering the covenant, so you shouldn't object to leading men to trust in Denver Snuffer, because to do otherwise makes you a hypocrite." The truth of the Lord's words is completely ignored in preference to a Satanic focus on the alleged sin of the one repeating the Lord's words.

Adrian's argument, if we hearken to it, denies us repentance. Just because we may have sinned in something it does not follow that we must continue to sin in that thing, neither does it follow that we should not cease to sin in that thing and teach others not to sin in that thing.

Second: Do you ... receive the scriptures ... as a standard to govern you ... and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?

Third: Do you agree to assist all others who covenant to likewise accept this standard to govern their lives...?

If we desire to do what we have covenanted with the Lord to do, then let us do what we have covenanted with the Lord to do.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 18, 2018

Wait, did you just quote Denver Snuffer?

- Log February 18, 2018

Adrian Larsen writes: "Wait, did you just quote Denver Snuffer?"

I reply: "Once again with the argument from hypocrisy, Adrian?"

If I did quote Denver Snuffer and not the Lord, then this covenant people are all indeed a lost, fallen, and cursed people.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 18, 2018

So it’s quoting the Lord when you do it, but it’s trusting in the arm of flesh when the Lots document does it? Just trying to understand how this game is played.

- Log February 18, 2018

Adrian,

Are you taking the position that what I quoted is Denver Snuffer, and not the Lord?

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet February 18, 2018

There may be people present at the conference in March and beyond who have not received the covenant. We might want to take that into consideration with these various ideas.

I think it might be better to plan a separate conference for deciding together, if it is indeed felt a conference is required, since none who have not received the covenant are permitted to participate.

And one thought more. How can we reliably use the scriptures to correct ourselves, to determine correct steps forward, when we seem to have begun interpreting various verses and accounts differently? Did not Joseph have this difficulty in trying to find a church? We appear rather a mess...I see a lot of people interpreting scriptures, Christ's Answer, and more, but no unity yet.

- Log February 18, 2018

Lori,

The rule of scriptural interpretation is to take it all at face value. That's how we deal with people whom we love and believe: we take them at face value. If therefore we love God, then we believe him, and take his words at face value. That is the principle which underlies Joseph's teachings on scriptural interpretation.

"Everything we have not a keyword to, we take it as it reads."

"What is the rule of interpretation? Just no interpretation at all. Understand it precisely as it reads."

Joseph also put, in an early FAQ for the Church, the following enlightening questions and answers.

First--"Do you believe the Bible?"

If we do, we are the only people under heaven that does, for there are none of the religious sects of the day that do.

Second--"Wherein do you differ from other sects?"

In that we believe the Bible, and all other sects profess to believe their interpretations of the Bible, and their creeds.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 18, 2018

Hence the saying that we must repent, or change our minds to believe all the words God has spoken at face value, instead of justifying our disbelief and disobedience by interpreting his words other than literally, and we must become as little children, wholly trusting in him and believing in his words uncritically, and be baptized, or we can in no wise receive the visitation of fire and of the Holy Ghost, the Father's testimony of his Son, and the remission of sins which is obtained thereby, with the mighty change of heart.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda February 18, 2018

Adrian & Tausha Larsen,

Functionality matters too. You are correct, the principles described in most of the documents proposed are true principles. Just because principles are true, it doesn't necessarily fulfill the intended function. You have framed the principles as true and something you will live by, and that's all good, but it doesn't do much to describe

governing ourselves at all.

If the functionality of the Governing Principles is to "govern us," as you have stated from the A&C, then it is “the law” that should go forth to govern all the Earth. Consider the proposed documents in that light, and you will see what I am seeing, ...all of the current documents are insufficient in that capacity. If I described a tire by it's shape, it's material, and it's color, ...the tire might be the best tire there ever was. However, no matter how good a tire it was, ...it would still be a horrible “steering wheel.” Likewise, the current proposed documents are being evaluated as a tire, when it was meant to be a steering wheel. Functionality matters!

Some might make the argument that it's just a “statement of principles,” …not a law. I'd respond by saying, ...to a self-governed people, principles are exactly the same as laws.

Conclusion: The function of this document has not been thought through very well, in the proposals on the table, …and ought to go back to the drawing board with the Kingdom of God in mind. From Zion comes the word, and from Jerusalem goes the law, and the governing principles seems to appropriately fit with that description. None of us knows a thing about writing something of that nature, as we all come from the kingdoms of bondage. We need a new mind before quickly jotting a few notes down and calling it good. Most don’t seem to understand this, so I’ll be clear, “We are the work!” We are incomplete, despite the opinions claiming it is enough.

Rob Adolpho

PS: If to you, dispute is to "object the principles presented and refusing to abide by them," as you've defined it, ...those who control the majority, ...also control the principles presented. And therefore the opinions of the majority are able to decide who is or isn't "disputing." Doesn't that seem precisely like what the LDS do at general conference?

- Blair February 18, 2018

Jared, please, this is doing no one any good. Please. No one is being persuaded by any of this. Go in peace.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 18, 2018

Thanks, Jared. Those are good quotes to have from Joseph. It is just getting a little thick for me here. Ha. I don't think I can see clearly intentions anymore but need to try and trust we all still want what is right and good. The atmosphere is thick though.

- Log February 18, 2018

Blair,

You may not be persuaded by scripture, but others may be. Every covenant participant has agreed to both be corrected by scripture and assist others to correct themselves by reference to the scripture.

Jared Livesey

- Blair February 18, 2018

Jared, I have been plenty persuaded by scripture in the past, and hope to always be

persuaded by scripture. The last time I looked at the count, this post had over 140 comments. You have generated more of them by far than anyone else. If you haven't persuaded them by now, it ain't gonna happen. All you are doing is drowning out other voices and constructing a wall of comments that dissuades others from expressing their views, their understanding of scripture and the truths they have learned from the Holy Spirit.

- Log February 18, 2018

Blair,

If the spirit someone listens to contradicts the scriptures - for example, by telling them they can, or must trust Denver Snuffer, when the Lord said he curses those who trust in men - it isn't the Holy Ghost their "truth" comes from.

And I don't have to persuade you, Blair. All I have to do is tell you the truth by persuasion (as opposed to by authority or manipulation).

It's easy to get me to shut up. Do not try to get me to do anything other than exactly and only what the Lord commands, and don't try to get my buy-in to evade his requirements, sayings, teachings, and commandments, nor try to get my cooperation in a conspiracy to defraud the Lord, nor try to get me to agree to curse, harm, and misinform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

Indeed, had y'all not done these things, and were you not currently engaged in these things, I'd have nothing to say to you.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 18, 2018

Hi Rob,

Thank you for sharing this insight. I can see your point, and agree that it really comes down to the purpose of the document. Here are the items that lead me to believe the current document under discussion is indeed an adequate steering wheel.

First, the Lord said it is a light thing.

Second, he said we could have already done it if our hearts were right. He did not mention our heads, but rather our hearts. I take that to mean the problem is not with our knowledge, but rather with our lack of humility.

Given the fact that we know almost nothing about the kingdom of God, and that we can only write about things we already understand, I do not see how the Lord can possibly intend for us to write about higher things that have not yet been revealed to us. Clearly, our current state of knowledge, last year, was enough for this statement. Therefore, I conclude it is to consist of things we already know.

Likewise, the law that will go forth has not yet been revealed. We can only govern ourselves by the things we already know, most of which are in scripture and well outlined there. Therefore, I conclude the only contribution we can make, above and beyond scripture, is to provide a guide for how to apply the things the Lord has asked of us. Like the Doctrine of Christ, priesthood, ordinances, etc. Other than that, we can point to the Lord's words in scripture as the law. The Lots document does exactly that.

So that's my take on the purpose of this effort. I think the assignment makes the purpose clear. Just my 2 cents.

Having said that, I do understand and respect where you're coming from. It appears you want the document to do more and contain more. I agree that is a worthy goal, but don't think we're equipped to provide more at the present time. This is a kindergarten primer for the new kids, not post-graduate studies for the experienced.

Love to you guys!

- Karen February 18, 2018

1 of 3

Two ideas were shared today in response to Adrian Larsen's comments that I felt inclined to respond to. I share the below thoughts in the spirit of giving another perspective to consider as people read and evaluate the matter at hand, and not in the spirit of contention. Offering another choice in how to look at it, so to speak, with no desire to begin a back and forth discussion on the matter.

The first concept was regarding the functionality of the Lots Guide and Standard not being sufficient to meet what God is asking of us regarding the Kingdom of God and Zion. I believe that deciding whether the functionality is sufficient is actually determined by what one believes the purpose of the GS to be.

In my perspective, the GS (statement of principles) was never intended to be all-encompassing. Meaning, it was not intended to cover every possible currently understood aspect of the gospel, or every future aspect pertaining to governance in God's kingdom. The restoration scriptures serve to adequately fulfill the current needs of being the standard by which we guide and correct ourselves (something we haven't yet proven capable of doing, but have covenanted to do), and the revelations that will yet come (including further scripture) will serve to meet the future needs that develop as Zion is established, etc. In other words, the GS was not intended to serve as a replacement for the scriptures (covering every principle found therein or every principle taught by Joseph in his lifetime), nor a complete statement of what will yet be required of those dwelling in Zion.

As we were told in the March 2017 St. George Conference, there are many things pertaining to Zion (the laws of the Sabbath, the feasts and festivals were named as examples), that will yet be revealed…"commandments, not a few." There are many things that will ONLY be made known when Zion exists because ONLY those who qualify to be there will be worthy to receive them. They just aren't relevant yet. Thus, this GS cannot, IMO, be intended as the law or guide for the kingdom of God as it exists in Zion…even if some of the principles found therein will ultimately overlap, as they are eternal in nature.

Part 2 below:

- Karen February 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Karen February 18, 2018

The other issue I would like to address is concerning the view that using quotes of Denver Snuffer in the Lots document is an offense to God, leads men to trust Denver, leads people away from the Lord, and that it contradicts the scriptures to quote him, and therefore, must be rejected and disputed as a qualifying document.

I would like to state the far from contradicting scripture by quoting D.S., we are in reality, confirming precisely what scripture teaches.

3 Nephi 21:10-11 teaches of the last days servant, often referred to as the "marred servant." The Lord Himself clearly taught that this servant delivers His words. And concerning the words this servant delivers He states: "…whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause HIM (the servant) to bring forth unto the Gentiles…they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant."

For at least 93% of us that entered into this covenant offered in September, we believe the Denver Snuffer IS this servant being spoken of in this particular scripture. We also believe that the degree to which he (D.S.) was quoted in the Lots GS was not in a form of idolatry, but were quotes pertaining to relevant matters that informed and shed light on required information to be understood by those seeking to know more, if they are to conform to the instructions of the Lord in our day. We see the quotes as instances where Denver was in fact, delivering the words of Christ. We do not see this as pointing people to Denver. We see it as conforming to the word of God delivered by His own mouth in the BofM…to identify those who speak the words of Christ in our day, and to believe those words. Not only does the BofM confirm the legitimacy of the words of Christ delivered by this servant, so do many other chapters in the scriptures (Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, and the D&C for starters).

To refuse to help others who know nothing of the work the Lord now has underway, by exposing them to the words of Christ being delivered by the mouth of His servant, that was prophesied by the Lord's own mouth to arise in our day…knowing that all Gentiles who reject these words shall be cut off…is a most uncharitable approach to our fellowman. Knowing that the opportunity to learn of and receive God's offered covenant in our day, and be numbered among His people, is contingent upon first hearing the words of Christ delivered by this servant, and then being required to determine whether one believes the words or not in order to be numbered among His people….it would be anti-Christ, IMO, to knowingly withhold a person from exposure to the direct words being delivered by this servant in our day. For they ARE Christ's words, not Denver's. And it is to Christ that we are devoted.

It just does not hold water to most of those who received the covenant that we are offending Jesus Christ, or turning people away from Him and toward Denver, when we quote the words that he was given by the Lord to give to us. And it truly does NOT contradict scripture to do so. It may not be your preferred document. It may state more than you wish…you may wish only for the Law of Christ to be given as a guide, but the Lots GS does not teach untruth, it does not turn people to man, and it is sufficient to meet the requirements the Lord gave us for this task.

I mean no offense to those who hold other opinions, but in fairness to those seeking to make a determination of where they stand on this matter, I felt that one more effort should be made to address recent talking points and offer another perspective.

- Anonymous February 18, 2018

When angels from God appear to men and women, they quote scripture.
God's servants quote other of God's servants.
Christ quotes the words of God's servants.
God's servants quote Christ.

The Lots document follows the same pattern. It quotes the words of God's servants, which are the words of Christ. How can anyone dispute it?

- Anonymous February 18, 2018

Oh someone will..... just wait. There is never a time when an opposing view doesn't exist.

Jared may serve first. I bet he loves tennis. Jared, do you love tennis? The back and forth and back and forth reminds me of tennis. I only wish though, like in tennis, there was more "service" and "love" in all the back and forth. :)

- Log February 18, 2018

Karen,

These scriptures...

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2 Nephi 28:31 [Thus saith the Lord:] Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

JST Mark 9:44 [Thus saith the Lord by his own mouth:] Therefore, let every man stand or fall by himself and not for another, or not trusting another.

... teach the opposite of your doctrine. I have no doubt you have accurately represented the views of the vast majority of this people. Those views are in contradiction to the words of Jesus Christ and so we can know those views to be false. We all agreed by covenant to correct ourselves and allow our thoughts, words, and deeds be guided by the scriptures, and to help all other covenant participants do likewise. Therefore, those who hold the view that Denver Snuffer may be trusted, or even must be trusted, have agreed to correct themselves and to help others correct themselves in this matter and align themselves with the scriptures in thought, word, and deed.

To teach or lead men to trust Denver Snuffer, according to the scriptures, brings upon them the curse of the Lord, all claims about a "Davidic Servant" notwithstanding.

Because trusting Denver Snuffer brings upon men the curse of the Lord, those that trust Denver Snuffer go to hell, thus they are destroyed.

Leading men to destruction is to murder them, said Alma in the Book of Mormon.

Murdering men is neither blessing, nor benefitting, nor informing them.

It is, in fact, the opposite.

You are entitled to whatever opinions you'd like to maintain, of course. I simply have the

covenantal obligation to assist you to correct yourself - you and the majority you represent - by reminding you of your agreement and the words of the Lord you are contradicting.

And we have a responsibility by the law of God - for who desires to be led to destruction? - to dispute, instead of consenting to, the adoption of the Lottery document, which would murder God's children by leading or teaching them to trust Denver Snuffer.

If you - any of you - wish to fulfill the Lord's requirement and the purpose of the guide and standard, you will dispute the Lottery document and adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ, which consists of the instructions of the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- Cherryann February 18, 2018

Amen!!!

- Karen February 18, 2018

2 of 3

The required GS is for those “who know nothing as of yet of the work now underway.” I never saw this as meaning it was to be the written law of the Kingdom of God. The fact that it was a light thing, that could have been accomplished already, even before we received the covenant (had we been willing), bears out that this is not intended to be “the” guide, or law, that pertains to the governance of Zion. We are just scratching the surface of even slightly knowing what that will look like and are far from being qualified ourselves. And as Adrian touched on, there is nothing to suggest that this GS is supposed to take years and years before we can complete it, waiting for our knowledge and experience to catch up, so the GS can be written as specifically relevant to those dwelling in Zion, as a law and guide for them.

Now, the GS can and should function to lay a foundation for those who are preparing for and seeking to establish Zion. But the “law” required for that preparation, is actually already found within the Sermon on the Mount. This law, the Sermon on the Mount, or Law of Christ, was recently described by Denver to be “the blueprint of Zion.” (Jan. 7, 2018 fireside, DS).

The Lots document directs the reader to study and live the “Law of Christ,” and therefore, includes this necessary foundation in order to "function" to help prepare one to participate in and dwell in Zion.

I see the Lots GS, not as the "tire," but as a perfectly good “steering wheel” for the task at hand, in guiding fellowships and those who know nothing as of yet of God’s work now underway, in how to function and navigate to prepare themselves to be gathered into Zion, if they will. It provides a "guide"…steers or points them to Christ, His doctrine, and His law; and it gives a "standard"…proper instruction in the performance of required ordinances that cannot be changed and in the use of priesthood in this dispensation, (until things change in the Millennium/Zion regarding such). (Sidenote: Both the "guide" and the "standard" portion are required to make a satisfactory document...this is why I do not believe as some, that the Sermon alone is sufficient...even though it is absolutely essential).

Again, determining if the Lots GS is truly "functional" is based upon the perceived

objective or purpose of the GS. If the purpose is seen as a guide and standard that goes hand in hand with the scriptures to inform and prepare those seeking Christ and His kingdom to be able to ultimately find Him and be gathered by Him to Zion, where they will receive further relevant instruction later...then I believe it is sufficient as written. I believe the Lord DID declare to the seven Lotsters that it WAS sufficient, therefore, I lean toward believing the purpose of the GS is to "prepare" us for the further light we will receive in Zion, and is not required to currently be written as if it is the final law of the Kingdom of God upon which everything in Zion hinges.

Part 3 below:

- Log February 19, 2018

Also, this covenant offered through Denver Snuffer is not a part of the doctrine of Christ and is not necessary therefore to be saved.

Not only that, the Lord in the A&C explains that this covenant offered through Denver Snuffer is utterly unnecessary if only the law and commandments of Jesus Christ in 3 Nephi 12 - 14 were actually executed: the Sermon on the Mount.

"The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation."

Therefore, this covenant - the one offered through Denver Snuffer - is not required; only obedience to the precepts of the Lord in the Book of Mormon is required.

The Lord made doing what he said to do in the Book of Mormon part of this covenant offered through Denver Snuffer explicitly.

Second: Do you ... accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant...?

This is probably because "many of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do. As a people you honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting."

And what does the Book of Mormon say about following men? In addition to the aforementioned verses, Nephi had this to say:

"O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm."

In no version of the doctrine of Christ in the Book of Mormon are we to take men to be our guide or trust them. Nephi said as plainly as was possible that we are to take the Holy Ghost to be our guide, and mourned because his people were still looking to him for light instead and they must therefore perish in the dark.

The Lord is consistent on this point: cursed is the man that trusts in man.

And one does not turn to the Lord when one is busy looking at Denver Snuffer instead, and neither is one hearkening to the voice of the Lord when one is busy listening to Denver Snuffer's voice instead.

We know by what words we must come unto Christ.

1 Nephi 13:40-41
40 And the angel spake unto me, saying: These last records, which thou hast seen among the Gentiles, shall establish the truth of the first, which are of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and shall make known the plain and precious things which have been taken away from them; and shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people, that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father, and the Savior of the world; and that all men must come unto him, or they cannot be saved.

41 And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb; wherefore they both shall be established in one; for there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth.

Those are the words by which all mankind must come to Christ and be saved: the Sermon on the Mount. Denver Snuffer does not feature, and teaching men that he does is to lead them astray.

We cannot plead ignorance in these things.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Jared, your entire argument hinges on your OPINION that quoting the words of Jesus Christ, as delivered by one He sent EQUALS trusting in the arm of flesh. You state this repeatedly as established fact, but you've got it all wrong.

Will you please point us to the scriptures that inform us we should not receive or quote the words of the servants Jesus Christ sends us, because this very act is the definition of trusting in the arm of flesh? You state repeatedly that this is the case. Can you back up your opinion? Until you can do so, we cannot reach the conclusion upon which you so strenuously insist.

And you know what? I think trusting in the arm of flesh is something completely different than you. Like, for example, attempting to establish your unsupported opinion as fact, and threatening all who disagree with damnation. That, to me, is trusting in a man (you.) Further, anyone who uncritically accepts your opinion without scriptural support is also guilty of trusting in a man (you.) Therefore, unless you can support your idea with scripture, you are evidently cursing people.

Again, to be clear, and to prevent continuous circular arguments, Jared:

Please show specifically that quoting the words of the Lord as delivered by one He sent, is the definition of trusting in the arm of flesh. If you cannot do so, your efforts to advance this opinion are at best, deceptive.

(Continued)

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Now, in the interest of integrity, I will support my view with scripture.

Christ teaches the principle that the message must be received as if from the one who

sent it, not the one who speaks it:

But when you reject my message, beware, because the message I was sent by the Father to deliver will separate you in the last day. He will divide you based on your submission to, or rejection of, his message. He has sent me to guide you, and he guides into endless lives, worlds without end. My message, therefore, is the Father's. (Testimony of St. John, Ch. 9)

Nephi teaches the same thing regarding his words. Christ claims Nephi's words as His own:

And if ye shall believe in Christ, ye will believe in these words for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me, and they teach all men that they should do good. And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye, for Christ will show unto you with power and great glory that they are his words at the last day. And you and I shall stand face to face before his bar and ye shall know that I have been commanded of him to write these things, notwithstanding my weakness. (2 Nephi 15:2)

The Lord claims Joseph Smith's words as His own:

These commandments are of me and were given unto my servants in their weakness after the manner of their language that they might come to understanding…What I the Lord have spoken I have spoken and I excuse not myself; and though the Heaven and the Earth pass away my word shall not pass away but shall all be fulfilled whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants it is the same for behold and Lo the Lord is God and the Spirit beareth record and the [record] is true and the truth abideth for ever and ever. Amen. (D&C 1:5,7)

Nephi taught Joseph Smith that those who will not hear Christ's voice will be cut off. (His voice is delivered by the servants he sends)

He quoted also the third chapter of Acts, twenty second and twenty third verses, precisely as they stand in our New Testament. He said that that prophet was Christ, but the day had not yet come when "they who would not hear his voice should be cut off from among the people," but soon would come.

Therefore, if Christ sent Denver with a message, and that message is, by definition, Christ's word, and those who will not hear it will be cut off from among the people, we have a DUTY and OBLIGATION to point to that message so people can hear it and not be cut off from among the people. In doing so, we are pointing to Christ, not a man!

Pointing to Christ's message, as delivered by Christ's servant whom he sent, is NOT trusting in the arm of flesh. It is pointing to the words of eternal life, regardless of the fact that the words came through a servant, and the servant is still living.

Joseph Smith was still living when he published the Book of Mormon. Was it trusting in the arm of flesh to accept that volume as coming from God? Was it trusting in Joseph Smith to receive that book as scripture? Of course not. Same goes for the 1835 D&C.

I'm sorry, but your opinion that pointing to Christ's messenger constitutes trusting in the arm of flesh is not only false, but dangerously so. In fact, I can't think of a better way to keep people ignorant and damned than to insist they not seek out and heed Christ's message, as delivered by His servant.

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Good God, Jared...Now you want to preach against the covenant as well? The Lord offers you a covenant (including rights to this land so a temple can be built) and you want to reject it as unnecessary? And you believe that we should teach others to do the same?

I have no words. Utterly gobsmacked.

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

And yet, Log, Nephi extensively quoted from a contemporary of his father Lehi, named Isaiah. Nephi urged us to study the words of Isaiah diligently. Nephi and other BoM prophets, such as Jacob and Moroni, quoted other prophets as well. Are they damned for so doing? Does that constitute, by your reasoning above, trusting in man? Are we damned by reading 90%+ of the BoM which does not include direct verbatim quotes from Jesus? Are we damned by reading 95%+ of the Bible, which does not include direct verbatim quotes from Jesus?

Aren't you subtlety twisting the true concept of only "following" the Lord, by suggesting we exclude the messengers He sends, for if we hearken and receive their messages this is, to you, the same as trusting in the arm of flesh?

This is beginning to sound familiar...I think we've all heard this tune before. Yes, yes, not too long ago. By a friend of yours perhaps? He stole away many of our friends, and turned them against us.

Do not be deceived by these subtle arguments that confuse and drive people away from God's servants/prophets/teachers.

- Log February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 19, 2018

Adrian says: "Please show specifically that quoting the words of the Lord as delivered by one He sent, is the definition of trusting in the arm of flesh. If you cannot do so, your efforts to advance this opinion are at best, deceptive. "

I respond: I am not advancing the opinion you attribute to me. This is the argument I am making.

1. Cursed is the man that trusts in man, saith the Lord.
2. Denver Snuffer is a man.
3. Cursed is the man that trusts in Denver Snuffer.
4. Leading men to trust Denver Snuffer brings upon them the curse of the Lord.
5. Being cursed is a bad thing.
6. We do not want to be cursed.
7. The law of God, which is the law of the Celestial kingdom, is this: every last thing you wish others would do to you, do to others.
8. Because we do not want to be cursed we should not trust, nor lead men to trust, Denver Snuffer.
9. The Lottery document leads men to trust Denver Snuffer.
10. By the law of God, the Lottery document (and any other like it) should be disputed and not agreed to.

11. Salvation is a good thing.
12. We want to be led to salvation.
13. Christ is salvation.
14. By the law of God, we should lead men to Christ.
15. The way to Christ is by both believing and putting into actual execution his law and commandments as they are written.
16. Christ's law and commandments are the written guide which leads to him.
17. Christ's law and commandments are the standard by which our thoughts, words, and deeds are judged.
18. Christ's commandments are the principles of the law of the Celestial kingdom.
19. Christ's law and commandments are his guide and standard, and his statement of principles.
20. By the law of God, we should accept, practice, and teach Christ's law and commandments and not dispute them.
21. Therefore, we should accept, practice, and teach The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles and not dispute it.

This is close enough for my purposes at present.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

This will never end. Religious contention is a hobby for some people. It will never reach a resolution.

- Log February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JimORullian February 19, 2018

Just so that I understand this line of reasoning Jared...you are using the words of the covenant, which you say is unnecessary and damnable, as the basis for your persuasive argument against trusting the messenger commissioned to deliver it, and that too because you feel covenentally obligated by it to correct us?

This has gone on long enough folks and I believe we are now at an all time low as we continue to entertain circular and non-constructive falsehoods parading around as gentle persuasion. I would invite you all to participate elsewhere in conversations which invite hope, vitality, and clarity of thought rather than confusion and the ingestion of bovine fecal matter. Don't add fuel to the fire.

- Log February 19, 2018

Jim,

Every covenant participant has agreed to self-correct and to assist others in correcting themselves by reference to the scriptures. This logically entails not trusting Denver Snuffer, according to the words of the Lord in the scriptures, wherein the Lord said that those who trust in men are cursed. I but repeat his words and demonstrate the logical implications of those words.

I did not say the covenant was damnable, only that it is unnecessary, and showed that it is unnecessary from the text of the A&C itself.

One of the primary purposes of this covenant offered through Denver Snuffer is to point us all back to the things the Lord said to do in the Book of Mormon - the Sermon on the Mount - that we may actually do them.

Your proposal to take the conversation elsewhere - to avoid me - does not further the accomplishment of the task the Lord has set us to in adopting a guide and standard by mutual agreement, but in fact defeats the accomplishment of that task.

Is accomplishing that task what you are trying to do?

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

Anonymous writes: "It will never reach a resolution."

I respond: This can all be resolved in righteousness by adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the guide and standard.

If you still feel that you need to teach about a Davidic Servant, or tithing, or temple-building, or ordination, or ordinances, or anything whatsoever your heart desires, you will always be free to - within your own fellowship, at your conferences, wherever you please, to whomever is willing to listen.

Jared Livesey

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Your step 9 is merely restating the same opinion you keep stating. It is merely an opinion, and it is wrong. Dead wrong. I asked you to substantiate this opinion from scripture, and you instead quoted no scripture but leaned on your faulty reasoning alone. This is the very definition of trusting in the arm of flesh, and it is indeed a curse to you. It's so incredibly ironic, but not surprising.

Your circular reasoning is unconvincing and unproductive. Your attempts to lead people away from the covenant and the words of Jesus Christ delivered through His servant, are destructive.

It appears your true agenda is to fight against the Lord's work now underway.

I have no further interest in this endless argument. It is darkness.

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

This can only be resolved by surrendering to the strongman.

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

I will never accept your extorted document The Rock of Jesus Christ. There will never be unanimity on that either.

- Log February 19, 2018

Adrian,

I don't need scripture to say that the Lottery document is comprised mostly - almost entirely - of Denver Snuffer's words.

I don't need scripture to say that the Lottery document teaches men therefore to take Denver Snuffer's words for their guide and standard, thereby causing men to follow Denver Snuffer.

I don't need scripture to say, truthfully, that following Denver Snuffer entails trusting him.

I don't need scripture to say that the Lottery document would, if adopted, cause men to both trust Denver Snuffer and seek to him for light.

All these things are true, and no scripture is needed to know they are true.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

Anonymous writes: "I will never accept your extorted document The Rock of Jesus Christ."

That is your choice - but it is an odd one as you have already agreed by covenant (Question 2) to do exactly those things the "extorted" document contains.

As to extortion, well, it's not like I can make you do anything you don't want to do. It's simply that if you want to do what the Lord requires, then you will in fact do what the Lord requires and accept The Rock. I am not the one making you do anything in that circumstance - it would be your choice whether to do what the Lord requires or not.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 19, 2018

A strongman is simply anyone whom you rely upon for directions, like a leader, a prophet, a manager, an employer, and so on.

The Lord asks that we take him to be our strongman.

Denver doesn't want to be our strongman.

I don't want Denver to be my strongman.

I want the Lord to be my strongman.

The Lord's requirement that the G&S be adopted by mutual agreement means I don't have to settle for less than the Lord as my strongman.

Jared Livesey

February 19, 2018

- Donald

Given our current log jam, I took Rob's suggestion to re-read Denver's blog "All Or Nothing." Part 7 was especially helpful for me and I invite others to read it if you'd like:

http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-7-conclusion/

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

"...and the day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the Lord, neither the voice of his servants, neither give heed to the words of the prophets and apostles, shall be cut off from among the people;

"What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same."

D&C 1:14, 38

Do we not hold a covenant from God by virtue of God first making a covenant with a man?

Is such a man who made a covenant with God, which allowed us to also have a covenant with God, considered a servant of God?

Are not the words of a servant of God, who holds a covenant with Him, delivered while on His errand in speaking publicly, stating that he will be accountable for what he has taught, therefore, ipso facto, the same as God's words?

Do not be misled. Repeating the words of or quoting from a servant of God does not damn those who do so. Of course, there is always the potential for idolatry of man, which is a legitimate concern and sinful, and should be preached against vigorously as our allegiance is to Christ alone. However, God has granted unto man/woman their agency and they are accountable for their choices. We are to teach true principles and let men/women govern themselves. In the end, the Lord "confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers." (Isaiah 44:26)

- Log February 19, 2018

Adrian,

Also, you have reversed the burden of proof. It does not fall to me to show that the Lottery document must necessarily lead men to trust Denver Snuffer, although I have shown that it will, as the guide and standard is for us to follow, and to follow Denver entails trusting him. I also have heard from multiple sources that "without Denver Snuffer, we're lost!"

Your burden is to show that the Lottery document cannot possibly lead to men trusting Denver Snuffer. "None but fools," said Joseph, "will trifle with the souls of men."

Needless to say, The Rock of Jesus Christ cannot lead any man to trust Denver Snuffer, nor can it lead men to trust in any other living person.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

Anonymous writes: "Of course, there is always the potential for idolatry of man, which is a legitimate concern and sinful, and should be preached against vigorously as our allegiance is to Christ alone."

I respond: The simple solution, of course, is not to point to men, but to Christ and his words alone, and this legitimate concern never comes up.

Hence, The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

Jared Livesey

- TaushaLarsen February 19, 2018

Abinadi says this about those who hearken to the words of the Lord's prophets:

Behold I say unto you, that whosoever has heard the words of the prophets, yea, all the holy prophets who have prophesied concerning the coming of the Lord—I say unto you, that all those who have hearkened unto their words, and believed that the Lord would redeem his people, and have looked forward to that day for a remission of their sins, I say unto you, that these are his seed, or they are the heirs of the kingdom of God.

For these are they whose sins he has borne; these are they for whom he has died, to redeem them from their transgressions. And now, are they not his seed?

Yea, and are not the prophets, every one that has opened his mouth to prophesy, that has not fallen into transgression, I mean all the holy prophets ever since the world began? I say unto you that they are his seed.

And these are they who have published peace, who have brought good tidings of good, who have published salvation; and said unto Zion: Thy God reigneth!

And O how beautiful upon the mountains were their feet!

And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those that are still publishing peace!

And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who shall hereafter publish peace, yea, from this time henceforth and forever!

And now, the resurrection of all the prophets, and all those that have believed in their words, or all those that have kept the commandments of God, shall come forth in the first resurrection; therefore, they are the first resurrection.

They are raised to dwell with God who has redeemed them; thus they have eternal life through Christ, who has broken the bands of death.

It is those who have listened to and heeded the words of the Lord's prophets that are

counted as Christ's seed. It is those who will have part in the first resurrection and be heirs of eternal life. Including Denver's words in the Guide and Standard is evidence that We, who are trying to be God's people, are heeding the Lord's words given through His servant.

This argument needs to stop. Are we publishing peace? Or are our feet stained with the blood and sins of this generation? What are we publishing?

I agree with Jim. This forum has become toxic. It is the antithesis of Zion. The thing that makes this telestial world toxic is the people. Likewise, it will be the people who who will make Zion, Zion.

I am sad to say that the comments on this forum have made even The Sermon on the Mount evoke negative connotations.

Maybe discussions should take place elsewhere.

- Log February 19, 2018

Tausha,

You can take your discussion elsewhere if you like, but as the requirement of the Lord is mutual agreement in this matter, going elsewhere renders the Lord's requirement impossible to accomplish.

Is it your purpose to do as the Lord requires?

Jared Livesey

- Donald February 19, 2018

thank you Taushua...much gratitude. :)

- Donald February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 19, 2018

Also, Tausha quotes one of my favorite scriptures.

"And now, the resurrection of all the prophets, and all those that have believed in their words, or all those that have kept the commandments of God, shall come forth in the first resurrection; therefore, they are the first resurrection."

Those that keep God's commandments, in our case the Sermon on the Mount as it is written, are those that believe the words of the prophets. Those who do not keep God's commandments, in our case the Sermon on the Mount as it is written, though they may say they follow a prophet, do not believe his words, neither do they believe the Lord who sent him.

That verse has a companion verse here:

"But behold, and fear, and tremble before God, for ye ought to tremble; for the Lord redeemeth none such that rebel against him and die in their sins; yea, even all those that have perished in their sins ever since the world began, that have wilfully rebelled against God, that have known the commandments of God, and would not keep them; these are they that have no part in the first resurrection."

Those who know the Sermon on the Mount and elect not to follow it as written, unless they repent, shall perish.

A prophet is only a prophet when he is acting as such, said Joseph; that is, a prophet is only a prophet - the word means "spokesman" - when he is delivering the verbatim words of Jesus Christ, as in "thus saith the Lord...."

Otherwise, he is not acting as prophet.

And also even if a prophet acts as prophet, it doesn't mean you should follow their words - only if the Holy Ghost witnesses to you directly that you should (remember 1 Kings 13). And just because you should it does not mean others should. You don't get to make that call for them. You are not the Holy Ghost, neither are you the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

Donald,

The decision to honor or dishonor the Lord's requirement is a decision everyone gets to make for themselves.

If people find the truth, plainly stated, distasteful, they won't like Zion.

Jared Livesey

- Donald February 19, 2018

Can’t disagree with you here Jared...

“You don't get to make that call.... You are not the Holy Ghost, neither are you the Lord.”

I hope you will allow that others have received their answer and it may disagree with you.

-kind regards

- Donald February 19, 2018

Meanwhile Tausha has a serious and valid concern in my opinion...

“This argument needs to stop...
I agree with Jim. This forum has become toxic. It is the antithesis of Zion. The thing that makes this telestial world toxic is the people. Likewise, it will be the people who who will make Zion, Zion.

- Log February 19, 2018

Donald,

If their answer brings them into conflict with the word of the Lord, for example, by saying one may, or even must, trust Denver Snuffer, it is not the Holy Ghost that they have been answered by.

Jared Livesey

- Donald February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 19, 2018

This argument does, indeed, need to stop, and here's how it ends.

1. I will not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.
2. I will and do dispute the adoption of any other guide and standard document.
3. You have no power to exclude me from the body of covenant participants.
4. Therefore, if you abide the Lord's requirement that the guide and standard be adopted by mutual agreement, you will adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ, or you will have no guide and standard document.

These are the consequences of abiding the Lord's requirement. You will either do this, or else the Lord's requirement is not fulfilled.

The guide and standard test is simple: do you indeed desire to be the Lord's people? Then accept and do as he has required.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

The conversation was about many things, first and foremost Adrian's false proposal to ensure the Lottery document gets adopted, and, secondly, the fatal problems with the Lottery document.

Zion will not fail if we do not do as the Lord requires. It is we who will fail to obtain Zion. The Lord shall have a people that hearkens to him and him alone, and he means to have it, whether it's us or not.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

I suppose I need hardly point out that not having a guide and standard document is also failure, but an honest admission of failure.

Fraudulently adopting a document - that is, adopting it and knowing I dispute its adoption

- is also failure, but one calculated to deceive men, for God will know his requirement was mocked.

On the whole, I would prefer us to be honest failures rather than deceivers.

Jared Livesey

- Donald February 19, 2018

Holy cow Jared, looks like a list of demands for hostages ....doesn't feel anything like this:

41 No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the priesthood, only by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned;

- Donald February 19, 2018

Take care Jared....I've honestly said more than I wanted...so long.

-kind regards

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

Your argument is based on the faulty premise that including any of Denver Snuffer's teachings in the Guide and Standard equates to trusting in the arm of flesh. You are wrong, plain and simple. Others have repeatedly pointed out your absurd logic. By insisting on excluding anything except your preferred document, you have set up stakes. By definition, you have damned yourself. Go ahead and issue your threats and warnings of damnation and failure to others. It's on you.

You can shout the loudest and post ad nauseum your point of view on this blog, but that has only driven others away. Good luck to you in your lonely Zion. No one else has the power to exclude you. You have accomplished that on your own.

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Jared,

Here's another way it ends: The body simply recognizes that you are a wolf in sheep's clothing, deceived and deceiving, attempting to establish false ideas by force, stubbornness, and arrogance. And having recognized this, they simply choose to ignore you.

You can continue to breathe out threatenings and insist that not only are you a covenant holder, but you have the right to compel the behavior of every other covenant holder. But nobody has to believe you. Or even listen to any further repetition of your tired arguments. Nobody needs to respond to you at all. In the end, you may have power to disrupt, deceive, and destroy, but only as long as people give you the attention you so desperately crave. You you do not have power to compel others' behavior.

"My way or the highway" has no place among Christ's followers. It is not taught in the sermon you claim to believe. It's astonishing that you still think your misguided tactic has any chance of succeeding. And it is an offense to all those who are, in good faith, trying to compromise, work together, understand one another, and seek unity.

So yeah, there are ways this ends that do not involve you usurping the entire movement as a dictator.

And don’t bother telling us we would disobey or offend God by ignoring you. At this point I believe it offends God that we keep paying any attention to you at all. You've made your intentions increasingly clear, and though patience and tolerance are virtues, righteousness trumps virtue in a straight fight every day of the week.

- Log February 19, 2018

"There are only two ways: the way I lead that goes upward in light and truth unto Eternal lives, and if you turn from it, you follow the way of darkness and the deaths. Those who want to come where I am must be able to abide the conditions established for my Father’s Kingdom. I have given to you the means to understand the conditions you must abide. I came and lived in the world to be the light of the world. I have sent others who have testified of me and taught you. I have sent my light into the world. Let not your hearts remain divided from one another and divided from me."

Remember:

"Fourth: And do you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?"

The choice to honor the Lord's requirement, and make his way, the one and only way, the way of righteousness, whereupon he awaits you, your guide and standard also is yours.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 19, 2018

And also remember: your chosen beliefs have no effect upon my covenant status.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

Question for Jared: Supposing (I don't know what will happen) the body does something with the G&S that in your view is fraudulent and damning. What happens then for you? Would you continue to attach yourself to a body you view as cursed, damned, and going to be destroyed? Or.... what happens then?

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

Back to the proposal...I’d like to make my support known publicly. I think it respects the voice of the people and is a considerate, final outreach to those few who still may disagree.

Janson Fish

- HuhWhatda February 19, 2018

(1 of 2)

Adrian & Tausha Larsen,

I have to admit, I am grateful for a direct conversation, where it's ok to speak to people, using their identity, without feeling a bit of threat. I'm not used to beating around the bush, and respect your efforts to understand a different perspective.

I recognize that you can't quite bridge the gap in my expectation for the purpose of the document as the law that should go forth, …in comparison to your understanding of the materials we have been given (people, skill, understanding, etc.), the instructions in the A&C, and the scope of work required to bridge that gap. But, simply because you cannot see it as being possible, doesn't mean it isn't. Zion is to be a stone cut "without hands." That doesn't mean we sit around and do nothing, because God's got this! It means that God can do more with us, if you'd let him participate in telling His part. In the efforts thus far, Revelation seems to only play a part in claiming whose document is right, …rather than expecting revelation to grow, increase, and add to our understanding, …until we finally comprehend the law that should go forth to govern all the Earth. When did we decide to give up on awakening and arising from the dust, to reduce God's part to choosing the winning document? When did we choose to refuse to act upon what we have been taught by Joseph and Denver, …NOT to get from God revelation? When did we reduce God's hand in this to picking the dream team document? We have had fellowships upon fellowships, conferences upon conferences, and retreats upon retreats, …discussing the greatness of the work of Zion. When are we going to expect to do the greatness, or to be the greatness? Our wise Blackfoot Chief once reprimanded our people asking, "We are always going on retreats. When are we ever going to attack?"

Our opinions are indicative of our faith. If our opinions are trapped by thinking that we couldn't produce "the law" because it hasn't been revealed, or that we are limited to be governed by what we "currently know," …then how will we ever get beyond the institutional government captivity, we are currently trapped in, to become Zion? In that mindset, none of us would qualify. God expects of us to be Zion, before entering Zion. Entering Zion does not make you Zion.

I can see how, depending upon the eyes that you see through, you can justify the work as being "Enough." But, looking through different eyes, can you see how there is so much more? Both sets of eyes are initially opinions. I intend to prove my opinion as truth by holding fast all the way upon revelation to guide me through it. But I will not use my opinions to joust or spar with anyone else's. However, when all is said and done, I intend to stand on a foundation of rock and not move. Until then, I'm listening to the voice of the Lord, awaiting further light and knowledge to complete the project we are given.

- HuhWhatda February 19, 2018

(2 of 3)

If I were to compare your way of thinking to my way of thinking on this, I believe that my way has greater capacity, greater expectation, and requires me to improve and break through to the heavens. If I can accomplish that once, I can do it again, for other projects in the future. If you succeed at doing the job simply with "what you know," the next project will be done in like manner. When will we come to gain more if we only want what we already know? Now is the time to do the work and wrestle from God more. After all to be Israel literally means to wrestle a covenant from God. Too many think they've got the covenant, yet they haven't wrestled at all. I expect to wrestle from God this covenant, allowing him to make me into the stone cut without hands. Considering that concept, why would anyone settle for "Enough?"

The marvelous work about to come forth isn't yours or mine, although it will be done by

you and me, if we humbly stick to it. The marvelous work is Christ's! But, …just as water was turned to wine at Caina and only the servants who fetched the water and poured out wine knew it was Christ who performed the miracle, …those who do the work to write "the law" will never take credit for the skill of writing, knowing Christ performed the miracle. There must be servants willing, for God to perform the miracles through. I want to qualify as one of those, by my acting on unshaken faith, in His words alone, in His instructions alone, in His guidance alone. I fully intend to celebrate His hand in it when He accomplishes His great purposes, knowing the source of the miracle! But I want a piece of that action, in the work, in the labor, in the midst of the difficulty, to go through the process with His guidance. Hurrah for ISRAEL!

The quotes you refer to: "a light thing" and "if your hearts were right" seem to have a limited interpretation to fit your perspective. But, it can be understood differently, both pointing to the higher expectation I've been addressing in this post, obtaining revelation. Light can be seen in this context as luminescence and hearts being not right create barriers to revelation.

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- HuhWhatda February 19, 2018

(3 of 3)

What I recommend? Everything produced has been done in short-order. Much time has passed in the process of debate, but each time any work has been done, it was done in short-order. God is not a short-order cook. I recommend that we need to go from what we know, come together in our understanding, and write. Once written, rather than quickly pushing things through a vote, we need a bridge to be built to span the gap from where we have gotten in our best effort together, to where God intends for this to go. Thus making room for revelation to guide instead of reduced to picking the favorite document. I don’t think that this document would contain every truth (that’s a foolish and ridiculous idea to even consider). I do however think that it can be all encompassing, giving all direction, to begin the long journey back. The lots document comes up short in providing anything that encompasses, like the King Follet recommends. I recommend we continue to work.

This might sound frustrating to some, thinking that we must start from square one. Not true. We should better at working together because of our experience, so we would have an advantage.

Conclusion: When God speaks, He often speaks on multiple levels. The A&C is no different, as they can be seen on multiple levels. We too quickly think that we are included in those who know something of what the Lord is doing right now, when I know very little of Zion. Everyone involved here must utilize the light they see through to identify how they will respond. I believe in revelation, extending God's participation to more than simply picking the winning lotto ticket, and choosing the winning document. We must do work together, but it's Him that produces the miracle, and I expect nothing short of a miracle to get mutual agreement.

The lots document is far less than I expect of a group who have been taught to wait upon the Lord, and build upon the rock of revelation. Some I hold to a greater accountability than others, because in conversations with them, their current actions are far less than their understanding. And I include you two in that group. And that can be taken either as positive or negative, depending on how you perceive my heart.

In our Native American and Hawaiian history, documents have been written, on our behalf, that was considered by it's authors as harmless, beneficial to all, and in the best interest of the whole. In the process of transacting the document, our people have been stabbed in the back, and our land was taken. The lots document follows the same pattern. Its authors consider it harmless, beneficial to all, and in the best interest of the whole. Forcing us to accept it by a vote feels like a stab in the back, while you take from us the land covenant. Overly dramatic? Perhaps. Sufficed to say, we ought not limit ourselves by what we already know, while rejecting the Lord's hand of providence to give us more, making us more than we were before we began. Reconsider for more Revelation, and lets get back to work, wrestling a covenant from God, becoming ISRAEL!

Rob & Q Adolpho
"It's a good day to die!"

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

Hi Rob and Q,

Thank you so much for spelling this out so clearly. I really think I understand better, and I must say, I love and can subscribe to your vision of something more. I also love your infectious passion even if you are…uh…dramatic.

Here's where I get hung up. Well, actually, two things:

First, among this movement we have people of extremely varied backgrounds, understanding, ability, and connection with the Lord. It runs the gamut from one extreme to the other. Some may be adept at receiving revelation and hearing the Lord's voice, while others may have, thus far, little to no ability in this area. And yet, knowing this, the Lord has set the standard as mutual agreement in this light thing among such a motley crew. To me, that speaks of basic principles that even the most spiritually challenged among us can agree to. It cannot speak of anything else.

Now don't get me wrong: I LOVE the idea of further revelation, further light, greater truth, greater understanding. I want it, seek it, and expect it. But I'll be honest: given the massive disaster this has become, I simply do not believe such is possible on a group level, at this present time, with the group we currently have. It's not that I'm faithless;

quite the opposite. I have faith in the Lord. I do not have faith in people. Nor should I.

I'm trying to be realistic about what is currently achievable. And I believe the Lord is realistic about it as well. I'm reminded of the preface to the word of wisdom, "adapted to the capacity of the weak, and the weakest of all saints who are or can be called saints." This light thing, that we could have already accomplished with humble hearts, is adapted to the capacity of even the weakest among us. It must be, or there can never be mutual agreement.

In different circumstances, with greater experience and greater capacity, I believe the Lord will expect more of us, but at our present point, I believe the basics are all he expects. He told us to write a statement of principles; he didn't mention anything about expanding it into the fullness of the law that will govern all the earth. And he told US to write it. He specifically didn't mention anything about coming to him and getting massive amounts of new revelation for a higher law we do not yet know or understand. Nor do I believe such would bless, benefit and inform the newbies.

Brother, I'll tell you in love, I believe we will get there. We will rise up. But it will take time and experience. I believe you are looking beyond the mark for this first assignment. More will come that will stretch us further. It is not all to be done in a single step, nor can it be. And, as you know, I have immense respect for you both, and the level of spiritual capacity you have developed. That's not flattery; it's fact. I hope to develop the same, and am striving to do so. I don't want to be the one holding up the completion of this first assignment. Please have patience with those of us who are not quite there yet. (Continued)

- AdrianLarsen February 19, 2018

(Part 2)

The other place I get high centered is this: suppose the more spiritually adept among us were to rise, up, go to God and get greater things, then present them to the congregation. Our track record shows that such would be met with derision, opposition, envy, personal attacks, circular arguments, accusations, and endless contention. I realize we need to humble ourselves and do better than this, but I also realize the only person I can change is myself. I can't expect others to do differently than they have already done. I can only hope. Or wish. Meanwhile, the assignment remains unfinished, and no further assignment can be made.

I do honor and respect your concern about the history of both of your peoples, and how they have been abused by those who have written on their behalf. This is an important and valid concern. Given those circumstances and concerns, the ONLY safe and non-abusive approach, in my opinion, is to use the words of the Lord. Anything else does indeed run a risk of becoming what you fear. Happily, the Lots document does exactly that. It represents an equal set of universal principles that apply to all, regardless of heritage, circumstances, or history. It is non-abusive, beautiful and powerful in its ability to make us all equals. It does not impose any cultural overlay to which others must submit. I love this about it.

I'm concerned that pushing for higher and higher things, as a group, running faster than we have strength, will ultimately divide us further and destroy the equality we are hoping to achieve.

What do you have to help me get past these concerns?

Might there be wisdom in doing what is realistic and within our capabilities now, trusting

in full faith that the Lord WILL give more in due time, as we are prepared to receive it? Isn't that also trusting in the Lord?

Does completing this initial assignment prevent anything you have proposed from happening in the future? Might it be worthwhile to consider this first assignment a primer for greater things? How much easier will our next assignment be with what we have learned from the struggle with this one? And how important will it be to those who are struggling and troubled, to at least have one success to which they can point, and which will fortify them for that which lies ahead?

Thank you, thank you for sharing so powerfully and helping me understand your heart and your desires. There is nobility and beauty in what you propose. And I believe it will most certainly come in due time.

There are yet many steps between here and Zion. Let's take them one at a time, and let's take them together! "Brethren, shall we not go on in so great a cause? Go forward and not go backward. Courage, brethren! And on to the victory!"

Much love to you both,

Adrian and Tausha
"It's a good day to live—together!"

- Anonymous February 19, 2018

Adrian,

"Given those circumstances and concerns, the ONLY safe and non-abusive approach, in my opinion, is to use the words of the Lord. Anything else does indeed run a risk of becoming what you fear. Happily, the Lots document does exactly that."

The lottery document contains mostly words from Denver Snuffer.

Denver Snuffer is not Jesus Christ.

By your own reasoning you should dispute its adoption.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 20, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 20, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 20, 2018

"I have faith in the Lord. I do not have faith in people. Nor should I."

Nor should anyone have faith in any person other than the Lord, even if the person is Denver Snuffer.

Your support of the Lottery document is on its face self-contradictory, unsafe, and

abusive, by your own reasoning.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 20, 2018

To whom the fulfillment of the Lord's requirement may concern:

You are literally unable to fulfill the Lord's requirement of adopting a guide and standard by mutual agreement except by adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles. Whatever else you may possibly do with respect to this assignment does not fulfil this assignment.

Jesus took upon himself the sins of all mankind and was crucified in order to fulfill the requirements of his Father. He didn't want to do it and it was unpleasant to him. But he trusted in the Father and suffered what was put upon him and accomplished the task.

Why then do you not adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as your guide and standard, as Jesus requires of you?

Why do you not exercise faith in Christ and suffer this light thing which has been put upon you?

Do you suppose the other tasks the Lord will lay on us will be any more pleasant, or that you will want to do what he will ask then any more than you want to do what he requires of you now?

The test of a tool is whether it can accomplish the task one wants to accomplish; if it cannot, it is laid aside and a more suitable tool procured.

The test of a newly-hired servant is whether he will do all things whatsoever he is commanded in the way he is commanded to do them. If he will not, he cannot be trusted with anything of significance, for he either is working on his own agenda, or he is too dark of mind to comprehend the instructions which he has been given.

If you indeed desire to be the Lord's people, and to serve him, and to be a tool to accomplish the works of the Lord, then do exactly and only as he has required of you.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet February 20, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log February 20, 2018

Lori,

Let us be as merciful in judgement of one another as we hope God to be to us. The test of any guide and standard is indeed in its results. However, until we are pure, we judge others not by what they actually are, but by what we are inside. The motives we attribute to others are the things which move us. Essentially, in judgement, we are sticking ourselves into the other person's place and then revealing to ourselves what we would be intending if we were to do or say what the other does or says. Therefore it is best not to judge.

That the truth may be offensive to our sensibilities does not make it false, nor does it make it wrong. In the end, we will have to accept all truth if we wish to be brought to life, meaning saved, and the process of accepting truth and conforming to it can be painful. It takes a willingness to endure pain to oneself for the benefit of others to tolerate the truth when it contradicts our worldview. If one is unwilling to bear pain for the benefit of others, then fleeing or fighting is what happens when someone expresses an opinion that contradicts one's worldview where one lacks knowledge.

That is why the Lord says in the A&C that we are unable to respectfully disagree. We are unwilling to suffer for each other, as we are therefore unwilling to suffer for the Lord.

As for me, I hold nothing against any. I invited any and all to come so that I may explain to them why it the choices are The Rock or failure. I have come and tried to explain. I will still be available to explain until the people choose to fail.

Jared Livesey

- Log February 20, 2018

Because after that it won't matter.

- LynneMcKinley February 20, 2018

Thankyou Tausha:

"This forum has become toxic. It is the antithesis of Zion."

"..the comments on this forum have made even The Sermon on the Mount evoke negative connotations."

- Anonymous February 20, 2018

Thanks for your thoughtful reply, Fawn. You make some good points, though we still have some misunderstanding. The first one being the verse from RE 3 Nephi 5:10, which you said this about, “1- Ask yourself who are ‘these twelve.’ Since that is very specific, why should we presume that Christ was speaking of anyone other than the specific individuals he mentions?” I agree that is very specific, but the reason for the misunderstanding here, must be mine for including that beginning part. You see, I included it to show that it doesn’t appear to be the 12 he is addressing at this part because he is talking about them in the third person, “Therefore, blessed are ye if ye shall believe in me and be baptized after that ye have seen me and know that I am. And again, more blessed are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me and that ye know that I am. Yea, blessed are they who shall believe in your words and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized, for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost and shall receive a remission of their sins..." This seems to be addressed to the multitude gathered at Bountiful who have all seen Him and know that He is. He appears to be saying that the people who believe their words (similar to what He says about the 12) will be “more blessed” if they believe those words. If God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, this seems to indicate that any who experience what those at Bountiful experienced, and learned what they learned, can be sent by Him to those who have not had this experience yet, and that those that believe those words are not cursed for believing them, though men speak them, but are instead “more blessed.”

The definitive thing about trusting in man cursing a person seems to be defined in RE 2 Nephi 12:6, which says: “Woe be unto him that shall say, We have received the word of God, and we need no more of the word of God for we have enough. For behold, thus saith the Lord God, I will give unto the children of men line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little. And blessed are those who hearken unto my precepts and lend an ear unto my counsel, for they shall learn wisdom. For unto him that receiveth I will give more, and from them that shall say, We have enough, from them shall be taken away even that which they have. Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.” This verse gives an important exception and distinction to the rule. If their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost, they will not curse.

You quoted 2 Nephi 14:1, 2 Nephi 14:1 “And now, behold, my beloved brethren, I suppose that ye ponder somewhat in your hearts concerning that which ye should do after ye have entered in by the way. But behold, why do ye ponder these things in your hearts? Do ye not remember that I said unto you that after ye had received the Holy Ghost ye could speak with the tongue of angels? And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels save it were by the Holy Ghost? Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost, wherefore they speak the words of Christ. Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ, for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do. Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye cannot understand them, it will be because ye ask not neither do ye knock. Wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark. For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do. Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and there will be no more doctrine given until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. And when he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh, the things which he shall say unto you shall ye observe to do.”

-Sarah S

- Anonymous February 20, 2018

Part 2
Those who speak a precept by the power of the Holy Ghost (again, here is the exception: “save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost”), like angels, are speaking the words of Christ. And therefore if we receive them, they are showing “unto you all things what ye should do.” It appears that these bless us, and do not curse us, unless we reject them.

So, I guess the things worth asking is if we are going to be held accountable for the precepts Joseph Smith or Denver have delivered by the power of the Holy Ghost? We could go through each of the quotes from Joseph and Denver in question and figure out from God if they are His precepts. If they aren’t, they seem safe to reject. If they are from God, and we receive them by the power of the Holy Ghost, we aren’t taking it from man, are we? We are taking it from God, by the power of the Holy Ghost He promised would show us all things we would do. If they are given by the power of the Holy Ghost and we don’t receive them, we are leaving those seeds on the wayside to be devoured by the birds, rather than producing abundant fruit.

I’ll not speak for this proposal, or others. The only thing I cared to address here was the reasoning that our G&S can’t include any quotes from Denver because that will curse people, and to consider what we are blessed by.

Thanks again for the reply, it helped me get a better understanding of where you’re

coming from. I appreciate the last verse you shared. It is very appropriate for this moment in time.

Sorry for the misunderstanding Jared. I replied to Fawn, but I addressed you both. You are welcome to respond and delete your responses as many times as your heart desires.

Take care,
Sarah S

- etluxentenebrislucet February 20, 2018

I appreciate your correction to me, Jared. I genuinely do, though it does hurt. But I realize this statement of principles does not require me or my input, in fact none of them has my input. I'm okay with that. What can I give to anyone here? What would you have me offer up? How can I serve?

As to suffering, it is not suffering I have trouble with, and truth is welcomed in my heart. I do not find it offensive, just painful at times to receive. That is okay, for I know the growth and wisdom that comes after.

And I do not fear failure. Failure is just an opportunity to keep trying. We might have to figure out ourselves, try something new and challenging, but failure would not be the result IF our hearts become right before him. Either way, I'm just not going to go there. The Lord will have His people. I'm looking to Him. Denver said in one of the 10 talks that "until you succeed, you have failed." I used to think of that so negatively and felt much pain. Then I realized it meant I could keep trying...because Christ is that good and faithful! "Rejoice," He says.

There is nothing about our conduct thus far that speaks to me of nobleness, or meekness, or love, or trust, or plain ole caring. It's been like watching bulls fight--every comment is a red cape being waved in front of somebody, or watching dogs fight over a bone--none are willing to let go for any reason.

Why the hell do we seem unable to master the art of online communication? It is not impossible, is it? If so, then we need to take down this whole blog thing and refuse to interact at all digitally. And we need to be willing to accept our collective part in this.

Maybe it is time to approach things from a different perspective? Zion, after all, is not like anything we are presently familiar with. So how can we know what we are to do to have an honest, open, caring discourse that will result in the creation of mutually agreed upon guide and standard unless we each adjust ourselves so we can receive necessary revelation?

We sound like pharisees, the lot of us. We seem to know so much yet how are we any more like Christ for what we claim to know? That is the wild and bitter fruit I mentioned. Satan could quote the whole Bible to me, I bet, yet still be Satan. He would still offer me bitter fruit. Shall I partake? Well, I guess if I wanted to know Hell a bit better...

I listened this morning to that last recorded talk Denver gave in January--"That We Might Be One." I've listened to it repeatedly, as perhaps many here have including yourself. I listened and wondered at us. So many voices, and all of them think they are right and should be hearkened unto. My measuring stick is the Spirit I feel (the fruit I taste) when I read the scriptures on my own, or the words of Joseph Smith, or the talks, messages, and books Denver Snuffer has written. I can feel and taste the Light being offered.

I am looking for a people who are not full of themselves but are instead filled with the Light and Spirit of Christ. I would dearly love to read a statement of principles that doesn't sound or look like a how-to-do-church book. Instead, I want to be filled with Light, as I am when I read Joseph Smith's words and writings or Denver Snuffer's words or writings. I want to feast upon the words of Christ, which are the words of Life. Funny how we can quote the scriptures/people with Light yet not convey all the Light that is in them, huh? If I or a people are not also filled with that same Light, how can our words, our thoughts, our ideas convey Light and Life?

“Luminous beings are we, not this crude matter.” Yoda

- MichaelBurke February 20, 2018

"Here's another way it ends: The body simply recognizes that you are a wolf in sheep's clothing, deceived and deceiving, attempting to establish false ideas by force, stubbornness, and arrogance."

This is just an observation from an outside observer, but it's something that seems significant to me.

For whatever reason, Jared himself seems to have advised you all not to regard him as part of your body on September 4th, 2017 (which was after the Boise conference), in a blog post he entittled "a confession to me readers."

When he said this:

"I presently do not know the covenant document to come from God. Therefore I had no foundation of truth - no surety of knowledge, and no confidence. Therefore I should have said nothing. Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say 'yes' when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer, they should consider me as not being part of that covenant."

Three days latter he wrote this:

"So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in? You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it. You can't unring the bell."

But to my knowledge, he has never said how he "discovered" that he had entered into a covenant that he was not qualified for, and had been acknowledged by God as having entered in."

I've tried to ask him whether such statements are based on what he's deduced from the AC document, scripture, and his own state of mind during and after the conference, or whether he's trying to imply that he received some personal revelation, but to my knowledge he's never answered that question, nor has he ever really said that he KNOWS that he's a covenant holder.

Wouldn't anyone else like to know if he can now honestly say that he KNOWS the covenant offered in Boise to be of God, and KNOWS himself to be a covenant holder?

I should think that in all this discussion that would be of some interest, because if God hasn't answered his inquiries about the covenant, and if he doesn't really KNOW that he's a participant, there would seem little reason for any of you not to follow the advice

he gave you all on September 4th.

And if he is a participant in the covenant you all accepted the previous day, God would seem to have ignored the fact that he didn't really answer at least one of the questions honestly.

This seems odd to me, and I invite any thoughts or comments from Jared, Adrian, or anyone else who cares to comment.

Also, to Adrian.

Jared wrote this today:

"To whom the fulfillment of the Lord's requirement may concern:

You are literally unable to fulfill the Lord's requirement of adopting a guide and standard by mutual agreement except by adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles[1]. Whatever else you may possibly do with respect to this assignment does not fulfil this assignment (footnote: 1] This is because I am a covenant participant and permanently dispute the adoption of any document as the guide and standard other than The Rock of Jesus Christ.)"

How exactly is his logic flawed?

Is he a covenant holder, and if he is, can his descent actually invalidate any GS all the rest of you mutually agree on?

- LynneMcKinley February 20, 2018

Yes, I read through all the comments, each person striving to be understood, making valid points. I am in awe of the gifts so apparent in the thought processes of those commenting. I try to detach, stay away, not be emotionally involved in what is transpiring here, but I can't. I care. I guess I'm probably like that wonky aunt Denver talked about who needed to be included. I'm not as gifted with words as so many here are, I'm stressed and frustrated and so profoundly saddened by all this. Most of us have not met in person, we're just names still. I will say that one of the things I miss most about the LDS Church is the fellowship. Not the superficial kind, but that eternal friendship and connection I felt as I served in any calling and sacrificed for those I served. Week after week after year we worked together for the kids, for the ward, for the stake, and we got to know each other on those sacrifices of time and service. In primary I knew every child and they knew me. In Relief Society we rolled up our sleeves and served together, I knew every sister, her husband, her kids, her dreams. In young women callings I loved those sisters serving beside me and loved all the girls, they were as my own daughters. I miss that in this so far stiff and sterile movement. We are still so one dimensional. We think therefore we comment in forums and groups. Rob will understand, maybe a few others, but we need a good luau. We need to hang out and talk story and serve each other and get to know each other's kids and see each other in the morning with bad hair and no makeup. How do we do that? We can call a conference and sit in chairs and listen to speakers and we'll lose our kids. They'll bail. This forum, this discussion, this contending, this push back on every point just annihilates my heart. So yes, I'm stressed. How in God's name can we just get together in person, see each other's eyes and smiles and facial expressions as we talk? We live in freaking Babylon and most of us can't get time off work for a three day camp out. I weep because I want to know you in person, each of you. I want to know and love your kids like you do. I want to be included in your day to day life, and I want you in mine. I have no idea if I've communicated anything at all here, I'm typing on my tiny phone and I can't proof this. All

this is to say that I love you guys. I read your stuff, I am amazed at how much you care. I wish I was bright enough or articulate enough to come up with some solution to the current dilemma, but I'm not. It appears that we need some project, some service, some unified work, some calling, some community of close living, some bigger picture of who we are and how we can become. There's certainly a lot I don't know, but one thing I do know: our kids are watching us and what we do here. If they aren't loved and included Zion doesn't happen without them. And if any of you aren't included, it will feel like hell, missing you. God, help us.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 20, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LynneMcKinley February 20, 2018

The !!!??? post was in response to this, above, which just blew my mind:
"You're the only Mormons left that I'm not certain I understand, and Jared seems to be the only one standing all on His own (unless he actually is standing with Christ because of some personal revelation he's received, and if he is I believe Denver is probably a fallen prophet, and the rest you are most likely a fallen people."

- etluxentenebrislucet February 20, 2018

Oh Lynne, you spoke my heart, and probably the hearts of many others!!! Never doubt what you contribute here. Ever.

Luau, YES! If anyone ever hosts one, please remember my family to invite. LOL I would love a good family game day/night myself. And I think you are on to something with a need to have face-to-face bonding moments. I don't know how to do that either on a bigger scale when this whole group is made up of families and small fellowships spread everywhere. But maybe it simply starts with us viewing each other, near and far, as extended family? And how do we interact with our families, with our sisters or brothers, aunties and uncles, moms and dads? Makes me look forward to when there are appointed feasts and holidays. Can you imagine the shared joy?

This whole process causes me the same emotional distress. You and I could designate ourselves the crazy aunties. ;) At least we all do care. That should mean something, right? Viewing with that lens helps me have some compassion for responses and reactions. But lately it has gotten a bit much for me. :(I'm like, people!

In one of Denver's early blog posts he mentioned a book my husband and I felt to get and read--The Marketing of Evil. We also got the sequel How Evil Works. I'm reading the latter right now and I've come to realize how much we are manipulated in our culture--fear, intimidation, manipulation of emotions, etc. It's crazy, scary stuff to learn about, especially if we are not aware of how adversarial spirits affect us. Contention is a spirit, as scriptures teach and Denver pointed out in his last fellowship talk. We simply must learn about how evil affects us, individually and collectively, and know how to recognize it among us; then we need to have a willingness to be corrected through our bonds of friendship. Know what I mean? I believe it is part of the knowledge Joseph taught we must gain in order to be saved.

I agree that thus far everything seems too much like "church." But in time I think we can figure this all out, especially if we can discern how to let Holy Spirit guide us. And for sure, let's keep our arms open for everyone so even if some are not interested right now they will always know the door is open to them. (heart emoji)

Take care, Lynne. You are amazing and help me feel less alone in my responses here.
Lori

- Anonymous February 20, 2018

“You think Satan will be bound a thousand years, and it will be so, but do not understand your own duty to bind that spirit within you so that you give no heed to accuse others. It is not enough to say you love God; you must also love your fellow man. Nor is it enough to say you love your fellow man while you, as Satan, divide, contend and dispute against any person who labors on an errand seeking to do my will. How you proceed must be as noble as the cause you seek. You have become your own adversaries, and you cannot be Satan and also be mine. Repent, therefore, like Peter and end your unkind and untrue accusations against one another, and make peace. How shall there ever come a thousand years of peace if the people who are mine do not love one another? How shall Satan be bound if there are no people of one heart and one mind?”

- HuhWhatda February 21, 2018

1 of 3

Adrian & Tausha,

I’m writing this to address your two concerns, but more importantly to offer a bigger picture context, as I think that’s what Joseph was doing with the King Follet Discourse, and that is certainly what Denver is doing by restoring and moving forward from Joseph’s work. The work upon us is to go from Elias to Elijah. I may not respond to your two concerns in the order you asked them, but they are being addressed in what I am writing. I honestly don’t believe that the question leads, manages, or controls the answer. I think it makes room for more to be given. So, I’m grateful for the question because it gives me space to share an answer within me, to add light to the work required of us.

The first three days of creation offer great insight to what’s going on with us now. Restoration is no different from a creation, as we begin with matter unorganized, separate land and water, and lights are placed to direct the Earth. From Abraham4:18 we learn that the gods commanded and waited for the things that were commanded to obey. Not only do we matter, we are the matter, or the things being commanded. God simply awaits our obedience. It is us in question: will we obey, and take on a “higher order” being offered in the command, or will we maintain status quo and backslide, to remain “out of order?” All past Zion successes follow the same pattern, a Father commands, and the children obey by repenting. As Zion is first spiritual, and then physical, consider this concept to our current circumstance of Governing Principles “in light” of the creation.

In terms of the first day, Denver has done a hell of a job laying truths out before us, easy for us to understand, organizing matter that was lost in history. When he spoke, he offered light, and I recognized it, …and there was light! Denver rose up to God’s presence, obtained a message, and came with God’s message to impose order on us. Those who truly belong to this movement, received as much light as they had capacity to receive, and to the degree of the light they were able to receive is the degree to which they are “in order” and can progress. We have found great difficulty absorbing all the information, at first, replaying the ten talks hundreds of times, causing virtue to garnish our thoughts unceasingly, and we can all witness that Denver has fed Christ’s sheep as they are growing, just as Peter was commanded to do in the Book of John. Peter was

instructed to feed Christ's sheep as they grow, as they increase, and as they are added upon, …I believe this is in direct alignment to the first three days of creation, and in our case, the first three days of restoration.

The first day is prerequisite to the second day, because the light of the first day must "increase" in the second day, separating waters from dry land. Waters are commonly understood as chaos, adding great symbolism to Christ's ability to walk on water, as if it were dry land. Christ is aptly associated with Aquarius as the return of the fish man, or the one from the great deep, walking upon chaos because He is TRUTH. Dry land is provided for man to dwell as they increase in truth, until we too can walk in the deep, or walk on water. As an aside: perhaps building on sand is a bad idea, not only because sand (like opinions) is a shifting foundation, but also because of it's closeness in proximity to waters of chaos.

- HuhWhatda February 21, 2018

2 of 3

Speaking spiritually, or in other words internally, consider our current circumstances as the second day of restoration. We all must use the light received in the first day, to separate opinions of chaos, from the dry land of truth, so that land can be provided for life to grow, …in us. Satan would use the battle of "opinions" to cover the dry land with waters of chaos. Our contentions have been the perfect sample specimen of forcing opinions on one another by compulsion, making it impossible for the land to be safe for any life. We have certainly found that to be the case, here, online. Those with sufficient light ought to be able to separate opinions from truth, for the dry land to appear, both in us and the covenanted land of inheritance.

Those with insufficient light need not despair. Denver has written books that can help all understand the scriptures better. So go back to what was offered in the first day of restoration, and then calm yourself down by separating opinion from truth. "No poor among us" is an instruction for those who know more to work with those who don't, so that they know as you know, and they are able to separate truth from the error of chaos. Trust me, we are all trapped in this place, held captive in our minds by the construct of our environment, remaining unredeemed, and needing help. So we ought to help one another make the separation of truth, producing dry land to build upon. Once land is separated from the chaos of the world's institutional mindset, then can the land be acquired. We all self-identify by our ability to separate truth from opinion, not fighting opinion, but seeking truth to displace our opinions. I know, easier said than done. Nonetheless, it is not only possible, it is expected of God's covenant people, Israel.

- HuhWhatda February 21, 2018

3 of 3

It is my belief, and I would never impose this belief upon anyone else, that the Governing Principles is precisely as I have stated it, as a law, aligning with the third day. On the third day of creation, lights were set in the firmament, to direct the Earth. Since that day of creation, the Earth has obeyed a celestial law by obeying the lights in the firmament, and will acquire a celestial glory. It is an eternal principle that light travels from a greater order to a lesser order, just as heat travels from a hot body to a cold body, and never the other direction. Scientists would have us believe that darkness can organize the light. It is not so.

Likewise, on the third day of creation a Governing Principle is required. But, we have

ourselves a conundrum. The guy with the most light, among us, has been removed from the equation. Which, by the way, is a part of the plan of salvation, according to King Follet Discourse. The son takes the place of the father, leaving a vacancy to be filled, and so on. In Denver's absence, the pattern must prevail, because God's house is a house of order, and because God is the same yesterday, today and forever, using patterns.

Given this understanding, ambitious people would rise up, clamoring for rank in Denver's absence, just as Brigham Young rose up in Joseph's absence. It is always the case of the imitation. The imitation controls the minds of the people into thinking they are connected to heaven, and once the minds of the people are under their spell (or the people are convinced the imitation is legitimate), the imitators can build shopping malls, Polynesian Cultural Centers, and fair sumptuously in this world, taking not only the physical lands of covenant, but the people of the covenant land as well, that in many instances chosen vessels err and are led astray.

Satan was the first imitator in the garden of Eden, giving the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil to Adam & Eve. The grandness of his imitation caused the fall of the entire creation. Cain was the next imitator, and his imitation required a flood to wipe out all living creatures not preserved in the ark. The control of Cain's imitation had such a great hold on the minds of the people, nothing less than a flood was necessary. Ham stole the garment of Noah, and Pharaoh (direct descendent of Ham), used the imitation to control the minds of the people in Egypt. The Egyptian imitation caused Egypt to survive for over two thousand years in bondage. Moses rescued Israel from Egypt's bondage, but from the lesser law came the Jewish Deuteronomic imitation. Joseph Smith was barely able to get things off the ground before being killed, and Brigham's imitation lasted two hundred years. And many of the minds of the LDS saints remain in bondage to Brigham's imitation. We ought not follow Satan's ambition rising up in imitation. But, instead let greater light provide order for the lesser light.

In Denver's absence, how do we differentiate between greater and lesser light? By their fruits! Fruits are the words they speak. In Denver and Joseph's absence, we must hear in one another to determine where light is coming from, and let that light add order. If you are the one with greater light, and you are sitting back, you have failed to bear the burden of light, placing it under a bushel. If we truly have done the work of the second day, and separated opinion and truth within us, …and if more truth is what you seek to displace your opinions until you are filled with truth, …then rather than defending opinions, let the greater light win out. Thus, …IT WILL BE A LIGHT THING.

- HuhWhatda February 21, 2018

4 of 3 ;)

We are too concerned about the by-product of mutual agreement, that we never do the work of producing sweet fruits. We want to pick the fruit prematurely, before it ripens, take it to market and sell it green. The documents on the table represent good fruit, just green, picked too early, unable to ripen on the tree. Our focus should be the sweetness of the fruit. People's reaction, be it the SC, the dissenters, the portal closers and portal openers, …none of their reactions determines the quality of the fruit. It's the work that determines the fruit. And the work is light, just as Christ's burden is light, just as this project was a light thing, just as the saints were condemned for treating the BOM lightly, disrespecting its contents full of light. Christ's fruits were of the best quality, but people killed Him. The fruits don't produce unity with people who'd rather remain in the dark. Christ's fruits will be desirable, and mutually agreeable, to those who want greater light to impose order on lesser light. Zion will be those who want the fruits of the tree of life.

As God never gives a commandment, save He prepare a way for us to accomplish it, …I think that rejecting to be ordered by more truth is a rejection to be order in Zion.

At one point I thought as you do, trying to find the least common denominator. I think differently now. Rather than a vote, or drawing lots, or using words of people unable to participate in this project (Denver & Joseph), to choose which document ought to represent us, …let all proposed documents be evaluated by the lights in the firmament on the third day. Let us decide which gives us direction and instruction in the heavens, to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, …and let the rest of creation be "added" unto us.

Mahalo Ke Akua!
(Praise God!)

Rob & Q Adolpho

- MichaelBurke February 21, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke February 21, 2018

Adrian: "Here's another way it ends: The body simply recognizes that you are a wolf in sheep's clothing, deceived and deceiving, attempting to establish false ideas by force, stubbornness, and arrogance. And having recognized this, they simply choose to ignore you."

Anonymous: "No one else has the power to exclude you. You have accomplished that on your own."

Jared: "And also remember: your chosen beliefs have no effect upon my covenant status."

Devin Fausett: "Jared (Log) clearly states "they should not consider me part of that covenant." He admits he made the covenant and then withdraws from it."

Questions (for all inretested parties): Is Jared a covenant holder?

Was he ever a covenant holder if he lied on the very first question you were all asked to answer before you entered into the covenant?

How could he withdraw from a covenant he never lawfully entered into, or speak of unringing a bell he only pretended to ring?

And what exactly is "the body," what's required of it, and what does mutual consent mean?

If a covenant holder (not necessarily Jared) simply refuses to humble himself and to be of one mind and heart with the other covenant holders, is he still part of the body (and does his descent have the power to block the body from adopting a GS by mutual consent)?

- etluxentenebrislucet February 21, 2018

Thank you, Rob and Q. That was beautiful to read. I understand my own struggles and errors so much better now, and feel enabled to make good sense of all that has been coming to me. I have appreciated these conversations you and the Larsens have had. They are good examples of how to simply talk to one another. Thank you all. (Sorry for my craziness at times.)

- Anonymous February 21, 2018

I really think that you can learn a lot from what Rob (Hey What'da?) is saying. He has adopted a paradigm, a mental map if you will, that is allowing him to see a bigger picture. He shows signs of metanoia (expanding or changing his mind).

The Lord's sheep hear His voice. The truth resonates with them. THEY will mutually coalesce around what is right and true. They don't need to vote on truth.

Dan

- Anonymous February 21, 2018

This is very well stated, Adrian. Thank you for taking the time to write this. It is how our entire family thinks on this matter. I appreciate you having the ability to put ideas into words, and you did it very kindly and with respect.

- Anonymous February 21, 2018

I apologize I meant to post the above praise for Adrian's comment, directly under Adrian's previous comment above, not here. Wanted to clarify what I was in agreement with.

- Taylor February 21, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- LynneMcKinley February 25, 2018

I can't speak for Jared, I can only speak for myself. I'm not going anywhere without him. I love him and we need him. His version of Zion may not fill a lot of seats, but he won't be lonely. I'll be there, and I'll bring my friends.

- YourFriend February 25, 2018

Becoming one is definitely a struggle. I have experienced so much over the last 10 years that has helped me to align my every particle with my Savior. And if for one split second I veer away, I am repenting because I feel that Spirit when it even hints at departing. And I do feel that. It is a feeling when the Spirit of God begins to depart. Otherwise there is a oneness, a unity, a warmth, a peace, a complete alignment. Some may call it Spiritual Rebirth, some Baptism of Fire, some being Perfect in Christ, some becoming a New Creature in Christ. I don’t know all the scriptural ins and outs of it. I just know it is awesome, I love it, and I want it to continue. I believe that is what is missing with us. Our repentance must be full and hearts broken for our vessels to be clean and filled with the mind and heart of Jesus. When we are filled with His love, then all of this trival bickering becomes meaningless. I am not holding myself up as a light, I am a sorry excuse. But I do know that if we are to consider ourselves worthy of this effort we must change from our carnal, natural ways. We must be Celestial in our interactions, in our motives, in our desires.

To Jared I would say, brother I love you but you are incorrect in your assumptions. I have previously responded to all of Jared's rebuttals with good valid scriptural responses, most of which have been repeated here. God bless you Jared. Jared does not accept Denver as God's Hand, so I don't believe he has accepted the covenant. To Rob and Q, I would say I love you and greatly respect your opinions, but guys where were you when we were working together on the Lot's G & S? We labored together, many who are already in fellowships were crafting standards from what they were already doing, and what was working for them. What better guides and standards can we have? Why must we think we have not done enough, or have been hasty in this process? We all have labored, toiled, prayed, fasted, is it not enough? My whole heart has been in it from the beginning. It is supposed to be a light thing. Is it not? We must rise to the commandment.

If there are still a few among us that are not in alignment, then is it not their responsibility to figure out why so many awesome servants of God are, and seek to become one with a righteous body of believers? I have confidence that the majority of this body are the noble and great ones who were chosen from before the world was, who have been gathered together by God's Hand to labor in the vineyard. Now if the majority of the noble and great ones are in alignment, I would go with them. I know the path they have walked and you don't get here without a considerable amount of suffering and sacrifice.

A person who is reborn of the spirit is not of the flesh, the natural man has been purged out of them. I repent if I am in error, but if we are going to become one with each other, we are going to have to become one with Christ. Are we all there? If not, let's start repenting of sins, iniquity and natural man tendencies and ask for our weakness to become our strengths. Let's humble ourselves and acknowledge our nothingness before our Lord. Let's offer the Lord a living sacrifice. Let's become true sons and daughters of our Holy Redeemer united in the family of God. Let's love each other by sacrificing and submitting to the G&S that most of us support. Let's do it out of love. In the end, we may not be able to change each other, but we can change ourselves. God will acknowledge our hearts if they are like His. God bless you brothers and sisters. I love you and I hope I can make it to Phoenix to be with you. Thank you all for your efforts. My prayers are continually with you. I pray I have not offended. And I support Adrian and his proposal. We will have to formally gain mutual agreement at some point for any G&S to be published.
Love, Lisa

- LynneMcKinley February 26, 2018

"In the end, we may not be able to change each other, but we can change ourselves. God will acknowledge our hearts if they are like His."

99/1

- DevinFausett February 27, 2018

Karen, you put into eloquent words what is in my heart regarding this matter. Thank you and I echo CherryAnn's sentiment...AMEN!!!

- HuhWhatda February 27, 2018

1 of 3

Lisa,

You asked Rob & Q, where we were while you were working on the Lot's G&S?

I have stated this before, but, in the string of thousands of posts, emails, etc., you might not have been directly involved with this effort as long as we have, so I'll fill you in. The Lot's program was an effort to fix the issue of "who" writes the document. Too much contention has surrounded the Governing Principles project, with people claiming: original assignment, the assignment of their fellowship, and the overtaking of the assignment by the "popular." Who writes has been the surface, and most obvious, initial concern. In answer to the issue, those promoting lots tried leveling the playing field by using the system of lots to decide who will write. Equality has been their mantra. And who will write has never bothered my family. However, using lots to select "who writes" has not solved the issue of "what is written."

What is written describes the content of the document. Very few have questioned and scrutinized "the content" of the document. The only questions asked up until now is, "…Is it true?" or "…Is it enough?" This line of questioning is hasty, seeking only to get the assignment done, rather than pondering what it's for? The answers claiming to be from the Lord only identify that "The Lord chose our document as the winner!" None of them indicate any more than "Atta-boy, you won that one!" Throughout the process of scrutinizing the documents, I haven't heard anyone ask the question, "What are we going to do with it once it's written?" …or "What's the function of the document?" …or "What's God's mind and will for the implementing of this assignment?" Since when did God ever command something for no reason? If Zion was created before, and God's house is a house of order (patterns), then this Zion will be established in a similar pattern as all Zion's have been established. God is the same.

I am putting into question the "content" of all the documents being considered (including both Aug 5th and the Lots). The assignment might seem "simple," …as if it's only a writing assignment representing the least common denominator, or the least common beliefs (which I believed at one point, but no longer). No one has ever communicated that it is anything more than a writing assignment of the LCD. Observing our interactions, however, I have come to realize that our least common denominator is "nothing!" Not that we have nothing in common, because we have many things in common. Our common denominator is "nothing" because we are all stratified in our understanding of the things we may have in common.

Establishing our content on the least common beliefs is to trust in the lesser light to govern the greater light (Creation Ex-Nihilo or creation out of nothing), …when it ought to be the other way around. Greater light should lead the lesser light. If we are to be self-governed, we must allow the greater light to lead out, to produce "an environment" where all can be free to grow at their own pace. Truth ought to displace opinions, until we are filled with truth, …and all truth is circumscribed in all of us. That is an environment in which Christ may appear, so no man need say 'know ye the Lord,' because all truth is circumscribed in Him. Until then, we are all in transition, from opinions to truth. Thus the need for better content.

- HuhWhatda February 27, 2018

2 of 3

The content of the documents on the table does not provide the functionality to produce such an environment. It only produces a checklist, reducing the scriptures referenced within them, down to our level of understanding, as the least common denominator, …or in other words reducing scriptures to the damned (stuck in progression). Likewise, sealing ourselves to our dead is being sealed to the damned because they too are stuck

in progression. Our kindred dead are the lesser light awaiting us to rise up to become greater light, or else join them in death. We have the ability to change the status from damned to enlightened. If we are to ascend, we must be sealed to father's in the heaven. We must rise up. To me, our fruits, or our words, must be better. "The Content" of the documents on the table is in question.

We chose not to participate in the drawing of lots. We do not believe it is an expression of the kind of faith we want to develop. The experience of Nephi retrieving the plates tried three options: Lots/ Logic/ The Voice. The voice of the Lord is the method all prophets recommend. I prefer to hear the voice of the Lord. When the Lord's voice speaks to me, I'll stick with what I hear, until that same voice tells me I'm done. I would recommend the same for all who hear His voice. If you have heard that voice telling you that you are done, then be done, instead of forcing your revelation upon those of us who are not done. I do not discount another man's belief system. It just doesn't represent mine. If the Lord's voice has not instructed me yet, I would defer to logic (and at one point I did, until I received His voice). And if logic is not available in me, I might consider chance. But, to use chance and logic, over the voice of the Lord, does not represent wisdom to me. For me, I am still being instructed to continue by the Lord's voice. I will not choose a game of chance or logic over the voice of the Lord's instruction to me. You can do how you please, I'll not try convincing you to do things my way. But the same courtesy ought to be offered my family. If you and your house are done, then be done, but don't force me to be done by recommending a vote. Christ is the only one capable to lead this work. A vote represents compulsion to me.

This assignment is certainly "a light thing," …because it is Christ's assignment to lead out and establish Zion. His voice speaks only light. I hope to emulate Him in this response, trying to add light to the work of the Governing Principles. However, "a light thing," in these threads of communication, has been re-interpreted as: an easy thing, a thing that is not heavy, a thing that we can quickly get through and should be done with by now. At each turn of the Governing Principles, the work has been incomplete (according to the functionality referred to above), …and I have asked to continue to work because we constantly end up in "deadlock," unable to move forward. But "the powers that be" always want to wrap things up quickly, rather than wait for the voice of the Lord to guide us through deadlock. As you have stated, much fasting and prayer has taken place, …on our part as well, …but you and others would recommend "it is enough." All of the contention you have bitterly expressed at us, surrounds THE VOTING and finalizing of a document, …only because we would not vote the same. But, rather than pursuing for peace, by seeking for more light (through greater revelation), …unrighteous dominion has ruled out, forcing a crushing vote to justify it as the word of God. I hear in your reply the same request for those who disagree with you: if they are righteous, then they must agree with you. Rather than a light thing, we are in deadlock (the masses versus the few) because, instead of "a light thing," we have treated one another lightly.

- HuhWhatda February 27, 2018

3 of 3

You and many others are of the opinion that "majority wins." If that is the case, then your model for Zion is democracy, and not self-governance (agency). Mob rule is no different than what you're recommending with a vote. The blog "All or Nothing" is a blog of Zion Denver wrote in September- October 2016. The government system described of Zion is a government with no government. The law lived there is far higher than the overarching government of the country Zion is located in, …and it will be a location where abundance will thrive, …without threat to the laws of the land. That law can be written now, and lived within our families and our fellowships, without problem. It can condition a people who can be brought into proximity with one another, without contention,

preparatory to New Jerusalem.

The law does not require knowledge of all the tenets. It must however remove the institutional bondage we are accustomed to. The documents currently on the table (including the lots) do not address “laws” or “self-governance.” It leaves a vacancy for or a vacuum in it’s absence. And in it’s vacancy, you are supporting a system of “voting.” Once we are required to vote, somebody must “tally the votes” and make an “executive decision” on the winner. By supporting this recommendation, you are not only making all of the others the losers, but now we have an “executor” to fill the vacancy of the governing body. And that brings us full circle, like a dog returning to it’s vomit. LDS 2.0 is the by-product of this vote-off. You can do that, but I would not recommend it.

A government with no government is a foreign idea to our minds, stuck within bondage of the world’s governmental systems. We keep regurgitating more government, because we are programmed in this society. The answer is not in what we already know, although it will require some of what we have been taught in scripture and by Denver. We need this labor to be a “LIGHT” thing, or in other words, a “REVELATION” thing. The Governing Principles will prepare a people to acquire the land as an inheritance. It will be a law of governing without government. The law that should go forth to govern all the Earth must be established and obeyed before a people can be worthy to acquire the land. The moment you require a vote is the moment you establish a government because you require “a governing body” to finalize the motion. It is a good description of a dog returning to it’s vomit, when the moment we are free of a governing institution (LDS 1.0), we fill the vacancy with another governing institution, forcing a vote. If we are a people belonging to Zion, then we should act like it. All of it should be done by agency, and not by vote.

You said you would repent if you are in error. I have stated error in your thinking. Question is, will you keep your word and look further into the matter, by studying “All or Nothing,” or by considering King Follet’s concepts to “…seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,” or by questioning the content for functionality, and repent? You are free to vote and to stop. I’ll not stand in your way. For me, I will continue working with the voice of the Lord to me until instructed to stop, and not discredit His voice to you.

Best of luck on your discernment,

Rob & Q Adolpho

- YourFriend February 27, 2018

Hi Q,
Thanks so much for going back over your previously explained beliefs. I know it can be tiring to continue to belabor a point. Let me begin by expressing my love for you and asking you to forgive me of any unrighteous dominion that has taken place on my part. I do not wish to compel or control in any way.
You have made the statement before that just because I have heard a voice does not mean you have heard the same voice. That may be true. The way we come to hear the voice depends on many things. I have always been blessed with a pretty clear conduit to the Lord, at least after my initial awakening anyway. I can’t really take credit, I don’t think I deserve the clarity that I have been given. But I am sure grateful for it. You mentioned that the documents do not adequately create an environment for us to come unto Christ and be blessed by His presence. At least that is what I think you said. I believe that is a personal journey. I envision the document as something that outlines what we are doing, simple and clear. Worshipping together in a fellowship, taking care of those in need, repenting, praying, regular stuff, etc, that is how we come to know the Lord. The Lord

must try us individually. That is why having a Prophet that tells you everything to do won't work. That prophet won't know what to ask you to sacrifice. Only the Lord will. And he will ask you to lay on the altar the thing or person you love the most. Whatever produces the broken heart sufficient for you to be prepared to approach Him. So it is always going to be between you and Him. The fellowships create the environment just as we have always done, well hopefully without all the false doctrine and unrighteous dominion. I have read all of Joseph's speeches, all of his quotes. I did it because of my personal desires, not my environment. I serve whoever the Lord directs me to serve, give what the Lord asks me to give, do what He asks me to do, and be what He wants me to be. As a result I know Him, I have seen Him, talked to Him face to face. I don't say this to boast, I say it as a witness of Him, not just of His name. That is how it is done. You don't need anything fancy or perceived greater light. Placing your trust in anyone or thing but Him in this process will bring error, even if it is perceived greater light through some higher mysteries, because of the pride you have because you think you know them. (I am talking about myself here, because I already made those errors.) The light must be in you, because you have come to Him broken and alone, begging for Him to release you from your suffering. He comes to you as a comforter. He ultimately redeems you His and makes you one with Him and with the Father. Your heart changes, you have true charity, which is His love, His essence operating in your being. That's my way of explaining it anyway.

- YourFriend February 27, 2018

Cont. I believe we are way over thinking this thing. The document needs only to be a guide and standard for how to function in a fellowship, hence the description Guide/Standard. I used to work in a company that lived by Standard Operating Procedures and Guides or How to's. I have written countless of these documents. They contain a blueprint to follow, a basic set of instructions. I think there are about 4 or 500 of us who participate in these processes. We are different people with different backgrounds, different opinions. The only way we can all agree is to make the document something we all already agree on, which consists of scriptures and the Covenant, and how Denver has laid out that we function in fellowships. If you get into the heavier stuff as contained in the Sermon in the Grove or King Follet Sermon, you will not be able to gain consensus or mutual agreement. We can barely agree on what we all already agreed too. The other option is that those who are already one with Him reach mutual agreement, and others will be pruned. None of us want that. This is the very beginning. We need to KISS. If you know what that means. No offense intended. :) We need to love each other. We need to develop the heart of God. Now if you thought that the only thing keeping us all from moving forward was you and Rob and your desire for a document with greater light, knowing there were some awesome people who felt differently, people you know are guided by the Spirit, holy and pure, would you sacrifice your position for the whole? Maybe it is a test for you. I would do anything for the success of the body of believers. I would not persist in my own desires. I would consider that I could be wrong. That is always my first go too anyway. I would sacrifice my own desires, even if I was convinced I was right. I would do it because of my love for the people. If doing what you propose would result in success for the body, I would do it in an instant. I would be totally on board. But unfortunately, the continued attempts to recreate the wheel are just causing further division. That is not productive to the effort. I am not sure if I have answered all of your points. You write a lot of words, you are obviously very smart. That can be a deterrent. I don't have that problem. Haha! :) The voice of the Lord can't come into a mind that is busy thinking all the time. The brain is a natural component. That may be why it is easy for me to hear the Lord. I don't think too much. My brain just sits up there and rests most of the time. If I have missed anything you addressed, please just write it in a small paragraph. I will do my best to explain my thoughts on the matter. You don't have to do anything you don't want too. You are free to cast my responses away and proceed with your own inspiration. I will love you no matter what you decide to do. I

look forward to meeting you and Rob. Hopefully at the upcoming conference.
Love, Lisa

- TwoCents February 28, 2018

Part 1 of 2
Hi Lisa,

You responded directly to me and not both my husband and I, even though it came from both of us; therefore, I will respond to you. I really appreciate you taking the time to respond. By doing so, I feel considered.

By way of your experience, that led you into the presence of Christ, I can tell you are trying to help me understand what it takes to come into His presence. It sounds like the path that led you to Christ didn't require greater light through some mysteries??? I have a hard time understanding what you are trying to say here. It sounds like you are saying because of pride I could be placing my trust in "man or thing" and not Him, because I think I know greater light through some mysteries??? If you are saying this I'm a bit confused because didn't Nephi 1:1 state:

I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents, therefore I was taught somewhat in all the learning of my father; and having seen many afflictions in the course of my days, nevertheless, having been highly favored of the Lord in all my days; yea, having had a great knowledge of the goodness and the mysteries of God, therefore I make a record of my proceedings in my days.

By way of Nephi's experience, I learned that it is important to seek great and greater knowledge. It is important to seek greater light and understanding, which do come by knowing the mysteries of God. Like I said earlier, maybe I misunderstood what you were saying about light and mysteries.

From what I understand, repentance is turning to him and seeking knowledge and understanding of Him. To me, that requires understanding the mysteries of God. Some may believe repentance is about recognizing our unacceptable behavior and forsaking it, meaning you give up lying, drinking, drugs etc. and never do it again, well yes but that's not the end- you must arise to truly repent. I believe our unacceptable behavior is our ignorance of him or our unbelief-that's why repentance is directly tied to knowledge. This knowledge does come from study and pondering and doing as the voice of the Lord directs you. To me, repentance has everything to do with the acquisition of light and truth. I believe it's this light and truth that will progress you to be exactly as He is. The prototype of the saved man, Christ, is the "Word of God" because He lived and did all in conformity with the will of the Father.

- TwoCents February 28, 2018

Part 2
Who told you the guide and standard is to be only a guide and standard for how to function in a fellowship?

What I've come to understand, based on all the different posts on this thread is that we may speak the same language but our English lexicons are different. This may be due to the lenses we see through. I see through a lens of a Blackfoot person and you see it

through your lens. I grew up in a traditional way, being taught by what I saw my parents do and the stories I was told. I see the Book of Mormon through this lens as well.

It is clear to me that Rob and I see this assignment differently than you. I have read your definitions/opinions about what certain terms mean, like love, heart and light. I can respect that, and I don't write to try and change your definition but only to illustrate my point about seeing things through different lenses. I don't see the heart separated from knowledge, because knowledge does matter. From my perspective, actions and words aren't supposed to be separated and when they are, you are speaking with a fork tongue. When an Elder speaks and talks about what he thinks and what actions to take, he puts his hand on his chest over his heart- representing his mind and heart: his desire. Actions indicate our desire. So, when it says, "if your hearts were right it was a light thing I asked," I interpret this to mean, if we truly desired the Lord to be our King, we would let Him guide by way of his voice, and he would co-author this, making it a light thing. Maybe the voice of the Lord to you means utilizing lots to determine his voice but I don't. To me, it means you actually hear the voice of the Lord.

I believe everything we do is tied to the development of Zion, which means our choices matter. Before we can be given more we must show our fruits, which are our words. Christ was the word because He lived and did all in conformity with the will of the Father. We need to express to the Lord and the angels that we accept what we have been given thus far. And if we do, then we can be given more. Only a fraction of what needs to be recovered has been given.

The Lots document doesn't represent my fruits, it may represent yours. I don't see anything in the document that is anything different than what the LDS church taught or any other religion, except for maybe the wine, seven women and your claim that you are the covenant people. I also find it interesting that in your document you don't talk about voting, majority and utilizing the Lots as an expression of your faith. Why is that? I find in this situation, you do but don't say what you do. With the Original document, they said but didn't do what they said.

I find it interesting that I find myself in the same situation that the Blackfoot Nation were in in 1877, when Treaty 7 was signed: our language is different, we see things through different lenses and you want to take the land for your inheritance by way of man-made power (they had guns back then and today you have voting)-both scenarios are directly tied to the land.

I don't believe Rob and I are holding anyone back, in fact, by way of your groups actions, I think your group has moved on, which is fine you guys have your agency. If you want to sacrifice for the group that's fine too, if that is what the Lord is requiring of you. I have never made a decision based on what the crowd decided, if I did I would be in a very different situation than I am in now. I will do what the Lord directs me, no more and no less. When the Lord directs me to do something, it takes me some time to figure out what is message means, because I don't want to project my own will on Him.

Q

- YourFriend March 01, 2018

Yes sorry, I have read your posts as well as Rob's, and I didn't notice the reply being from both of you. I recognized you as the author and just instinctively responded to you, but I accept that you both feel the same. I agree with you that seeking and finding as much truth as possible brings us to Jesus Christ because He is truth. The mysteries will be given by the Spirit as a result of our desires, actions, beliefs, discernment, etc, as you go along the path according to the Lord's will. And yes there is certainly a place for these

things. When I mentioned pride, I meant that we can become scholarly, and still not have Godly knowledge.

I was referring to myself, because while struggling along the path to find Jesus, I studied everything I could get my hands on, I became puffed up with pride because of my perceived knowledge, which was really only the precepts of man, or woman in this case. Pride inevitably slips in especially when we consider we are in possession of something others don't have or know (as in LDS church), and it's so hard to see it in ourselves. It can happen to us in this process as well. Satan blinds us. I had to discover my own nothingness and repent of pride to escape that path. And I still repent of it. When we do learn some mysteries, it's better to keep them to ourselves because people are at different levels. Telling someone mysteries who is not ready to hear them can and will most likely damn them. Joseph didn't have much luck trying to get knowledge into the heads of the saints either, it was evident in his last few sermons. I think to myself, I wish I was there, he could have told me anything, I would have listened as long as he would speak. I feel the same about Denver. I love meat!

- YourFriend March 01, 2018

Cont from above post.
But I don't think we need to get too deep in the G&S. The way I envision it, while we are meeting in our fellowships, we can teach each other the doctrines of the Kingdom, which can include truth from scriptures, words of true messengers, truth from the best books and truth and revelation from our own experiences. There are references to some of the things already in the Lot's G&S such as the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount. I just think the more we get into the details, the longer the document will be and the harder it will be for people to buy in to it. The Lot's G&S has the best chance for agreement because most of us were involved, so most support it, as it should be. We should all have part in it. I'm sorry you didn't get to be a part of it, it was a great experience. As far as the Lot's process, the fruits are what I consider. It was crystal clear to me that God's hand was in the process all along the way. Also combining the fact that it contains what we have already covenanted too, and is scriptural, and we or most of us worked on it, and most of us agree to it, makes it the G&S most likely to succeed. I really want us to succeed, more than anything.

These are just my thoughts, they are no more important than yours. You have your work cut out for you to develop a new G&S and get a buy in from the body and the Lord, more importantly. This takes time, and if you are in tune to what time it is, you should know that we don't have a great abundance of it. There may not be a time limit given to complete the assignment, but it has to be completed before we can perform further work. Time is short. And we have so much more work to do. In my view, we are wasting valuable time on petty differences. But that's just me. All of these differences will continue to impede our progress. Personally, I don't believe that the G&S itself has to be a be all end all thing. It can be simple. If it is simple, we can build on our desired focus areas within our fellowships, depending on the inspiration of those in attendance.

- YourFriend March 01, 2018

Cont from above 2 posts.
We are from different backgrounds, by the way I am Irish and Southern, haha. I guess that's why I have a hard time understanding and communicating. :). I liked your forked tongue reference! :). That was cute! So we have different ideas of what a G&S should be. Hmmmmmm - This is a real puzzle.

So how do we accomplish this assignment? If we cannot come together on something as rudimentary as this, how will we be able to live in a community where we rely on each other every day to survive?
I believe the test is more about unity than content. I believe it is more about love and sacrifice than content. I believe that it is about first loving the Lord and then loving each other. If we can accomplish this then we can accomplish anything. May the Lord communicate to you in a clear undeniable way what is needed to come together in a merging of culture and knowledge ultimately resulting in unity and love. May we find it in our hearts to love and accept each other despite our differences.
Love, Lisa :)

- YourFriend March 01, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 02, 2018

1 of only 2

Lisa,

I believe that you are a good representation of the argument for the lots program and those supporting Adrian's proposal for a vote. As for me, I think it's a flawed mentality. I have written sufficient for you to understand the lines of my thinking, and I have plenty of your words to feel confident I understand yours. Just like the pattern of the Governing Principles project, you and I are at a deadlock.

At every corner of this project, it is at the deadlock that we find a pattern of separation. I am not willing to separate from the June 10th group, the July 2nd group, the Aug 5th group, or the Lots group. But, their document is not mutually agreeable to me, so I must stand still, as they choose to counsel, vote, cast lots, and move on. If that results in separation, I did not leave you, …and that is all I am able to do.

Scholars who have investigated violence in many cultures provide insights on "group" psychology. Episodes of violence, like the Mountain Meadows Massacre, often begin when one people classify another as "the other," stripping them of any humanity and mentally transforming them into "enemies." Once this process of devaluing and demonizing occurs, stereotypes take over, rumors circulate, and pressure builds to conform to "group action." They conform to "group action" against the perceived threat ("the other"). Those who are classified as "enemies" are often seen as the transgressors, the prideful, those who are not meek. We have been labeled as all of the above. When these "tinderbox" conditions exist, even a small incident like this small project can spark great violence ending in atrocity. Deadlock on the Governing Principles, while has not sparked physical violence, has earned our reproof from the Lord as Satan.

The literature further suggests that certain elements exist to add fuel to the fire. One element is an atmosphere of "authority and obedience." An atmosphere of "authority and obedience" allows mistaken leaders to trump moral instincts of followers. In Denver's absence many have tried to own the assignment, taking authority, resulting in massive shifting opinions based on perceptions of "group think," …rather than trusting in the voice that brought us here in the first place. When individuals are locked into "group think" they create an atmosphere of "authority and obedience" that replaces their personal connection.

Another element that adds fuel to the fire is ambiguity. The Lord requires a Statement of

Principles of us, and that has caused confusion. We've said enough here in past posts, so I'll not belabor that point.

Lastly, deprivation is an element, that looms the possible loss of the covenant over our heads, making us scramble for survival. Each time a conference arrives, the fire meter maximizes to extreme flammability. Aug 5th was an example, where 100% of those present accepted the document because the week prior to the meeting the A&C came out, where the Lord called us Satan. September 3rd did the same as many were angry that the document was not added. March is here, and the pattern repeats.

- HuhWhatda March 02, 2018

2 of only 2

The conditions for "Mass Killing" surround us constantly: Demonizing/ Authority/ Obedience/ Peer Pressure/ Ambiguity/ Fear/ and Deprivation. All of these were present in Southern Utah at the time of the Mountain Meadows Massacre in 1857.

Rather than rushing through the deadlock, in support of Adrian's proposal, I recommend working through the deadlock through conversation. That is a method rarely used beyond the short-order documents written. But conversations produce threat once people have set up stakes, making the separation between "us" and "them."

In every reply you have made, you have humbly asked for correction. However, it doesn't seem like you actually want correction. You have described a situation "WE ALL" face of: pride, being puffed up, and caught up in studying, thinking, and learning too much, …and then you disassociate yourself from the "WE ALL," saying you got over that. …Which leaves me in category of "WE ALL." Although it's a slick way to accuse, …it's still an accusation. If you don't want to be corrected, you best not ask for correction. But, passive aggressive accusation is still an accusation, and can be a tinderbox for "US ALL" (Me, being the exception- Jokes!)

This string of communication was intended to answer a question that you proposed to my wife and I. Both my wife and I have responded to answer your questions, trying to describe our perspective as clear as possible. And that requires written text, since you are not in our presence to converse, using speech. However, from your comments, it doesn't seem like you were interested in asking us a question at all. And that too much text is undesirable. Furthermore, you seem to have your own conversation with your perception of what we said, rather than from what we have written. We are in a deadlock.

If you'd like to further talk, you can call me. But, I'll not push for a separation by forcing my opinions on your opinions. I can see the atmosphere of killing that surrounds us constantly: Demonizing/ Authority/ Obedience/ Peer Pressure/ Ambiguity/ Fear/ and Deprivation. I'm satisfied to recognize the deadlock, stop, and wait for more.

I hope we're still good!

Rob Adolpho

- YourFriend March 02, 2018

Hi Rob,
You are absolutely correct on many points. We are deadlocked. However, I do not dismiss myself from the Pride factor. I still do repent and strive to overcome. It is difficult

to hear real intent in a text box. I believe we all should beware, especially when everyone wants to do their own thing. It's important to know it's for the right reason. I am sorry I even have to bring it up. We are all sinners and I don't understand why most folks get upset when I call them to repentance either. ;) On the next point, you are right, I do not like too much text, because it overloads my senses. It literally makes my head spin. I am also not a fan of separation, I like for everyone to be together. I am becoming fond of you two, so I don't want our budding friendship to be lost, and it won't be if it's up to me. I don't have a good way to resolve the deadlock, I tried to help you guys understand where I am coming from and I think you do, so I won't beat that dead horse either. I sincerely appreciate your constructive criticism. I generally don't get much pushback where I'm from, it keeps me honest. :) Unfortunately, there are splinter groups forming everywhere, we are adequately divided. I support anyone who can bring us together. That is all I want. So love to you both and we will continue to pay attention to see what comes next. I would love to talk to you. Getting to know you would be a great blessing to me. You can let me know how that would work. Love you guys! Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet March 04, 2018

Janeen, thank you for recommending that book. I was able to find it at my local library along with a number of interviews with the author on YouTube and Gaia TV. All really good stuff! Lori

- Anonymous April 07, 2018

Log wrote "There are also no provisions within the text of the A&C for excommunication from the covenant."

But isn't there something in the text of the AC about accepting a body of scripture to guide your life?

And doesn't that body of scripture contain this provision for excommunicating a contentious brother?

"Moreover, if your brother shall trespass against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he shall hear you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear you, then take with you one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church. But if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto you as a heathen man and a publican. Truly I say unto you, whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever you shall set loose on earth shall be set loose in heaven. Again, I say unto you that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, that they may not ask amiss, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in heaven; for where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in their midst."

If one member of the body offends another member, and the offended party goes to him privately only to be given the middle finger, and then he goes to him with two or three brethren only to again be given the middle finger, and when he then goes public, the offender continues being offensive, ignoring the the church when they tell him he's being offensive, does this passage not provide some provision for excommunicating the offending party (until he repents)?

A Different Take on a Proposal

Thursday, February 15, 2018

A Different Take on a Proposal

We have a different take on a proposal to complete the work of getting a “Guide and Standard” printed in the appendix of the scriptures.

We do not believe there is an impasse created by people holding differing opinions or because of folks having different understandings and points of view.

We do not view (us, and at least all the folks we visited with) that we should have a majority vs. minority situation with the Guide and Standard. We do not view that there is a wicked majority or a wicked minority.

We, all who have accepted the covenant, have labored together to produce a Guide and Standard for publishing. We are all one group.

Our ideas or points of view may differ and be unique and that is what the Lord intended, in our opinion. That is not a problem. We all can hold differing ideas or points of view with respect to the manner in which to accomplish an assignment. Our ideas and points of view come according to our many unique life experiences and understandings and that is great. God purposely made sure that every single one of the billions of snowflakes is different but each of these billions of unique snowflakes combines with all of the others to create a beautiful landscape and bring life giving water.

Understanding now that mutual agreement, according to the Lord, simply means choosing not to dispute with each other means that there can very easily exist, without any problem, differing points of view, different understandings and different ideas according to each person’s experiences and time and we can still possess mutual agreement as a group.

As we understand it, there does not have to be unanimity of ideas or points of view, according to the Lord, for mutual agreement to exist. We do not have to have unanimous agreement. We can retain our own opinions and feelings and be just fine. The only thing that will disqualify us from being in mutual agreement with anyone of any point of view or understanding is if we choose to dispute.

We see something very instructive in the account in RE 3 Nephi 12 paragraph 4.

“…it came to pass that the disciples were gathered together and were united in mighty prayer and fasting. And Jesus shewed himself unto them for they were praying unto the Father in his name, and Jesus came and stood in the midst of them and said unto them, What will ye that I shall give unto you? And they said unto him, Lord, we will that thou wouldst tell us the name whereby we shall call this church, for there are disputations among the people concerning this matter.”

If we understand it right, there were differing opinions, ideas, and points of view concerning even the name of the church among a people who had been with the Lord in person, felt the signs in His hands and feet, had the Lord administer ordinances for them (the sacrament and others that are alluded to but are not and cannot be written in the scriptures), had the Lord prophesy all things to them, had their sick and afflicted healed by the Lord, had angels minister to their children and had their children open their mouths and speak even greater things than the Lord had spoken.

If it is possible for folks who have had those experiences to still have unique and differing ideas, points of view and understandings then how much more likely is that among us?

Further on in 4 th Nephi the description of this happy people states that there were no contentions among them. The Book of Mormon never talks about them being unanimous in all their decisions, ideas, points of view or understanding. It states they did not contend.

If we actually happened to complete this first assignment and the Lord in His mercy were

to give us another one we should expect that with any subsequent assignments there would always exist unique ideas, opinions, points of view and understandings. Just like snowflakes.

With this explanation of what we believe, here is how we propose that the assignment may be completed.

There are three things, at least, that we do believe we all as one group together can unanimously agree on that provide the key to finishing the assignment. These bring the mutual agreement even with differences of opinion and different understandings.

1) The Lord will do His own work. "… **I, the Lord will bring again Zion**,…" (Answer and Covenant, Page 9, par.5) In the end it is only the Lord who will get any credit for bringing forth Zion. 2) We must each be filled with the love of God for each other. "You pray each time you partake of the sacrament to always have my Spirit to be with you. **And what is my Spirit? It is to love one another as I have loved you.**" (Answer and Covenant, page 7, par. 4) 3) We are, everyone of us, awfully blind. " **I answer you on behalf of all the people**, and not as to any individual." (Answer and Covenant, page 1, par. 1) and then He said, " **I desire to heal you from an awful state of blindness** so that you may see clearly my will, to do it." (Answer and Covenant, page 2, par.6)

If we each truly acknowledge our current state of awful blindness, as a little child so readily would, then we come to see that we know pretty much nothing about the work the Lord is undertaking. If we couple that true understanding with a realization that He can and will do His own work and we are only invited, for our benefit and blessing, to participate if we will and then we add to those two truths a true love of one another as He loves us all then our differences of opinion do not mean anything as far as getting in the way of doing whatever the Lord requests of us as a group.

We, all of us together, are going to make mistakes. Hopefully, they will be new mistakes and not the catastrophic mistakes of the past; disputations, envying, strifes, jarrings and contentions, lustful and covetous desires.

If at least those three truths are really active in us, written on the fleshy tables of our hearts, we are harmless to each other. Even if most in the group do not share our same opinion concerning an assignment we are able to mutually agree with them because we have no fear of each other.

We will not see ourselves as either a majority or a minority. Those terms come from fear and suspicion. They are terms that pit us against each other because there must be a winner and a loser in those terms and that means someone's ideas or point of view must be wrong and unwelcome for the other to be right. Those are institutional terms, in our opinion.

The Lord, speaking to all of us, said, "Your visages have been so marred that your hardness, mistrust, suspicions, resentments, fear, jealousies, and anger toward your fellow man bear outward witness of your inner self; you cannot hide it." (Answer and Covenant, page 7, par. 2) This is where we find ourselves. Because of this condition we find ourselves as the Lord says, "When I appear to you, instead of confidence you feel shame. You fear and withdraw from me because you bear the blood and sins of your treatment of brothers and sisters." (Answer and Covenant, page 7, par. 2)

Our anger against, resentments for, suspicions of, fears of, jealousies of, hardness towards and mistrust of each other are what is keeping us from moving forward. These are our sins and they cause us to shrink before Him. We fear to present anything to Him as a result of our effort, because these things exist in us, as a group.

If repentance means to simply turn and face Him then let's turn and rid ourselves of our resentments for each other's ideas and points of view. Let's do away with our suspicions that others are trying to undermine us or usurp power over us. Let's banish our fears that if we trust what others in this group understand it will all fail. Let's stop being angry when someone expresses themself or when we do not have the same opinions. Let's not be

jealous thinking someone else will get credit for something or be a part of something "special" that we are not a part of. The only one who will get credit is the Lord and every single person in the group is special to Him. Indeed every soul is. Let's not mistrust each other's motives. Let's be soft and kind one to another.

The Lord promises if we will do this, "Come to me and I will make sins of scarlet become white as snow, and I will make you stand boldly before me, confident of my love." (Answer and Covenant, page 7, par. 2)

A few of the characteristics of God are that He is slow to anger and He is longsuffering and He is quick to forgive.

We believe what God has said, that He does not expect perfection in one step but He expects us to learn. He perfectly understands all of our lack of understanding.

We believe that if we as a covenant group are filled with love for each other, if a Guide and Standard is published but it is not sufficient for His purposes, after all our laboring together in faith, He will mercifully make it known and correct us. Let's approach Him in humility, filled with love for one another, since we have all toiled together to complete the task.

If we truly posses love for each other we may bring our results before Him boldly; confident of His love for us, trusting that He, doing His own work, will lovingly correct our failures because he invited us to be servants and work alongside Him in His vineyard.

In such a scenario there is no feeling in the heart of anyone in the covenant group of being divided into a majority, or a minority, or winners, or losers because each person has banished such feelings from their heart. There is only a complete group of unique individuals who love God to the point that they love each other and trust each other to the point that they are harmless to one another.

We believe it is possible for us as a covenant group to complete this assignment now by being harmless to each other.

Regardless of which Guide and Standard is published no one would or could be left behind. Those who truly are filled with love for each other would never stop fellowshipping with each other because they hold differing opinions.

Our understanding is that we ourselves are the only ones who would or could leave ourselves behind; by our own choices and actions.

Our own choices will determine our status. If we choose to dispute or if we choose to stay behind that is up to us. It is a self selection thing. We will self select by our own actions to stay behind. It is between us and God. If we choose to dispute or we choose to stop fellowshipping or assisting those in need we will be unable to assimilate what He, God, is going to teach to some group of people in order for them to inhabit Zion. No one else is stopping our progression or saying "you can't come here" because we happen to see things differently than they individually or they as a group see things. If this assignment is completed everyone moves forward who wants to regardless of their agreement or disagreement with the published statement.

We as a couple believe that He is looking to see who really does desire peace. If we as a couple personally insist that we are right, especially with our awful blindness, then we do not desire peace.

We as a couple hope that in our hearts we will be found to truly desire peace; His peace, that comes from a true love of God, a love of all men and a love of truth.

The Lord stated, "…I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, **for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands**." (Answer and Covenant, page 8, par. 3) Who knows, but what He may be telling us that He knows that we will always have differing opinions, ideas, understandings and points of view but it is our anger, suspicion, hardness, jealousy, etc. that would stop us from being able to do other works if it stops us from doing this work.

We as a couple are not concerned by what will be put in the appendix of the scriptures. Using the three above mentioned truths as our lenses with which to view this assignment we have no problem upholding what most in the group have been persuaded most recently to accept as a finished Guide and Standard. We feel that if it is inadequate the Lord, in His mercy, will direct that it be corrected if we truly are filled with love towards each other and if we truly trust Him to do His work.
We invite all to view this assignment in the same way.
We, like one of the groups who proposed a Guide and Standard, pray that God will bless each and every one of you, our fellow covenant holders, with joy and peace. We pray that He will bless you in your homes and wherever you find yourselves. We hope one day to become the type of people who will be filled with that perfect love for all of you.
Jon and Tina Saunders

Comments

- gregnorton February 15, 2018

Amen

- ChristinaSaunders February 16, 2018

This is a clarion call to all of us. It has invited me to search my heart; because after all, this comes down to a matter of the heart. Will I love unconditionally; will I be meek like my Savior; will I celebrate the differences that make up the beautiful body of believers; will I live in faith and not fear; will I have His Spirit to be with me?
Amen and Amen
Christina Saunders

- Taylor February 16, 2018

I appreciate this post/proposal's focus on the heart. Thanks John and Tina.

A friend of mine said this today, I found it relevant:

"Most people have knowingly, or unknowingly, built a defense system around their heart. The key to accessing someone’s heart and walking them into healing and destiny is love. Our profound tactics and insights are meaningless without the substance of love being the center piece."

- etluxentenebrislucet February 16, 2018

I feel the spirit of love and humility in which this was written. I appreciate that very much.

If I may admit, I think my own concerns and reservations are more about the conditions of our hearts rather than an actual statement. I fear more the intentions behind our actions that may be our undoing.

I decided to follow Rob Adolpho's advice to read the "All or Nothing" post series on Denver's site. This is taken from the first post:

"The task of Zion is far more daunting than the foolish imagination of the human heart. If we soberly assess what is left to be accomplished, we would all repent and cooperate with one another, lending whatever strength we have to the task. We would stop fighting and opposing one another, and ask what we could do to aid.

"No institution exists with the capacity to accomplish Zion. It will be so entirely foreign to this world that the people who come there will be required to adopt a new society, new way of thinking, different way of interacting, entirely new law, a form of government that does not presently exist, an order to their lives that alters everything, and a form of righteousness that is only possible for a society with a new structure.

"Much of the sinfulness of mankind is due to the way our society, government and economy are organized. If mankind were reordered, a great deal of what is broken inside the individual would be fixed by a new environment. But it is an “all or nothing” proposition. Half-measures will fail. The restoration did not reach a conclusion. It began, halted, and has been receding ever since. The objective was Zion. But Zion is all or nothing. Taking “some” of the attributes without the rest of it, is doomed for failure."

http://denversnuffer.com/2016/10/all-or-nothing/

- Taylor February 16, 2018

Thanks for citing that post. I think more people are willing and even desirous to cooperate and lend their strength than may appear based on this blog and its comments. The appearances given from these digital forums can be skewed or even deceiving.

Since Rob was mentioned just now, I've met Rob and Q in person and would have no issue cooperating with them. What helped is at a BBQ in Salt Lake City a few months ago Rob and I joked and laughed and had a great time as equals and brothers. The G&S was a non issue between us, I couldn't have cared less if he and I preferred a different document. The relationship was primary. I didn't detect that his heart had any malice towards me, which lowered my defenses, and in my experience once that type of thing happens disagreements can be worked through respectfully, or the disagreement just fades away.

I hope for more of those kinds of experiences going forward for all of us. Maybe Rob does have it out for me.... who knows! haha.

Taylor

- userme February 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- userme February 16, 2018

Amen. I've generally been silent and at a distance (geographically). This post beautifully articulates what I desire to embrace.

- etluxentenebrislucet February 21, 2018

Do y'all mind if I put something here? This is a snippet from Denver's All or Nothing post, part 5:

"Remember, the “kingdom of God” will be a form of Theocracy to be planted with no intention to interfere with any government of the world. It will offer no violence to governments. But its citizens will live far above their laws. (JS Papers Administrative Records, p. 88.)

"How can the “kingdom of God” smite the false governments of the world and grind them to dust without violence? How can it be non-confrontational, yet succeed in filling the whole earth? Such a revolution will be God’s work. God will not need to use violence, compulsion, treachery, unlawful dominion, pride, corruption or any of the other conventions used by the usurping governments of man. Hence the saying it will be a stone “cut without hands” or in other words accomplished by the wisdom of God.

"It should be clear from the prophecies that this work will start with a small group chosen to begin the work. A temple and rites will provide the legal, cultural, and covenant foundation for a new society. These people will learn how to become the “kingdom of God” and will learn His ways and to walk in His paths. When they know how to live in peace, and have obtained the original Holy Order, others will be invited to join them and learn how to live according to a new, higher way of life. The challenge of teaching new people this new way of organizing society will be daunting. The community will struggle together to learn how to overcome the social infection that comes from Babylon anytime a new family flees Babylon and comes to Zion."

The entire post and series is so important to us right now. I feel both strengthened and humbled by it.
http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-5/

- Sarah February 21, 2018

Adding my amen to this as well. Amen! Thank you brother and sister.

- Porthos February 23, 2018

This is supposed to be a GUIDE and a STANDARD.
Why all the debate?
We tout ourselves as adhering to the Doctrine of Christ.
Why not include the Lord's words defining His doctrine as found in either 2 Nephi 31-32:6, or in 3 Nephi 11-14?
We seek to walk in the strait & narrow path.
Why not define that path in the G&S?
The Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful ARE the higher law. They define the strait & narrow path we each must walk AFTER we receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
Then why not include the words of the Savior spoken at Bountiful or on the mount which define the Higher Law and the strait & narrow path?
If you doubt what I have said here, which was given to me by the Spirit, then I would refer you to Denver's words in Oct 2010, found in Remembering the Covenant, Vol 3, pp 1011-1012.
Of the various proposals I have seen, the only one I find in agreement with both Denver and the Savior is Jared Livesey's Rock of Jesus Christ.
James Russell Uhl

Statement by Twelve Visions

Friday, February 16, 2018

The Statement

To be free! To be free! Can we mutually Agree is the thing that we all want to be? For thy principles guide thee and mine do guide me. If you care, though, to share, though, I'll jubilantly Take a view Yes, review to Consider and see How our dreams may combine in sublime unity!

Let's be free--you and me! And prevent slavery! To the man who demands all your conformity! In white he is dressed But by us he'll be blessed As we so peacefully Make our way to the Tree.

To be free! Is my plea, Unconditionally!! It's to love and express, always genuinely. I'll hold up a standard for all now to see... The deep "part." (On the heart, written permanently):

To be free! It's the KEY! And the new melody! Please gather your psalteries and come, SING WITH ME!

http://denversnuffer.com/2014/ 06/requests/

Comments

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

This blog, http://12visions.blogspot.com, has interesting things written. It offers a nice change of pace and pleasant fruits for the curious. I do recommend taking a gander. Lori

Book of Mormon Name Changes

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Some have asked why some of the names in the Book of Mormon are different and if they are typos. They are not. The names have been taken back to the original spellings given by Joseph Smith. There were a few where a change was debatable and we did the best we could to decide whether to leave it alone or make the ch ange.

Some of the new spellings include Pahoran to Parhoran, Mulek to Muloch, Morianton to Morionton.

Another G&S Proposal

Thursday, March 01, 2018

From John Dutson

A NEW CONCEPT FOR THE- Statement of Principles/ Guide & Standard!

This is offered in the sincere desire for unity of our people and for no other reason!

If wisdom isn't seen in it I will let it fade away without debate, but I believe it has great merit. This isn't something I dreamt up last minute, nor on my own. I have been working

on this for over 5 months and believe it can provide the compromise we need through flexibility.

The idea is tochange the whole approach to the Guide and Standard - Statement of Principals challenge.

The new scriptures would have just THE one page (see page below), with references maybe that would include front and back of the ONE page.

The proper references and their order for each standard are the **critical additions** that would need to be made to this.

The keyto the Statement of Principles/Guide and Standard is to let **"the 7 standards"**listed such as the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful stand on their own, therefore, they do NOT need to be rewritten in whole or part in the statement, just the references to them would be shown.

It needs to be very simple and flexible. Therefore, this idea will **separate the procedural matters**, **the "how to" items of a fellowship and move them to a separate and non-scripturalFellowship Guide,**each fellowship can write their own. This would **support fellowship diversity** and could be very unique to differing cultures or groups, **as long as they conformed to the accepted statement of principles and the 7 standards.**

I know there are individuals guided to inspire the hearts and minds of specific groups, as they should be. Those documents don't need to be included in the one-page Statement of Principles-Guide and Standard but would be done via a separate statement for the specific purpose.

It appears we are at an impasse on this as a people and need help or we will fail. Give this concept some serious consideration. It is after all just one page; but **AWHOLE NEW APPROACH**!"

So here it is..

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES We as a people, disciples of Christ, seek as individuals, families and fellowships to follow Christ and *"equally walk truly*" in His path back to the Father by abiding the teachings contained in the scriptures and revelations provided for our day. *"What do we need to do to enter God's pathway of endless progress? Jesus answered and said, The pathway is before you in me, I teach and display what the Father wants you to witness and believe. In the name of Father Ahman I testify to you, He who hearkens to my testimony, and trusts him who sent me, there is no end to his potential progression. His progress will not cease, for I demonstrate the pathway of eternal lives."* Therefore, we seek to become His disciples filled with faith, hope and charity. A people of one heart and mind. People whose lives can reflect the two great commandants. *"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself".* Lives guided and maintained by virtue, by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned, by kindness, and pure knowledge, without hypocrisy, and without guile. We seek His presence, to be His people, to abide His covenant, and for the establishment of Zion in preparation for His return. **We in faith receive the scriptures, current revelation and in particular, "The Book of Mormon" to *"correct ourselves and to guide our words, thoughts and deeds".* From these we have adopted the following seven standards. 1.The Doctrine of Christ as given by the Lord at Bountiful**. see (3 Nephi 11:32-40) see also (2 Nephi 31:2-21, 32;2-9) **2.The law of Christ as given by the Lord in the Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful**. see (3 Nephi 12,13,14, Matthew 5,6,7) see also (Mosiah 2:9-40, 3:2-24) **3.Fellowships.**See (references to follow and fellowship Guides) **4.Priesthood Ordinances**. See (references to follow) **5.The Answer and the Covenant as given by the Lord to His servant**. See (references to follow) **6.The Holy Order.** See (references to follow) **7.Zion**. See (references to follow)

Comments

- Unknown March 01, 2018

I like it. I remember a while back how Rob and Q kept reminding us about the wisdom in going with a lowest common denominator approach.
I believe this is exactly that.
It highlights the Doctrine of Christ; it highlights the law of Christ and points toward the progression up to the presence of the Father that we all seek.
Hopefully it will fulfill the requirement of the Lord in being unifying.

-Edwin Wilde

- Log March 01, 2018

I register my disputation of the adoption of this proposal

Jared Livesey

- DarylinMesa March 01, 2018

I register my support of the adoption of this proposal.

- Anonymous March 01, 2018

This will never end. Unanimity has empowered an obstructionist. Unanimity cannot work in the real world.

- Anonymous March 01, 2018

I'd support this. But it doesn't seem to matter. They way it stands, hundreds of supporters are nullified by one disputer. Or one rejection.

However this is a solid proposal, and the issues we currently struggle with don't take away from it. Thank you John.

- Anonymous March 02, 2018

John,

I commend you in your sincere desire to help resolve this issue. I can see that you have put a lot of thought and pure intent behind trying to help us all succeed in this matter. I like the brevity and I like the topics that you deemed pertinent, but I feel for all intents and purposes, though the form is modified, in reality, it is not much different than what we already have approved. (except allowing each fellowship their own fellowship guide).

May I point out why I am not as enthusiastic about this resolving our situation:

1) While your one page document is simple enough, it still requires "references" to be made in order for it to serve the intended purpose of the GS. (Don't get me wrong, it should have the references, otherwise, it wouldn't be informing anyone as required).

But those references, that aren't included yet, put us right back where we have already been in the past.

Who decides what references have merit and which do not? This was always the core source of so much debate in the past (the content)...it was resolved through the Lots...and this proposal, though on first glance appears to avoid that because you present just one page...still has the "content" as a major item that must ultimately still be resolved. What references? And there begins the debate all over.

IMO, this is ultimately just another way of doing what the Lots document has already accomplished...though in different packaging. For the Lots, "quotes" were used within the GS document to give explanation. You are suggesting using "references" to inform. But the truth is that those references are ultimately just pointing people to read those quotes. Isn't that a mere technicality?

2) Left unresolved in your proposal, and opening another I can of worms is, WHO will put these undecided references (quotes) together? This was already resolved through the prior Lots effort; very equitably and with the Lord's manifestation, I might add. And in the end, the content of your proposal will ultimately be almost the same, with references to quotes, rather than just the convenience of being able to read the actual quote.

(1 of 2)

- Anonymous March 02, 2018

(2 of 2)

3) How will this proposal and the resulting document with its references attached be accepted by the people? Another vote? Do you feel another 450 + covenant holders that participated in November, want to vote again? Many of them feel they have already finalized their vote and the Lord approved it. And what of those in this movement won't accept any form of voting and have based opposition upon that already? What if only 150 bother vote? Will you go find the missing 300? What if they say they are sticking with what they already voted upon?

4) 93% of the people have already shown they are very agreeable people. There's not the existing division that some would like us to believe there is. It is consistently the same individuals who find issues with each GS or solution. How will your proposal pacify them any differently than what has already been achieved by the Lots proposal and the efforts to reach out that were done there? Just trying to be a realist here.

Of those who opposed what was already done, some said it was because what was presented wasn't an original revelation, some because it quotes Denver, and so forth. I do not see how your proposal will do anything more to resolve the issues of those who have already expressed opposition to what has been done. Is this an original revelation? No. Will the references include quotes of Denver? I would hope so. Thus, you will still have those who are forever opposed.

I hope you do not see this as attacking you. I laud you effort. I really do. I just do not see how it is fundamentally different. Even under the fellowship item, you acknowledge there needs to be references given that are common to all. There is nothing that I see in the current Lots GS that truly inhibits any fellowship from having individuality. Those things expressed within the Lots GS are all scripture and things we have all already agreed upon. There are not a bunch of rigid controlling items given to fellowships other than those items that the Lord gave us already as instructions.

Bottom line, I see the work as being done. I see this as different wrapping paper on the same package, and not able to resolve what has been the underlying issues of

difference among those who have opposed past GS documents. I thank you for your honest attempt and desires to do something, though. It takes a lot of courage. I respect that greatly!

- Anonymous March 02, 2018

(2 of 2)

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- Anonymous March 02, 2018

My apologies for double posting. Computer glitch.

- Donald March 02, 2018

Thank you John....Likewise, I am also grateful for your good heart and effort.

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

Obviously, I degree with your assessment. To me the difference between this and the Lots group document is significant. But if that can’t be seen, then it isn’t.

Adding the references would be an exciting and enjoyable process in my view. We need to learn how play together nicely or abiding the covenant “as a people” is hopeless. That said, I did vote for the lots document and would support it.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

John,

Thanks for being gracious with my assessment. I appreciate that. It's no fund having people pick apart an idea.

I will just say that I agree with the "playing together nicely" point you make. I just see it as 93% of us have repeatedly shown that we are already willing and trying to play together nicely. That doesn't mean the others are not trying if they disagreed...I'm just saying that 93% have put their money where their mouth is and they agreed to a process and way to determine content, and to determine who would compose it already, and that was their genuine effort to show the Lord they were "easy to be entreated," and could get along.

To have to do the same thing again in order to create the required references is just like reinventing the wheel. Hope that makes sense. But even if it doesn't, I really appreciate your positive attitude toward everything. I saw your comment on the latest SC post supporting their submission. I believe your kind and willing spirit is a great example and just what the Lord desires of all of us. Thank you.

A STATEMENT OF SUBMISSION

Saturday, March 03, 2018

Several people have asked the scriptures committee to just go ahead and publish the “lots” statement of principles as part of the new scriptures. Frankly, there are some on the committee that feel we should do so. After all, the “Lots document" has gotten more support than any other document to date. The problem is that there is at least one other document, and there may be more, that appear to satisfy the Lord’s requirements. And, we know that there is support for those documents. Exactly how much support we can’t say. This puts us in an uncomfortable position. Can we ignore the wishes of a minority whose size we don’t know? We don’t think that is a good idea.
However, there appears to be a solution to this logjam.
On February 9 th a group proposed a new vote on a statement of principles, and asked the scriptures committee to agree to publish whichever statement of principles (guide and standard) was chosen using that voting process. After considering the matter, the committee believes that the proposal provides the best opportunity that has been presented for all of us to come to mutual agreement on a guide and standard.
We frankly can’t see much downside to this proposal. If, as many believe, there is overwhelming support for the “Lots document", then this vote will put that question to rest once and for all. If, on the other hand, the vote reveals that there is still a widespread difference of opinion regarding which G&S is best, then this vote will reveal it. In either case, another vote clarifies the matter for all to see.
But the proposed vote has another huge advantage. It gives those who may prefer a document other than the majority’s choice the chance to stand up at the conference and voluntarily choose to not dispute. We think that the setting for this vote is important. We believe that in a conference, meeting together to hear the word of the Lord, hearts may be softened and there may be a unique opportunity for the Spirit to help us come to unity

on this matter. We don't believe that this vote will lead to further dissension; we trust that the body of believers desires to obey the Lord's command and is anxious to finish this assignment. We believe that given the opportunity to do so the great majority will choose unity over disputation.
Which brings us to the final advantage of this proposal. Let's say that the conference can come to near unanimity regarding a G&S, but that there are a few who remain opposed. This vote gives us a way to try to lovingly persuade those in opposition, but it also gives us a way to move forward despite that opposition.
This committee takes seriously its obligation to produce a set of scriptures acceptable to the Lord. We feel confident that this approach is acceptable to the Lord, given our weakness as a people. The scripture committee agrees to publish whichever guide and standard is chosen by this vote. However, there are many opportunities built into this process which allow the people to stop the process if they choose. If no one submits any statements of principle that they wish to be considered for inclusion in the scripture, the vote comes to an end. If there is no clear majority preference of any particular G&S, the vote comes to an end. If at the conference the minority does not vote overwhelmingly to accept the majority's preference, the vote comes to an end. If there are a few remaining dissenting votes, but the majority decides not to adopt the guide and standard anyway, then the vote comes to an end. No one should feel this vote is being forced on the conference; at every turn it will stop if the people choose not to go ahead.
We invite you to ask the Lord for yourselves if this approach is acceptable to him. If the Spirit confirms to you that this process is acceptable to the Lord, please use your influence to support it.

Comments

- JohnDutson — March 03, 2018

I absolutely support such a vote to see where we currently stand.
However is there a way for those who are unable to attend the conference physically to be involved in the process that takes place there online as well?
This test is probably 10% about "the document" and 90% about our desire to be one.
And as one who has submitted a G&S proposal, I commit here and now to fully support whichever is chosen.

- Log — March 03, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous — March 03, 2018

"If no one submits any statements of principle that they wish to be considered for inclusion in the scripture, the vote comes to an end."

Would above stated submission happen at or before the conference? Sounded like it would potentially happen right before the vote?

- Log — March 03, 2018

"But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands."

This "process" is intended explicitly to justify before men the placement of a guide and standard in the scriptures without fulfilling the Lord's requirement of unanimity, thus defrauding the Lord.

"Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

If we do not accept his requirement for unanimity and do not do what he has required, then apparently we do not desire to be his people, indeed. We would be his people in words only, another group in a historically overpopulated collection who say they are his with their lips but do not do what he says to do, thus showing our hearts are far from him.

If the Lord severed the priesthood of all who put up their hands for the GAs after Denver Snuffer's excommunication, might there be consequences to not raising one's hand in opposition to this "process?"

I oppose.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 03, 2018

This is the true state of affairs of this people with respect to this assignment.

The guide and standard conflict has been solved.

1. I shall not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.
2. I shall and do dispute the adoption of any other guide and standard document.
3. You have no power to exclude me from the body of covenant participants.
4. If the people abide the Lord's requirement that the guide and standard be adopted by mutual agreement, then The Rock of Jesus Christ shall be adopted.

If any choose to dispute the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the guide and standard, then we will wait until such disputations cease.

The guide and standard test is simple: do you indeed desire to be the Lord's people? Then accept and do as he has required.

This makes it possible to fulfill the Lord's requirement in righteousness.

This solution has already been implemented. It does not require anyone's acceptance, agreement, cooperation, or buy-in.

This is where you truly stand.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

The guide and standard conflict has been solved.

1. I shall not yield on the adoption of The Lot's Guide and Standard.
2. I shall and do dispute the adoption of any other guide and standard document.
3. You have no power to exclude me from the body of covenant participants.
4. If the people abide the Lord's requirement that the guide and standard be adopted by

mutual agreement, then the Lot's Guide and Standard shall be adopted

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

John,

If someone is unable to attend the conference, they can ask someone who is there to stand as their proxy. It seems like a more personal and accountable way to be involved.

Gordon Platt

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

To the brother of fixed disputation!
You claim to profess Christ Jesus but your words say otherwise, and those can be judged.
When I took the covenant, after reading it probably 50 times, I recognized it as being from the Lord to “a people “and accepted it in fear and trembling as a part of something beyond myself and the Lord, but myself, others and the Lord and the opportunity it represented in the earth’s history. The emotion of pride wasn’t even on the list of what I experienced that day nor since.
In my view, if we have any hope to be involved in the establishment of New Jerusalem or reside in Zion, it will be because we “know the Lord”. Those who know the Lord will we have many covenants both personally and as a “people”. When the Lord promises a person or a people, it’s a covenant.
And for the record, I follow the Lord only!
HOWEVER, most of my knowledge of the Lord began with Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Paul, Lehi, Nephi, Jacob, King Benjamin etc. also Joseph Smith and now Denver. I don’t follow any of these people, but I sure do study their words and have benefited greatly from them; I believe they came from the Lord. Probably the “people “of the Cities of Enoch and Melchizedek benefited from the teachings, words and writings of the prophets also, including Enoch and Melchizedek of their day.
If a person disputes all the words of men, where did they get the words of Christ as we have them? Do they dispute Mathew, Nephi, Joseph Smith? Or is it just Denver’s words they dispute? If it’s Denver’s words such as in the covenant, why would they want to be involved in this other than to breed contention.
If a person or group offers a recommendation for a G&S, it will move forward on its own merits or it won’t.
A disciple of Christ does not use compulsion. Disciples of Christ do not demand and hold hostage others to force them into believing as they do. The Lord in my view wouldn’t condone a cyber bully, that’s the advisories method.
Brother disputation, you’re not the only person on earth, or the only one to ever have received a revelation or have a legitimate definition on a matter.
This where you truly stand.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Any statements of principle that you would like to have considered for inclusion in the scriptures can be submitted immediately to guideandstandard.blogspot.com. The actual voting will begin one week before the conference and will continue until the evening before the conference.

Gordon Platt

March 03, 2018

- Log

Who is being compelled?

The choice is simple - you either do exactly what the Lord requires, or you do not do what the Lord requires.

You get to do whatsoever your heart wishes in this matter, whether you wish to serve God, or to serve him not.

It remains a fact that you can't do whatsoever your heart wishes in this matter and simultaneously fulfill the Lord's requirement.

Your choice is therefore between fulfilling the Lord's requirement and not fulfilling the Lord's requirement.

You are as free to choose now as you were before November 27, 2017 when the solution to the assignment was implemented.

The only question being answered right now is do you indeed desire to be the Lord's people? If so, then accept and do as he has required.

Jared Livesey

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

The issue is not a document - or agreement by the people to a document.

The issue, is a people who supposedly became free, who, in a very short few years find themselves squarely back in a position where a group of men are deciding for the people what the people may, and may not, have for themselves.

At issue is the meaning of the people’s voice and their right and ability to “govern themselves”.

The scripture committee should step aside and allow the people to conduct the people’s business with respect to the GS.

For nearly a decade we heard the teaching of an appointed teacher telling us to be free! Be free! Instead, it has taken a very little time, and we are squarely back where we began with a group of unappointed men deciding for us, what will and what won’t be among us. Virtue says, be kind, don’t make waves, diplomacy is the answer. Righteousness says, teach correct principles then get the hell out of the way and allow the people to govern themselves.

My voice has been lifted for the last time regarding the GS. If my voice meant nothing in the last several votes, it will mean nothing in the next, and the next, and the next. The voice of the people has been rendered a travesty.

Steve VanLeer

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

Brother, and I mean that! Brother Jared,
Do you, and I mean this sincerely, view your position, attitude and words on this matter worthy of the Lord or as a benefit to the establishment of Zion? Because if this is how you see things being done in Zion then there is a problem.
As we used to say in the mission field back in the day, perhaps it's time for some self-inventory?
I plan to spend the Sabbath day tomorrow doing so myself.
Maybe we all should!
I apologize for my attitude, I will now go and repent!

- Cherryann March 03, 2018

Gordon, I have some questions about this proxy solution.

1. By our count, the large majority of the movement will not physically be in attendance at the conference. Best case scenario, if each person is a proxy for multiple people, how do they "stand" for more than one person, let alone multiple people?

2. What about the many people who don't know anyone who is going to physically be at the conference? How can they be expected to fairly cast a vote?

3. How can a proxy be expected to make multiple votes for multiple people as a last minute decision, since the results of the preliminary vote won't even be disclosed until at the conference? This would assume the proxy will be available during the meeting to receive and respond to multiple correspondences of many varieties. Is this a potential distraction to all in attendance who are proxies, which could potentially be everyone there? Might the people who make the sacrifices to be in attendance wish to be focused on the conference, rather than spending large amounts of time discussing and explaining the GS matter to those for whom they are proxy?

4. What about the vast number of people who don't even know about this proposal because they no longer monitor this blog due to various reasons? Is it possible they may feel their voice doesn't fairly count if they learn about this solution by listening to the conference live from home? How are they expected to suddenly participate in the matter whatsoever?

I am just trying to understand how this proxy solution gives a fair voice to every covenant holder worldwide.

At the very least, allowing for a real-time vote online as well as in person would seem to eliminate some of these issues, as well as allow each person their own voice in the matter.

- Log March 03, 2018

What discussion has taken place since 11/27/2017 has been concerning how to best appear to men to do what the Lord requires while not actually doing what the Lord requires - that is, how to make "the voice of the people," or "overwhelming majority," or "supermajority" appear to be mutual agreement when there is opposition.

Openly conspiring to defraud the Lord is not the conduct of people who indeed desires to be his people.

Jared Livesey

- userHL March 03, 2018

The Lord never said He required unanimity. You are trying to pull a fast one here. By doing so, you are trying to defraud the Lord as you have accused others of doing.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

I find myself dumbfounded that this people can so easily roll over to the very same stuff with respect to government among us that most of us left the LDS organization to be free from...? Our voice meant nothing there. All indications are, our voice means nothing here either...? How can that be? How can we allow that malignancy to appear again so soon after becoming “free”?

Steve VanLeer

- Log March 03, 2018

You agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions of the covenant by agreeing to them. Thus you voluntarily forfeited the ability to do otherwise than the covenant requires and act consistently with your agreements.

Mutual agreement is the condition for success in this assignment.

Anything else is failure.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

My position has nothing whatever to do with my feelings about the brothers and sisters who occupy places on the committee. I love them, and I am grateful for their wonderful contributions to the restoration of the scriptures. I love what they have done. I am grateful. My position is not to be unkind to any one of them or all of them together.

The people must be able, and allowed to conduct the people’s business, by the voice of the people unimpeded by decisions made by any other man or men. If the voice of the people is allowed to be then judged and either permitted or not permitted by a man or men, we are right back where we began

All of this has little to do with which document is eventually adopted. If the issue I am pointing out is allowed to persist and survive among us, we are all right back in the hot pot of the roots of hierarchy.

Steve VanLeer

- Log March 03, 2018

And I wonder how it is that you do not see that you are yourselves implementing the same rule of governance that you decry the LDS for - you are showing yourselves willing to compel the minority to accept that which they do not agree to and, indeed, dispute against.

The Lord's merciful requirement for mutual agreement in this thing was freedom from the

tyranny of the majority. But it seems we do not want freedom from the tyranny of the majority. It seems we want "majority rules" and are willing to defraud the Lord to obtain it.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Cherry Ann,

I am not opposed to real time on-line voting. Because I am old and technologically impaired, I prefer a 3-D solution. Nevertheless, I am happy to accept, and I think everyone who is involved in making this proposal is happy to accept, on-line participation. How about you spearheading that effort? I mean that offer sincerely; please help make us make this happen.

Having said that, proxy voting could happen in this way:

1-One person stands as proxy for only one other individual. There will be 500 or so in attendance at the conference, that's 500 potential proxies. We won't need more than that. Most people are either sick to death of this process or disinterested.
2-We can facilitate non-attendees and proxies getting together by asking for volunteers who would be willing to stand as proxy. We can create a place for them to get together.
3-Again, one person one proxy. The proxy has no responsibility to explain the various G&Ss to their principal. That responsibility devolves to each of us individually.
4-We are asking you for your help, you, Cherry Ann, to get the word out. We have more than two weeks to let people know before the vote even starts, and then another week of voting. There are only 2000 of us. We can make this happen. The Lord has warned us not to delay.

There are difficulties, yes, help us overcome them.

Gordon

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

If its required of me to vote on some document 20 times to work through the issues of establishing understanding and consensus all in the hope of Zion I'm doing it!
Probably we should assume the best intentions in others not the worst. And consider the possibility that our position and view of things may be faulty.
But then again, I have some repenting to do on that matter.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

There is one who would require forfeiture of agency and absolute compliance. He and his doctrine were rejected and cast out. That tired Doctrine is still rejected by the God of heaven.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Attributing compulsion upon the souls of men to our Lord is evidence of the very evil of your doctrine. You provide necessary opposition, but your teachings are dark and evil.

The evil one continues to desire the destruction of the agency of man - and he has agents to assist him in the preaching of that evil doctrine.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

The solution to the GS dilemma and the more important issue of forfeiture of the people's voice is simply to have the voice of the people ratify the chosen document at the conference and have the scripture committee comply with the wishes and voice of the people.

No one is cast out. No one is not loved or not considered. We continue to love and gently persuade and teach true principles. Some may never be persuaded. Some have said they simply won't be persuaded. That's ok. God's system does not allow for hostage taking. And it does not and never will include compulsion. All are free.

Steve VanLeer

- ChrisChandler March 03, 2018

1 of 3

For months I have stayed quiet. While I don't agree with Jared's premise, I am against voting…period. If I voted (even "against" it) then I would be giving credence to the idea that "voting" is the way to push forward an initiative. No I will not vote. I will abstain because I believe that no amount of voting or trying to legislate in a particular document is going to work. It will divide the people, pure and simple. I think there are MANY people who feel the same. That is why the voting numbers have dwindled since we started doing it last June 2017.

We have marred this entire process with our carnal efforts trying to impose our will on the Lord and need to repent.

We have created at least 3 artificial constructs that we are working from:

1. The idea that a document to "replace D&C 20" MUST BE PUT INTO THE NEW SCRIPTURES. Why does this Guide & Standard, Governing Principles, et al have to be put into the scriptures? All He said was, "When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow." But He did NOT say WHERE it needed to be added. It is an assumption that it needs to be added into the scriptures. What if it just needs to be added to the library of documents He will have us keep or something else completely? Are you sure there is not more being read into this than what He has actually commanded?

2. People keep putting an artificial timeframes on this. I have heard since the very beginning that we needed to have it by the July 2nd vote, then before the September 3rd conference, now before the March conference, always with the implied scarcity mindset that there is not enough "time". We act hastily when we feel we are under a time pressure. I agree that the Lord may ultimately (like in Section 124) put a timeframe on this, but until then, we should stop putting our own false timeframes on it.

3. That we need to "vote" in order to "adopt" a statement of principles. Voting is a "democratic process" that imposes the majority's will, or mob rule on the people. This process only works for a Telestial state and not for what we are trying to move towards in faith in establishing a bridge towards a Terrestrial order. Voting on this document to be "enforced" upon anyone that comes into this movement will create a "false start" as well. Well intentioned, but ultimately not what the Lord will do. Let's keep working amongst each other, seeking the truth, removing the false constructs (ie. unbelief) from our heart/mind that we have to get this done before some "event" (like a conference or

something). We do not need to implement the LDS 2.0 version of Common Consent, where we ask "All in favor? Please so manifest." God and the angels will know by the fruit we produce.

- ChrisChandler March 03, 2018

2 of 3
Something to consider:

"The task of Zion is far more daunting than the foolish imagination of the human heart. If we soberly assess what is left to be accomplished, we would all repent and cooperate with one another, lending whatever strength we have to the task. We would stop fighting and opposing one another, and ask what we could do to aid.

No institution exists with the capacity to accomplish Zion. It will be so entirely foreign to this world that the people who come there will be required to adopt a new society, new way of thinking, different way of interacting, entirely new law, a form of government that does not presently exist, an order to their lives that alters everything, and a form of righteousness that is only possible for a society with a new structure.

Much of the sinfulness of mankind is due to the way our society, government and economy are organized. If mankind were reordered, a great deal of what is broken inside the individual would be fixed by a new environment. But it is an "all or nothing" proposition. Half-measures will fail. The restoration did not reach a conclusion. It began, halted, and has been receding ever since. The objective was Zion. But Zion is all or nothing. Taking "some" of the attributes without the rest of it, is doomed for failure.

Zion will have "all things in common" but only as a by-product of a larger construct. Without the rest of the social structure, implementing "all things in common" is only a curse, not a blessing…Zion will not begin with people attempting to "have all things in common." Zion will require a new government, new social order, new way of life, an altogether different society from what now exists. It will not be just adopting some new magic economic rule like "have all things in common." (Denver Snuffer, All or Nothing, http://denversnuffer.com/2016/10/all-or-nothing, October 27, 2016)

We need to think about this completely differently.

"There will be a "kingdom" established in the last days to fulfill the prophecy of Daniel. But the initial approach taken in Nauvoo was a false start, and appointing Joseph Smith as a "king" aborted the endeavor." (Denver Snuffer, All or Nothing 4, http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-4/, November 2, 2016)

Trying to "vote" or "legislate" a Guide & Standard document to be put into the scriptures will be a similar "false start". Let us avoid this mistake. Voting sets a precedence to the heavens that we want more of what we've already got. Mutual agreement and adoption of a document will come naturally versus forced.

A document will be written to satisfy the Lord's command. It will not need to be voted on because there will already be mutual agreement around it. Mutual agreement between people does NOT require a "vote" between people to ratify it. That is Telestial man's way. The Lord's people coalesce around the truth because the Lord's "sheep hear [His] voice". No need to enforce it by voting it in.

- ChrisChandler March 03, 2018

3 of 3
Lastly:

"It should be clear from the prophecies that this work will start with a small group chosen to begin the work. A temple and rites will provide the legal, cultural, and covenant foundation for a new society. These people will learn how to become the "kingdom of God" and will learn His ways and to walk in His paths. When they know how to live in peace, and have obtained the original Holy Order, others will be invited to join them and learn how to live according to a new, higher way of life. The challenge of teaching new people this new way of organizing society will be daunting. The community will struggle together to learn how to overcome the social infection that comes from Babylon anytime a new family flees Babylon and comes to Zion.

As the group grows, they will increase their aptitude to assimilate new members. Skills will be gained in helping people overcome the world. The infections from Babylon, the Medes, Persians, Greeks, Romans and all modern world governments will be eradicated. People of the New Jerusalem will learn a godly way of governing and holiness of character.

As the New Jerusalem grows, eventually it will divide, and there will be another group established nearby where both communities will be able to take in new families and teach them of the Lord's way.

Everything will need to change before the prophecies can be fulfilled. All the culture, law, social arrangements, ambitions, economies and pride of the nations will need to be rejected by the group. The new way of life must be organized after the original pattern taught in the beginning. The "rights belonging to the fathers," which Abraham obtained as an inheritance from the first man Adam, will be recovered and lived by the those occupants of the New Jerusalem. They must not only say, but do, what is asked of them by God. His purpose is to make mankind joyful, which cannot be attained by wickedness. "Wickedness never was happiness." (Alma 41:10.) (emphasis mine)

When God gives mankind this opportunity, they are rarely interested. The last time God offered, the opportunity was spoiled by "jarrings, and contentions, and envyings, and strifes, and lustful and covetous desires among them; therefore by these things they polluted their inheritances." (D&C 101:6.) Even people who think they would like to see Zion, fight against the truth now being rolled out in plain sight. They err, and prize delusion over active engagement with God.

He offers again. But whether mankind is any better prepared, or more willing than before remains to be seen. It will require all from us, or we will be left with nothing." (Denver Snuffer, All or Nothing 5, http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-5/, November 4, 2016)

"The kingdoms of men, ancient and modern, have and do control how men think, engage in commerce, regulate property, tax, govern, make war and interact. Zion will make a complete overthrow of these systems. Other societies will be "ground to dust" because the way of life in Zion will appeal to all peaceful men. Men of peace will abandon the other false systems and join Zion.

It would do little good to teach the religion of Adam to men if they are not willing to live like Adam. Adam did not question, doubt or rebel against God. He intended to live by every word of the Lord, even when he did not understand "why" something was commanded by the Lord. Adam suspended judgment, and obeyed. Few men are like father Adam. It is doubtful many living today will find it appealing to suspend judgment about a commandment if the Lord does not explain "why" something is to be done.

- ChrisChandler March 03, 2018

4 of 3 (LOL)

"
When the Lord establishes the foundation of the New Jerusalem, it will require the sacrifice and obedience of the residents. Even if the foundation for that city is laid, if mankind is unwilling to be governed by God, learn from Him and trust His guidance, it is doubtful it will become Zion." (Denver Snuffer, All or Nothing 6, http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-6/,

"If mankind understood the intelligence that God will return to the earth they would be eagerly asking how to help. Zion will not be a place for proud men to pontificate about man's learning or their conjecture about the meaning of scripture. It will be a place to learn of God's ways.

This can happen in our day. Or not. One day, some few will be guided by the Lord to accomplish it. But the choice of allowing it to happen is left to us. The journey begins by living the way Christ taught in the Sermon on the Mount and the Sermon at Bountiful.

Every one of man's institutions are corrupt. They are led by men and women who rule against the best interests, even the will, of the people over whom they exercise control. They abuse authority and their subordinates lord it over their minions.

The kingdoms of men will be ground to dust because all peaceful men will choose to live above their laws in Zion. There will be no commerce to be taxed, but only labor to feed and clothe one another. No legal agreements because people will honor their promises to one another. No police, no lawyers, courts or prisons. They will "deal justly with one another" never asking for mercy, or pardon for failure. To deal "justly" requires every citizen to hold themselves to the rigorous standard of "justice" instead of the lax standard of "mercy." Even as they hold themselves to a standard of "justice," they will show "mercy" and "forgiveness" and "charity" to others. "Justice" is only to be applied internally to make us deal fairly with others. Externally, every man expects to allow his neighbor the kindness and mercy he hopes the Lord will show to him in the day of judgment. (Denver Snuffer, All or Nothing 7 - Conclusion, http://denversnuffer.com/2016/11/all-or-nothing-7-conclusion/, November 8, 2016)

The "democracies" of today's societies use voting as a means of enforcing legislation over each other. I hope and pray we can move beyond "voting" to legislate each other with a "majority rules" mentality and begin to think of something beyond our current worldly constructs. It requires light and revelation from heaven.

Chris Chandler

- etluxentenebrislucet March 03, 2018

While I appreciate the desire and intention to facilitate a voting process that is inclusive, I am unwilling to give another the responsibility to speak for me in the form of a vote at the next GC, should I even choose to vote, as I believe I would be surrendering my agency to another. In the United States political system, no one is permitted to vote on behalf of another in an election, correct? I feel it unwise to implement such a practice in this situation.

Providing a vote online, as has been done before, would seem the optimal solution, in my opinion. And simply voting now would also seem good. Why even wait for the

conference? If most feel the matter is mostly decided already, initiate a final vote this coming week.

- JohnDutson March 03, 2018

Chris
I would agree that there's a good chance not much voting will be going on Zion. This isn't Zion. We are working towards Zion.
So the question is, do we just wait until everyone gets it together for the big jump? Or do we take small steps together working towards Zion? Something to ponder.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 03, 2018

Thank you for this, Chris Chandler, every word. Let us pray for one another as a family of covenant to hear the wisdom in what you have shared.

- ChrisChandler March 03, 2018

John, agreed, we are NOT Zion. Only the Lord gets to make that pronouncement. Further, I don't think we wait until there is a "big jump". I think this idea of rethinking things and continuing to discuss between us is the "small steps" we need to take. More importantly, it requires relationships. That's one thing we don't have. We have heard the words of the Lord, but that doesn't mean we all understand one another or the same thing. There needs to be more work done between us I believe. Would like to get to know you for that purpose...if you're open you can contact me directly at bhajichris@gmail.com

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

1. Since the A&C was based on a petition about the scriptures, and is all about the scriptures, and references additions and corrections to the new scruptures throughout the answer, I think the burden of proof falls to you to prove the G&S "being added" refers to being added to some other unnamed library or some other collection other than the new scripture set. The context of the answer is clearly the new scripture set. But I'm persuadable if you have any evidence to support the Lord had reference to something else.

- Dani March 03, 2018

I also appreciate this post, Chris.

- JimORullian March 03, 2018

Gordon,

These two statements seem mutually exclusive to me. Could you please clarify:

"This vote gives us a way to try to lovingly persuade those in opposition, but it also gives us a way to move forward despite that opposition."

"If at the conference the minority does not vote overwhelmingly to accept the majority's preference, the vote comes to an end."

Any legitimate vote is held to decide the matter else why bother voting in the first place. Anything else would more aptly be called a survey or an opinion poll. The SC needs to

decide what type of effort this is and then as you state, agree beforehand to uphold the outcome.

It is overwhelmingly clear at this point what the voice of the people is on this matter, but I am understanding and sympathetic to the desire of the SC to settle it in THEIR minds and if another vote is required to do that, then I will labor with them and add my support and participation. After all, if the document that was prepared by the lots process is indeed meant to take up residence in the RE, then it will continue to so manifest.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

1. I agree with anonymous above regarding the assertion that we don't know "where" the GS is to be added. Clearly, the entire petition for an answer was regarding the Lord's acceptance of the scripture. This is stretching.

3. Creating an artificial time-frame? The Lord said it was easy and could've already been done quite some time ago. We are only delaying because some few find it obligation to always oppose without any substance to what it is that they object to. Oh, reasons are given, but it's the merit of the reasons I speak of. I saw Adrian Larsen ask for an explanation for opposition to the Lots content, based upon scripture and not opinion; multiple times...and no one yet has shown what is in error with the Lots according to scripture.

3. We need to stop thinking that voting is just a gentile Babylonian thing. Where do the scriptures tell you that? Just because something gets used in this telestial world, doesn't mean it has no merit. Voting is merely a method wherein the thoughts and position of people can be found out. Where I get to express my position on equal footing with all others. It makes one accountable to God for their position.

The decrease in voting over time is foremost because the later voting required the covenant, and MANY dropped out after September. There are fewer people with the covenant. That's a fact. Also, the voting has dropped because many have already felt the work has been done and they are standing by that. Finally, the voting has dropped because the people feel frustrated that no matter how they express their vote, the SC continues to just move forward with whatever they're going to do.(as Steve Van Leer seemed to point out) So they feel it is of no real value to keep voting.

Finally, majority does not always mean mob rule. This is not the description given in the Book of Mormon, and we ought to be careful that we continue to twist this topic to serve our purposes of opposition.

How will you ever assess the feelings, desires and even unity of a people who are spread across the world if you do not offer a means to collect that information. That's all voting does. BTW, we VOTED in Boise on Saturday, in the grove of trees in the park to accept the scriptures. What? Was that terrestrial? If that was good enough for the Lord, what's the issue now. Oh, yes, and we voted on the exclusion and inclusion of how many different items in the scriptures before that? And yet, the LORD accepted those scriptures that came about in content and our agreement through VOTING.

This argument is feels to be just a way of trying to continue to stall, while sounding as if one is standing on a higher spiritual plane.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Chris,

I appreciate what you're trying to say. Obviously, you quoted Denver for most of it, and I agree with his teaching. But I think you're using his teaching to make a connection to your point that isn't merited. I think you are just making too much of how complicated this has to be.

The document is to help people outside of Zion to prepare to get there. We aren't even close to Zion yet, and we weren't close when the assignment was given either. We aren't going to have at our employ with 2,000 of us, what will be at the disposal of a small handful in the Holy Order when Zion starts.

If we wait until we are successfully residing in Zion, all living the Sermon on the Mount perfectly, and joined in with that small group who first start with the Holy Order...we will have missed the point of the whole GS document. It is not the end all of Zion. It is for fellowships and individuals to have some basic information to get them started in the right direction. It is not the document of the Holy Order.

I really do appreciate the heart and intent of all those who oppose and keep making this so challenging. But I just do not get persuaded that the Lord intended this to be so hard to agree upon. And I do not believe He has any problem with us using voting as a means to assess what people desire.

- StephanieB March 03, 2018

Forgive me if this was already suggested but could we just create an online voting poll to bypass the whole proxy thing?

I would suggest offering the opportunity for folks to present their thoughts or proposals at the conference should they choose and then allow for the following week after conference for folks to submit their votes.

- StephanieB March 03, 2018

Me I also suggest we take time at the conference to hold prayer for those amongst us dealing with various illnesses challenges at this time?
There are so many within this movement who are the only ones in their family coming to these conferences. They need our support.

I have concerns that we don't pray enough for one another. We need to pray for our youth, widows and singles as well. Thank you!

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Jim,

There are 3 stages:
1-On-line voting in the week before the conference.
2-A vote at the conference asking the minority to support the majority's choice.
3-A second vote at the conference asking if the assembly wants to adopt the chosen G&S, even though there are a few holdouts.

This process can be stopped at the first conference vote if there is a large minority that remain opposed (I believe we said we had to achieve "near-unanimity" as our standard). But if there are only a few holdouts, then after inviting them again to come along with the majority, in the second conference vote the assembly will be asked if they want to adopt

the G&S despite the few that remain in opposition.

Bottom line: a large minority can stop the process, a small minority cannot.

We commit to you that the entire process will be done in a spirit of patience and love. The minority will not be abused, folded, spindled or mutilated in any way. We will appeal to their better angels, and simply ask them for the sake of unity to join with the majority. I think most everyone will come along.

I wouldn't describe this as merely a survey or poll since the result of the process, if successful, is the actual adoption of a G&S. Thank you for being sympathetic to the SC, they're in a tough spot.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Lux,

We need a little time for people to submit their documents. Then, in the week before the conference, the voting for G&Ss will take place on-line. We think the voting that happens AT the conference needs to take place in that setting so that we can maximize the influence of the Spirit in the process.

As I said to Cherry Ann, we are not opposed to real time on-line voting for non attendees, but we need help to make that happen.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

If poligamy is the great rorschach test for Mormonism, the Guide and Standard sure is for this movement.

- McKay March 03, 2018

Jim:
You say, “It is overwhelmingly clear at this point what the voice of the people is on this matter”.

It is in your mind. It is in Steve’s mind. It is in the minds of a great many I have spoken to. It isn’t in my mind. Allow to explain again why it isn’t clear to me. I have gone back and reread the language you and others used before deciding to move forward on the lots proposal before I voted with the 87%? to move forward with the proposal. What did I agree to?

1- To irretrievably set aside the August 5th document? Not in my mind.
2- To use the August 5th document as no more than a source for a new document? I didn’t think so.

I saw nothing in the language then to suggest either of those conclusions. I did not think my vote in either case was a vote to set aside the August 5th document which I also voted to support. I did not think the chronologic newness of the lots document automatically erased the prior vote I had made. I always assumed a head to head vote or at least a conference acknowledgement would be required.

Then the process proceeded. The 7 produced a document. Many testified as to the help they received from heaven, testified of revelation received, and even strongly suggested that Denver approved the document, speaking for him where he would not speak himself publically. Another vote was taken to support the document. I can no longer find online the language for that vote. I believe I voted to “support” the lots document. What does that mean? What did I agree to?
1-Did I agree to accept the lots document to the exclusion of all others?
2-Or did I show support, encouragement and agreement with the 93%? That’s how I saw it.

I always imagined that I might support in exactly the same way perhaps dozens of documents, willing to adopt any of them as a guide and Standard.

So is it fair to say, “It is overwhelmingly clear at this point what the voice of the people is on this matter”? Am I the rare exception? Can you say with any confidence that the 300+ some odd people who voted to “support”the lots document did so believing that their vote to support would be interpreted as a de facto vote against any and all other documents? Is the language in your emails really there to justify the strong wording, “It is overwhelmingly clear at this point what the voice of the people is on this matter”.

You are a wise brother. You impressed me on August 5th as I have told you before. Your willingness to go through another vote and even support it if only to settle the matter in the minds of the committee and find clarity with regards to the voice of the people, is a manifestation of your wisdom.

McKay

- McKay March 03, 2018

Steve,
You said,
“The issue, is a people who supposedly became free, who, in a very short few years find themselves squarely back in a position where A GROUP OF MEN are deciding for the people what the people may, and may not, have for themselves.”

I am in complete agreement with this statement BUT no group of men can decide for the entire body, not the SC or the lots group of men. You think the people have clearly chosen the lots document in preference to other documents whereas I think the people have voiced support for the lots document, not chosen it to the exclusion of others.

An analogy. My friend says, “I’m thinking about running for President”. Could you support my candidacy?” I say, “yes”. Not knowing whose running against him, did I just vote against the opposing candidate assuming my friend gets the party nomination? Not in my mind I didn’t. I just said, “great idea friend, run for President, I support you”

If I believe, as you do, that the people voted to put the lots document in the White House, then we’re done. It’s over. The SC needs to just publish. Could you do a little active listening here and see this from the point of view of the scriptures committee?

You and I see this differently. Your opinion of what the lots process was deciding was informed not only by the emails I had access to but also hours of private meetings, dialogue and discussion. Apparently in your mind the vote to support the lots document was the Nov 5th election. I did not see it that way. Am I alone in my perceptions? The actual language in the emails published on guideandstandard.blogspot.com leads me

wonder how many are like me voting to support a friend in contrast to voting against the opposition candidate. You think Nov 5th is behind us. I think it is still future.

I think the language the lots proposal made public was elastic enough that a vote to clarify is needed. Will you allow a vote to settle in everyone's mind the matter?

McKay

- Log March 03, 2018

"This process can be stopped at the first conference vote if there is a large minority that remain opposed (I believe we said we had to achieve "near-unanimity" as our standard). But if there are only a few holdouts, then after inviting them again to come along with the majority, in the second conference vote the assembly will be asked if they want to adopt the G&S despite the few that remain in opposition.

Bottom line: a large minority can stop the process, a small minority cannot."

The Lord requires mutual agreement, meaning unanimity (we know we have unanimity / mutual agreement by none disputing the adoption of a proposal).

What he's apparently going to get, instead, is "near unanimity," which means not unanimity, which means not mutual agreement.

Who here truly thinks the Lord our God shall be deceived by this fraud?

Or who thinks that the Lord our God does not mean exactly what he says?

Or do you believe instead that you shall be able to willfully disobey his requirement as you have openly purposed to do, and he will accept a corrupt offering?

Jared Livesey

- YourFriend March 03, 2018

I support whatever will unite us. I like the idea of standing together in the Conference and letting our love for the Lord and for each other guide us together to sustain an acceptable G&S that can be included in the new scriptures. I don't understand the issue with voting. How else can it be done? We cannot draw this thing out forever. Time is short. We need to become one, further pursuits from random groups just continue to divide us. These divisions are not productive to the whole. At least this is a path forward to a possible resolution.
I pray we will sacrifice our own desires for the good of the whole, and unite behind one G&S, whichever that will be. I agree with the above statement by John Dotson, it is 10% about the document and 90% about becoming one. I will also fully support whichever G&S that is chosen. If we are following the promptings of the Spirit, we should be in alignment with each other. Let's fully prepare spiritually to be led according to the will of our Lord. Becoming one with Him will result in becoming one with each other. I love you brothers and sisters. God bless us in our humble efforts to please Him. No one has to feel excluded, it's just a G&S folks.
Love, Lisa

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Log, you are not more important than anyone else. Others have said they won't accept

your proposal, but you seem to think that is of no importance. Nothing can be unanimous.

- ShaneGuymon March 03, 2018

I disagree with your definition of what you think the Lord meant by "mutual agreement." I don't believe the Lord meant 100%. That percentage is impossible. The fact that no one even knows what the exact number of people involved in this movement even are, is the biggest reason that 100% is impossible.

The other fact is that currently there is both good and bad branches being grafted in, and not all will survive or be counted as the Lord's people.

But, I'm not really sure if Jared Livesey is just trolling this blog or if he is serious.

- tyler March 03, 2018

Amen.

- Anonymous March 03, 2018

Stephanie,

On line voting to avoid proxy voting is acceptable to me, and I believe the others who proposed this vote. If that is the desire of the people we will do our best to make it happen. Folks who oppose the majority's choice at the conference will indeed have an opportunity to present their thoughts (see the final step in Feb. 9th proposal). We feel however that the conference setting provides the best location to have a successful vote, we are therefore going to try to complete this vote at the conference.

Gordon

- Karen March 04, 2018

McKay,

Since you're my good friend and I know you won't take offense, I'd like to comment on your responses to Jim and Steve.

Since much of what you said is based upon how things were "perceived," I think it's important to try to be precise about some things, just to help balance out why Jim, Steve and others may feel as they do.

You brought up the 87% vote and your "intent" behind how you voted, as well as your intent behind the final vote to accept the actual Lots GS, too. I'd like to speak to those two issues.

As has been stated, the purpose for the vote that garnered 87% was to just get PERMISSION (agreement) of enough people in order to proceed with using the Lots proposal as a means for completing the assignment, without anyone "imposing" their idea upon people without at least the majority consenting to the idea.

Great care was taken by Jim O'Rullian and James Fargo in the detail of what they presented to the people for that proposal. Interestingly, such a proposal and effort to unite the body and garner their permission was needed BECAUSE pretty much

everyone presumed that a new solution WAS REQUIRED because what had previously done up through August hadn't succeeded in convincing the SC to go ahead and publish anything. If any of us remotely thought that the August document was REALLY going to be resurrected, (as disappointed as many of us were), those involved in new efforts to find a solution, would NOT have even bothered with the excruciating labor.

Remember, it was ALL based on the direct statements by the SC in August, and again in October, found on this blog, that their hands were washed of responsibility over the GS, and that the body would have to figure it out and someone/group would have to convince the rest of the body to go along with something. (I can find the direct quotes...I've shared them previously). So if you were genuinely thinking the August 5th was still going to be resurrected as the rest of us were working feverishly to fulfill God's request; then you were privy to knowledge the rest of us didn't have. All we had were the statements you all made publicly. Which meant, we all HAD to find another solution. So we went about working on it.

Interestingly, as a side note of relevance: those of the movement who were the most disturbed about not using the August document, went to the effort to create a website and ask for a petition to be signed, begging for the SC to reconsider publishing it. In the end, most, if not all of those people ended up abandoning their support of the August 5th, in favor of the "Nonmancaaf" document.

Regardless, I wanted to refresh people's memory of PRECISELY WHAT people voted for when the voted to support the Lots proposal, since you referred to the intent of that voting.

(part 2 continued below....)

- Karen March 04, 2018

part 2...

On November 1, 2017 a post was made by Jim and James on this site with 3 links that explained in varying degrees of detail what the Lots proposal entailed. It can be found here. http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-on-proposal-using-lots-call-for.html
A precise outline was given as to how everything would proceed…even down to getting the document sustained by mutual agreement. In other words, Jim and James were notifying the body that if you vote to support this proposal…here's what you're agreeing to by that vote. It wasn't just an idea…it was actual detailed steps, all the way to adoption, as long as people agreed they liked the final document produced.

After detailing all the steps, the final step of "sustaining" the document stated:

"Sustaining Vote:

• The statement will be presented to the body for adoption by mutual agreement."

• If adopted, it will be added to the RE scriptures."

87% of the covenant holders agreed to support this effort as outlined. That right there meant they agreed to allow a group chosen by lot to create a document; that if the body liked and remained within the guidelines agreed upon, it would knowingly, and was anticipated to be presented to the body for adoption by mutual agreement. Following which it would be added to the RE scriptures.

The 7 Lotsters then followed the agreed upon proposal in how they did their work.

Once they had complied with the requirement to present it to the Lord, as agreed upon by the people in the proposal, all they had left was the sustaining vote.

Now, to you that may conjure up visions of having to raise your arm to the square in a general conference in front of all your peers. But nowhere did the proposal say HOW the sustaining for adoption would take place. Nor were we told by the Lord HOW that was to look…just that it was to be accomplished. It was up to the body, unless otherwise instructed by the Lord. (which to this point, if He's instructed anything, it hasn't been made public). The approved Lots outline just said that the final GS would be "presented to the body for adoption by mutual agreement."

The 7 chose to use a final vote to allow the people to either express their sustaining, or lack of sustaining, pertaining to the adoption of the new Lots GS. A vote taken in this manner would allow privacy to be maintained, as well as reach every interested party without discrimination as to where they reside in the world, or their ability to attend a meeting. No matter where they lived, their voice would be heard equally. It would also be precise, and open for all to see the results. (transparent)

(part 3 continued below...)

- Karen March 04, 2018

part 3...

Here was the EXACT wording used in that week-long vote. After answering if the individual had received the covenant, each person was asked:

"Here is the document compiled by seven people drawn by lot.

http://bit.ly/GuideandStandard - http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/update-on-proposal-using-lots-call-for.html

"Do you accept this Guide and Standard, and support its adoption?"
Yes
No

If they answered no, they were then asked the following:

"Although you may disagree with this being your preferred Guide and Standard, will you agree at this time to adopt the document as presently written, as a guide and standard for those that desire to be the Lord's people?"

Yes
No

When you realize that the initial vote to use the proposal included the clear explanation that the plan was to take this all the way to adoption…and then realize that the final sustaining vote was also worded to include their "acceptance" of this Guide and Standard, as well as its "adoption," then perhaps you can understand why so many feel that the 93% approval reflected the acceptance and adoption of the Lots Guide and Standard and the willingness of the people to move forward with that. The proposal also stated that the scripture committee would publish the Lots GS afterward. People anticipated this with the completion of the successful vote. On top of the 7 going to extra mile for 40 days of further outreach…connecting to almost 100 additional non-voters.

(over 500 total…more than August).

Whereas you feel this is all vague, to me and many others, when a document is presented to us to “accept” and sustain its “adoption”--- We are NOT thinking about a bunch of other possible past or future options…We’re thinking…”YES, I agree to this right here and right now!”

Many people voiced frustration to me that, “This better be the last time we’re voting.” Many, many people. The vote was for adoption. It had been presented to the body with that intent from the inception of the proposal. Had the 87% who agreed to attempt the GS through lots, NOT been happy with the resulting document…then they could have voted “NO” in the final vote for acceptance and adoption. It would have been dead. Instead, the percentage of approval INCREASED. Even some who weren’t jazzed about the concept, ultimately saw the finished document as one they were willing to adopt. None of the effort was exerted to “just to end up with another document that could be thrown into a never-ending pool of voting.” It was ALWAYS precisely worded to find a real solution…an end to the assignment.

In the end, I will do as Jim has said and go ahead and vote. But honestly, it seems like, based upon what you wrote, that you have had in your heart all along since August that there would NEED to be another vote between documents; and so here we are…doing exactly what you all intended, or thought best, all this time. It just doesn’t feel like what the body decided, but is a perspective that you all won’t let go of as “needing to be done.” Alas, now that I’ve had a chance to make my perspective known, I won’t obstruct your efforts. I’m a team player, even if outspoken at times. And a long-time friend to you!!! I’m sure it’s difficult to walk the line you’re having to walk. I just felt it important to clarify how many of us see this whole thing as having played out. I may still have some procedural questions and concerns I’d like clarified…but I’ll participate in the vote and encourage those I know to do so, also. Despite the frustration of not interpreting the language the same…may we all just come together and work this through to completion however is deemed necessary for peace.

- Log March 04, 2018

The Lord: "If a man love me, he will keep my words... he that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings."

Also the Lord: "I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people."

You: Mutual agreement is impossible, therefore we will give the Lord near unanimity.

Thus we see there is at least one who is not loved in this process: the one whose requirement shall go unfulfilled by this people.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 04, 2018

Soooo, it sounds to me like what is being planned (?) is not unlike what the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs group recently invited us all to do in selecting a statement from among all

offered, or listing preferences. And why was it only a handful participated but now it sounds like a good idea? I'm just trying to understand what has really happened here and is happening.

Why not ask them to re-administer that same vote before the conference?

I do not understand the work involved, but it seems to me they already did it once and would therefore be more prepared to repeat the process.

And why is there a request for more statements? I don't understand the point. Folks already have written or accepted what they want, correct? But maybe all previous proposals can be re-submitted?

TIA to anyone willing to respond.

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

Karen,
Thank you for your patience. Sincerely, thank you for all the hard work you and others have done on the "lots" statement. And thank you for being willing to go the extra, extra mile (Matt. 5:41). Please let us know what your procedural concerns may be.
Gordon

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

Since we've had several votes, the most recent a 40 day vote between all the documents written and submitted to date (of which only 80 people completed the vote and the Lots document received the majority), I am unsure that what you are trying to accomplish will actually get this accomplished once and for all. I realize that the SC is between a rock and a hard place. I realize that you are trying to listen to and respect all of the people. Since what you are suggesting has been tried before I will be surprised if many people participate. We have voter burn out. The last round of voting I put in some time and effort to try to rally people to vote, each time receiving the same answer, that, "my vote doesn't matter because I've voted before and no GS has been printed, why is this time going to be any different?". I can picture the dilemma that the SC feels that they are in with trying to deal with all of us, however, this is making me wonder what you know that we don't know.

- McKay March 04, 2018

Karen, my friend indeed

I accept your synopsis as an accurate retelling. I will try another tact. Let’s looking at this thing practically.

When we made the lots proposal (I was one of the seven contributors) we said, “When the Lord’s approval has been received, the Statement of Principles is presented for a sustaining vote and inclusion in the RE Scriptures.”

We all imagined the Lord would accept the document through a revelation by his servant David before it was presented to the people “for a sustaining vote”. That didn’t happen. Instead Denver declined even taking it to the Lord. Shalyce received a revelation which was published saying the lots document is “sufficient” but more was required according to the revelation, namely,

“Present it to the people. Present it to my servant David, and you will know what you are to do.”

So, Karen my friend, what are we to do? Please answer. The revelation to Shalyce that is brought forth as the Lord’s acceptance of the lots document says we will know what to do. So what are we to do?

The position you have taken, Jim, Cherry Ann and others is that the SC should publish. But they won’t set aside the August 5th document by executive fiat. All arguments to date have failed to change their minds. So what are we to do? The Lord is being quoted as saying we will know. Do we know?

This proposal, carrying out a vote just before the conference and asking for a show of mutual agreement is the only proposal that has the backing of the SC. They are on record as saying they will publish with the scriptures whichever version is chosen by this process (assuming a few things). Gordon and I and the SC and many others imagine we know what to do. Maybe we do. What about you? Do you know what to do?

Adrian has made a proposal but has not asked the SC to agree in advance to publish the lots document if the process he outlined is carried out. He could but hasn’t. But for now those who are supposed “to know what you are to do” have only one solution that gets us to score. Recapping the game so far does little to get us over the goal line.

So, I will welcome any effort Adrian or others want to propose if they think our proposal is uninspired but invite them to do as this group has done, namely, get the SC to agree to the process first. Perhaps others feel they “know what to do” and should make proposals as the SC has invited. If not, if you don’t know how to proceed support this effort as Jim has agreed to do if only to settle the matter in the minds of the SC.

I join with Gordon in thanking you for your helpful input.

McKay

- Log March 04, 2018

"So, I will welcome any effort Adrian or others want to propose if they think our proposal is uninspired but invite them to do as this group has done, namely, get the SC to agree to the process first."

The SC has already agreed to a process via assenting to the covenant.

"But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow."

When we have an agreed statement of principles then the SC has been required to add it as a guide and standard, and not otherwise.

And we know that we have an agreed statement of principles when none dispute its adoption.

That's the process the SC has agreed to by covenant, as have we all.

Any proposal which is given to circumvent my disputation of your proposals is not inspired of God.

The only way to fulfill the Lord's requirement is by fulfilling the Lord's requirement.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

Since 11/27/2017, the only question before this people is do they indeed desire to be the Lord's people? If so, then they shall accept and do as he has required.

Instead of accepting and doing as he has required, proposals have been put forth seeking how to best justify before men failing to fulfill the Lord's requirement.

Jared Livesey

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

LOG
Very telling how you quote endlessly the covenant that, by your public admission, you rejected before God and Angels as witnesses! And even then, just quotes and definitions that advance an agenda and doctrine.
Your words I can judge; they bring darkness to my soul and poison to my heart so I will not engage them with any further consideration.

- Log March 04, 2018

I didn't reject the covenant. To the contrary, not only did I accept it, but I execute it as written.

Jared Livesey

- userHL March 04, 2018

My feelings exactly, John. Jared's endless posts have proved to be poisonous. Nor does his approach or engagement with others reflect the Lord's sermons and teachings. Endlessly quoting selected scriptures and twisting the words of the A&C utilizing them as a club to try and bash others over the head with them, has made a farce of Jared's engagement with others here. I believe he needed to be afforded the opportunity to show his true colors at this stage. Who can live peacefully and who cannot. Who would exercise compulsion and who would use gentle persuasion and love unfeigned. Who can safely be gathered and not destroy peace among the group. Who would place themselves above others, and who would seek to serve others. I want no part of Jared's "Zion."

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

Anon.,

If I know something you don't, it's this: the idea for this vote is inspired. I don't expect or even want you to trust me, however. Ask the Lord for yourself if this idea is an acceptable way, given our weakness as a people, to arrive at a G&S we can all support. If some have lost patience with this process (which I get) then only the very patient will

end up making the decision. That doesn't seem all bad. However, one thing that is manifestly different this time is a PROMISE by the scriptures committee to publish the chosen document. We have never had that before, and it's a big deal. With a little (very little) good will we can bring this matter to a successful conclusion in the next three weeks. Please help us.

Gordon

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

“Therefore, I confess before men, angels, and God, that I did say “yes” when I should have said nothing. I do not know how else to repent of this except to say that to those who have entered into the covenant provided through Denver Snuffer, they should consider me as not being part of that covenant. I failed in a test of personal integrity pertaining to question 1. I lied by saying “yes.” I repent me of this lie by making the truth known.”
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/09/a-confession-to-my-readers.html

- Log March 04, 2018

I repented of the lie, John. A lie I have found out I was not alone in having told.

There is no exit from the covenant on the text as it is written. That is to say, the covenant cannot be repented of in the fashion you seem to wish to make me out to have done.

My very next blog post reads as follows:

I Get to Embarrass Myself Again

So what do you do if you, like me, discover that you have entered into a covenant that you did not qualify for, and were acknowledged by God as having entered in?

You execute your end of the bargain to the utmost of your ability, even until you are crushed under it.

You can't unring the bell.

http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2017/09/i-get-to-embarrass-myself-again.html

I was standing and said "yes" when the officiator so instructed the audience, and therefore legally entered the covenant, from which there is no exit on the text as it stands.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

I also point out that no man's opinion of my covenant status before God matters. Only God's opinion of my covenant status matters.

Jared Livesey

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

Jared, I agree 100%
I pray, literally, that your words and “apparent” attitude as seen online is not indicative of your heart.
You see things in a way I do not naturally see, that’s a good thing, diversity of thought. But the constant drumbeat of absolutes is conducive to that of a self-righteous bully, not a disciple of Christ.
I truly hope and pray your “words" are being misunderstood, but those words are stacking up in a way that shines a light on an agenda that I don’t condone or have any interest in being exposed any further to.

- Log March 04, 2018

John,

The words of the Lord are true, and we also must be resolute truth-tellers as well if we are to become what he is. If his word were not true, we could not exercise faith in him, for we could never be sure he meant what he said. He'd be just another liar in a universe of liars.

I am speaking to you as though I were speaking to myself. The tone people get out of reading what I write is not mine.

Jared Livesey

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

OK, I hope its all a terrible misunderstanding.
It appears “your definition” of mutual agreement means 100% agreement.
So, your saying we need 100% agreement, yet the God of Heaven had a third part in disagreement with Him. So, we need to be better than Heaven for a Guide and Standard?
Also
“Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.” (A-C Pg. 8)

Yet you reject any proposal that forwards “anything” about the work now under way or wise in what “we” write

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

The body isn’t fixed or permanent. There may be folks coming and going. Unanimity starts all over with even 1 addition to the movement. Most of us won’t even know if newcomers come along, so we could loose unanimity and not know it. Jared’s view doesn’t make sense to me despite months of attempts to understand.

The clarified definition of Mutual Agreemnt on the other hand was about choice. Choosing not to dispute. Unanimity, majority, minority, those are all categories that happen after people make a choice. I think the choice itself is what does that natural separating.

Jared do you accept the clarified definition of Mutual Agreement as posted by the scripture committee? From what I can tell, the clarification made no difference to your current perspective.

- Log March 04, 2018

John,

The Lord said: "The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation."

How does his gospel allow people to understand his work and then obtain his salvation? He tells us again: "All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know."

It is the role of the Holy Ghost to teach men of the Lord's work now underway, and it is his gospel that must be obeyed to receive the Holy Ghost. This is why The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles contains only his gospel and nothing more.

If his gospel is not believed and put into actual practice and the Holy Ghost is therefore not received, no matter what men think they understand, they still do not understand the Lord's work now underway.

Thus The Rock of Jesus Christ blesses, benefits, and informs those who as yet know nothing of the Lord's work now underway by giving them the information necessary to obtain the Holy Ghost so that the Lord can teach them and lead them to every good thing, including his salvation, instead of leading those who know nothing of the Lord's work now underway to trust in men - yes, Denver Snuffer is a man - and remain in darkness.

The Lord says: "I lead to all truth. I will lead all who come to me to the truth of all things. The fullness is to receive the truth of all things, and this too from me, in power, by my word and in very deed."

That's his role. Ours is to give men enough information to receive the Holy Ghost that they may be led to the Lord. That information is the gospel.

Jared Livesey

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

Well Jared, your stating the obvious, I mean duh.
If we have any hope to be involved in the establishment of New Jerusalem or reside in Zion, it will be because we “know the Lord”. Those who know the Lord will we have many covenants both personally and as a “people”. When the Lord promises a person or a people, it’s a covenant.
And for the record, I follow the Lord only!
HOWEVER, most of my knowledge of the Lord began with Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Paul, Lehi, Nephi, Jacob, King Benjamin etc. also Joseph Smith and now Denver. I don’t follow any of these people, but I sure do study their words and have benefited greatly from them; I believe they came from the Lord. Probably the “people “of the Cities of Enoch and Melchizedek benefited from the teachings, words and writings of the prophets also, including Enoch and Melchizedek of their day.
If a person disputes all the words of men, where did they get the words of Christ as we have them? Do they dispute Mathew, Nephi, Joseph Smith? Or is it just Denver’s words they dispute? If it’s Denver’s words such as in the covenant, why would they want to be involved in this other than to breed contention?

So your cheery picking quotes from Denver and flogging people with them and ignoring the rest, like the questions I posed to you above. So far all you have done is reconfirm your agenda.?

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

Jared, you appear to be caught in the trap of judging others heart. Just because your heart swelled with pride while taking the covenant last September doesn't mean the covenant was evil as you apparently do, or that everyone is like you.
When I took the covenant, after reading it probably 50 times, I recognized it as being from the Lord to "a people" and accepted it in fear and trembling as a part "of something beyond myself" and what the Lord had promised me personally. But something between the Lord, myself and others, as well as the opportunity it represented in the earth's history. The emotion of pride wasn't even on the list of what I experienced that day nor since.
I've got to go, so I'm done with this discussion. In my view you've made yourself abundantly clear as to what you believe and your agenda.

- McKay March 04, 2018

Et Lux

Several big differences between this vote and the NONMANNCAF vote
1-We have the advance approval that the SC will publish the majorities choice. The NONMANNCAF vote from the beginning was exoected to be non-binding.
2-Only those G&S which are submitted for vote between now and Mar 15th will be on the ballot
3-This will be done in a conference with perhaps 500 people
4-We will listen to any in opposition

The request for statements is only out of an abundance for fairness.
McKay

- Log March 04, 2018

Anonymous asks: "Jared do you accept the clarified definition of Mutual Agreement as posted by the scripture committee? From what I can tell, the clarification made no difference to your current perspective."

The clarification solely made the task of publicly determining mutual agreement possible: when none among us choose to dispute the adoption of a proposal, then we know we have mutual agreement on that proposal.

So I have chosen to dispute all but one proposal.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

John,

If you believe the Lord's words, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man" then you should agree that teaching others to trust in men - yes, Denver Snuffer is a man - and

not to trust in Christ alone is to curse them.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

It is, in fact, to curse, harm, and misinform them. I do not want to be cursed, harmed, nor misinformed. Therefore the law of God requires that I dispute any such attempt to curse, harm, and misinform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

And any who believe the Lord's words, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man," should do likewise.

And any who believe the Lord's words, "I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands," had ought to give no support to any of these attempts to defraud the Lord of his requirement.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 04, 2018

I too agree that voting is not the method of approach to produce anything more than added division. Anonymous speaks boldly about the question Adrian asked, claiming that it went without a response, when the question was framed in a way to fence in any response. I did respond, and had a great conversation, when Anonymous claims no one did. But my response extended the view outside of the framed view, so I guess that didn't qualify for him/her/Batman/Superman/or whoever that caped crusader is/ anonymous.

I appreciate the emphasis upon Zion, instead of some random assignment, an exercise of sorts, etc.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

McKay,

C'mon my brother - equating a group of men who form an unappointed committee with the voices of over four hundred people speaking in unison is right on the verge of being insulting to common intelligence. But, I have been guilty of making foolish comparisons myself... so this one slides for you. Mine have been even worse.

The Book of Mormon is clear that it is the voice of the people by which we ought to conduct our business. Twice, my own vote has been rendered meaningless by decisions made by an unappointed committee of men. I voted for the August 5th document and, as you know, I have been involved with, believe in, and voted for what has come to be called the Lots document. The voice of the people has been rendered null and without meaning in the case of both documents.

The Lots process and document began in late September after it became clear that by fiat, the August 5th document would not be allowed to be included. The entire process began with one, then seven, then twenty seven, then within a couple weeks over a

hundred had affixed their names to the truths suggesting a way forward. Soon, there was a merging of the truths given regarding unity and unification of the people, with the work, thought, and revelation of a group started by James Fargo and Jim O'Rullian who had simultaneously received and developed the Lots concept for allowing God to reveal seven who would compile the writings and ideas from the body to produce a document. Karen's elaboration of the development of the process is wonderful. Look at that. Suffice it to say that over nintythree percent of the interested body were involved and approved both the process and the outcome. Close to five hundred people spoke. The peoples' voice was overridden by a few who happen not to agree but also have a spot on a powerful committee. We ought not have powerful committees anywhere among us. If I am a lone voice
Then I will say by myself, we don't want or need any unappointed group of men deciding anything among us.

Now I know there are those reading this that are shaking their heads saying - poor Steve - he's off base - this is no way to get something done on the GS. I respond, there are bigger issues, more impactful to us all than which document we choose. I will not abide power among us that binds our collective voices contrary to our collective will. Not said with a great deal of diplomacy - I know. If we continue forward allowing what is happening without throwing down a check, we have travelled backwards not forward.

This will surprise many - I began absolutely indifferent to which document was included, what I want is what the Lord ratifies (or has ratified.) I voted twice for two different documents. Both of my votes were rendered null by unappointed men.

Tell me why anyone ought to believe another of their votes will mean anything? Will it be because the committee says it's ok?

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

LOG, Who said anything about trusting in man?? Holy Sh@t fire dude!
I'll end with this
We both accept Nephi, Mormon and Joseph Smith as men.
Yet, as we have already agreed, all men are filled with darkness, especially in comparison to the Lord. However we both accept their words, when acting via the Holy Spirit, as from the Lord.
You reject the words of Denver, at least in the covenant. I do not, I see them when acting via the Holy Spirit, as with the others, and from God.
OK, that's okay, you have that right and I respect that.
Just please quit playing this game and acting your perceived part of Gods bully as though it will somehow atone for your perceived sin and mistake in taking the evil covenant. Please spare us of your screwed-up penance mission!

- ShaneGuymon March 04, 2018

Log, You publicly wrote that you don't believe that the answer to the prayer for the covenant comes from the Lord. So even if you stood and vocally said yes, all you have to do to NOT be a part of the covenant is to not live it or continually be able to answer yes to all 4 questions. Which you've already admitted that you don't.

So why continue to troll the rest of us.

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

I meant to sign my name to the response to McKay above. I will comment briefly here and then sign my name to both this and what was written above.

Suggesting the Lots process and document were tantamount to a perfunctory primary election as in the analogy you put forth, does not hold water. Every soul among the nearly five hundred who raised their voices and their votes in favor of the final Lots document believed, and believe, their collective voices would provide the direction of the people. It was, in fact, the election of the people's choice. If anyone is unclear about what should be done from here, the answer has been given and is clear, and very simple, unless someone who believes they have power to ignore the voice of the people decides differently. The people have spoken - let it be done as they have asked.

Steve VanLeer

- Log March 04, 2018

The voice of the people should be ignored. This is why.

"You hinder and delay and then you say I require too much of you and do not allow you time, when, if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves you could have finished this work long ago."

"Yet many of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do. As a people you honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting."

"But you have also scarred one another by your unkind treatment of each other, and you do not notice your misconduct toward others because you think yourself justified in this. You bear the scars on your countenances, from the soles of your feet to the head, and every heart is faint. Your visages have been so marred that your hardness, mistrust, suspicions, resentments, fear, jealousies and anger toward your fellow man bear outward witness of your inner self; you cannot hide it."

And so on. More in this vein can be culled from the A&C.

Mosiah 29
26 Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law—to do your business by the voice of the people.

27 And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time he will visit you with great destruction even as he has hitherto visited this land.

The Lord in the A&C has made it perfectly clear that this people chooses iniquity at this time. The voice of the people should not be heeded.

Regardless of all of the above, the Lord has mercifully granted that the voice of the people is not how the G&S shall be chosen. Mutual agreement is how the G&S shall be chosen and not the voice of the people.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

An additional citation is relevant: "I desire to heal you from an awful state of blindness so that you may see clearly my will, to do it."

From this we see that this people is blind, neither knowing the Lord's will nor doing it. Even when this people understands the Lords will, for example, that they shall adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement, they do not accept and do as he has required.

The voice of this people is therefore unsuitable as a guide to any man.

Luke 6:39 And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?

Jared Livesey

- Karen March 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Karen March 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Karen March 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 05, 2018

Jared, may I ask if you and your family are considering attending the conference being held in AZ this month? Perhaps it would be good to gather in person to develop and strengthen bonds of friendship? Perhaps greater understanding of one another could happen? I suppose I am hoping at least.

- Log March 05, 2018

Lori,

I do not know at this time that we will be attending.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 05, 2018

Steve,

I don't understand how you can claim the voice of the people on both Aug 5th and the Lots. It’s interesting to see that both the Aug 5th and the Lots documents are what the SC are conflicted about. No matter what, you are aligned to win, as you are aligned to both. The process of the Lots to lock in the votes based upon the process, despite the content of the document, and using the voice of the people as the justification, is the same compulsion the LDS uses. They could quote the same verses you quote, and justify their actions. While you speak in terms of percentages, they would weigh at you a far greater quantity of votes. Are you for the Aug 5th, or are you for the Lots? It seems

as if you are for the Lots, so are you withdrawing from the Aug 5th? And if the Aug 5th document was published, would you have ever proceeded to argue a Lots effort? The SC is in between both of your documents. You, the Strong's and O'Rullain's added your voices to "both documents," and both documents are in conflict.

I cannot support either of them because its content necessitates an SC. In either of the two documents, nothing has been designed within them to remove the necessity for yet another SC. Despite which of the two documents wins, both will necessitate another SC for future efforts. The question of how a government with no government works without an SC governing is still unanswered. And the voice of the people has no idea that it is necessary.

If this project does not take into account self governing, the voice of the people will continue to divide further, until you're left with those who have elected themselves. The voice of the people is not a device to depend upon to always choose right. The "voice of the Lord"…IS THOUGH! After all, the voice of the people was the device also used by the Gadianton robbers, and all secret combinations that resulted in apostasy just as well. Take it easy on the SC. After all, your vote is why they face working through the deadlock.

Given enough time, and enough poor reaction, people's true character will be unable to be contained, and desperation will cause atrophy. The jarring and strife of the early saints did not atrophy the "quantities" of people. Their recruiting efforts and financial welfare systems continued growing the LDS "voting" population. The atrophy was to THEIR MINDS! The quantities of the recruited LDS will continue to grow, and the voice of the people, in their ignorance, will continue to devolve and align with the political standards of the LDS today. While their numbers continue to grow, their minds suffer atrophy, when it ought to expand. I support an expansion, against atrophy. And that leaves me to stand alone, without "the voice of the people," to depend solely upon "the voice of the Lord." I recommend all wait upon the voice of the Lord to separate, rather than the devices of people to determine the outcome.

You claim to be willing to stand alone. But, is it possible, in the argument that you have "the voice of the people" on your side, …for you to stand alone? A house divided against itself is not a house, let alone a house of order.

Rob Adolpho

- Karen March 05, 2018

McKay,

I had posted a three-part answer to your question to me, but you can see I have deleted it. It wasn't contentious, and I thought it was pretty logical, and I even agreed to go along in the end, but upon awaking this morning, I realized that I just don't even want to go there in my approach, anymore...defending and repeating, and explaining a position. Proving a point. Finding flaws in what the other person is saying, to confirm my own views. It feels pride oriented on my part and doesn't allow those of you who are doing your best to still figure out a solution that you feel can be valid for all involved, to be appreciated for the efforts you're putting in to this. It casts a tinge of accusation to keep focusing on how our opinions have differed, or how perceived governance has occurred. It divides...because there's always this bottom line tone of inferring, "I'm right and you're wrong.", when any of us engage in that. I want to repent of that attitude. Not only is it wrong, but It's not going to get us where we all want to be. It isn't keeping the covenant to correct myself by the scriptures. I've been gently chastised by the spirit this morning, and I appreciate the patience with which the Lord has dealt with my weakness; as well

as the patience from any of you that rub shoulders with me.

So, all I'd like to say is that I will support your efforts with a purer heart and intent than I have exhibited. And that I do not desire to accuse either the SC, or those involved in promoting this proposal, and realize everyone is doing the best they can in these matters.

Much love for you all,

Karen

- JimmyTownsend March 05, 2018

Can an unambiguous definition for "clear majority" and "overwhelming majority" be given? I believe this should be presented beforehand so that all are on the same page.

I should also note that are some odd possibilities due to the inclusion of step 2 (requiring that the "overwhelming majority" of the minority who did not vote for the document in favor to state that they will accept it).
For example take 2 hypothetical cases:
1. A document gains 95% acceptance and has 5% who are adamantly opposed and will not accept.
2. A document gains 75% acceptance, has 5% who are adamantly opposed and the remaining 20% who favored a different document but would support the majority chosen document.
(Assume for the sake of this discussion that 75% is the mark for clear acceptance). By my reading of the proposal, case 1 would fail because a clear majority of those not in favor would not accept the majority's selection, but case 2 would pass, even though it had less support that case 1 with the same amount of adamantly opposed.
I think it is good to include step 2 to allow people to express their support/non-dispute, but as I am typing this it seems that the acceptance criteria after step 2 should be a certain threshold of people in support of the document (majority + supporting minority) out of everyone rather than the threshold of supporting minority out of just the minority.
Just a thought.

- Mark March 05, 2018

Chris had quoted from Denver earlier: “Every one of man's institutions are corrupt. They are led by men and women who rule against the best interests, even the will, of the people over whom they exercise control. They abuse authority and their subordinates lord it over their minions.”

Doesn't this affirm that at least Denver believes that there is something important in listening to the will of the people? Institutions don't listen to the will (voice) of the people. Let's not be an institution. How else do we gauge "the will of the people" without voting?

- TwoCents March 05, 2018

Part 1 of 2
American Indians believe in one circle, one hoop, a medicine wheel. Not one above the other. Native tribes didn’t incorporate a “yes or no voting system” until we were forced by the dominant (or majority) colonizing governmental system or culture. When we were first forced onto reservations, we made the best of it, utilizing our own system of equality. Initially, we struggled, but within 30 years, we recovered and thrived. Natives raised and sold more grain and cattle than their counterparts because they had learned

how to cooperate.

The success of the Natives frustrated the colonists into adding regulations and laws, to gain the upper hand. They implemented even smaller boundaries and stricter stipulations, that required Natives to kill their own cattle and waste their own crops, unable to compete by these new rules. The new circumstances set our people back once again, but this time it only took us 15 years to recover and thrive. Our tribes flourished even through the great depression. Our system of equality, while rudimentary, succeeded each time in recovering and thriving.

The killing blow to the Native people happened when the majority/dominant/colonist culture forced and instituted the Indian Reorganization Act in 1934 (IRA). They enforced and redesigned tribal government, to reflect the colonist government, where voting, officers, and a grand council "governs" over the tribe. Although they used "Native titles" (like chief & council) for the names of the offices, …the structure was not our traditional structure of equality any longer. Chief & Council became reduced to an elected popular vote, and were no longer respected for their wisdom & knowledge, …holding the responsibility to disseminate wisdom & knowledge throughout the people. They were reduced to being the new boss on the block, whose hand was in the pocket of the federal government programs, and alignment with them is considered alignment with money. The new system, enforcing the Indian Reorganization Act, reflected the system of the majority/dominant/colonist culture, who knew nothing of the land, the animals, the mountains & rivers, and the heavens. They captured and bound the minds of the native people. To the colonists, this was "kind." But, to us, it was the death-blow to seal the scattering of Israel to this day. Institutionalism was planted in the core of our tribes, and not only have we not recovered, but we have been spinning our wheels ever since.

Rather than helping the situation, religious institutions created further damage. In the name of God, colonist priests finished the job of thoroughly institutionalizing the heart of the Natives. With government running the mind of the tribe, the colonist priests trapped the spirit of the tribe by teaching false traditions of unbelief, that opposed most of our Native belief systems of ascent, connection to land, animals, and heaven. We have been in complete bondage, both mind & heart, unable to be restored.

- TwoCents March 05, 2018

Part 2 of 2

My doctoral dissertation is a part of a massive study called "The Brain Drain." And my findings identified that educated Native people return to the reservation because of "relationships." But, when asked what Native people would recommend to promote a more returning educated populace, …they all recommend more "government programs!" This is an indicator of thorough institutionalization. The reservation has been thoroughly scattered and divided by both institutions of the mind and the heart (government & religion). Institutions broke our one circle, and created hierarchy, winners and losers. Now, "majority rules" on the reservation, rather than wisdom & knowledge counseling and teaching. It seems to reflect what's happening now, among us.

The pattern and story of institutionalism is not limited to Native Americans. In 1840 American missionaries came to Hawaii and brought many religious, cultural, economic and political changes. That year a constitutional monarchy was established, stripping the Hawaiian monarch, implementing a government of voting, and since this time the Hawaiians have lost their lands and not recovered. In Hawaii, it is termed "The Great Mahele," meaning "the great division." The land was once an ahupua'a (an altar), whose fruits of the land was an offering to Akua (God). The vegetation, animal life, and people were all considered the fruits of the land. Since "The Great Mahele," commoditizing their

culture through tourism has been their only staple, unable to live off the land. Recovery seems impossible without the freedom from institutionalization. They have been spinning their wheels ever since. The majority rules in America. And with universal healthcare, maximized taxes, and debt enough to drown the Earth, how has that worked out?

At one point both the Blackfoot and Hawaiian people lived by a system that was instructed by the earth and the stars. To us, “owning” the land, plants, and animals was a foreign concept, and still is. However, we have lost our wisdom & knowledge (our hearts and minds), by submitting to a process of men to make decisions on our behalf. I will not submit to this process of voting.

If this process of voting represents the voice of the people, it does not represent the voice of my people: my immediate and extended family. I have my own voice and can speak on behalf of myself. I do not approve of using votes as a justification to speak for the whole, while ignoring the individual. This majority/dominant/colonist culture doesn’t care about relationships. They cared more about progressing their agendas and winning the competition, no matter what it costs in relationships.

When Ammon and king Limhi wanted to know the “voice of the people” concerning the matter at hand, they gathered together and consulted with one another. This is the type of system that the Blackfoot and Hawaiians employed before the dominant/majority/colonist culture was enforced upon them. Relationships take time, work and effort. In order to gather and consult we need to have a relationship. It’s not like home/visit teaching of ten minutes a month. It requires talking story, long stories, and in-depth conversation, …the kind you would never find at a social event, rather in a personal setting, in familiarity, in homes. Institutionalization only isolates individuals, reducing any hope for relationships, suffering conversations to be limited to large conferences, building meetings, impersonal settings, where true feelings cannot be discussed.

Q

- TwoCents March 05, 2018

Q Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet March 05, 2018

I understand Jared, and thank you for responding. I just want you and your wife to know you are officially invited. Haha. Seriously though, please know you are both loved and wanted at the conference should you feel impressed or able to attend.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 05, 2018

Gordon, has anyone submitted a potential statement? I guess it will be posted here? I'm not exactly in the know about anything, but I would assume most have either accepted one of the already written statements or are just plain tired of writing. Thanks for answering.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 05, 2018

McKay, I assume by approval you mean the SC has given agreement to finally publish a statement? I'm still not understanding why they didn't say anything before...

I understand the NONMANNCAF effort was more survey than vote. I guess I wish now

more respect and cooperation had been shown. Maybe we would all understand one another better. Live and learn.

Why aren't folks resubmitting their proposed GS? Or am I out of the loop?

It would be at least good to gather and work on relationships. I know more than a few want closure and completion though.

Opposition...is it genuinely hoped...I don't even know how to word my feelings. I am concerned people will either be too afraid to say they oppose still or anger/frustration will be so thick the Spirit will withdraw. I hope I'm just fretting over nothing, however. Lori

- Anonymous March 05, 2018

This is not something to be won or lost as you think and suggest. This is an opportunity to unite in the Lord Jesus Christ. I really believe it matters little to our Redeemer which document we unite around as long as it is His word which He has given us, and He is at the center, at the beginnng, and at the end of all we do. The flaw is not the chosen document. The flaw exists in hearts that believe something is to be personally won or lost in this effort. You have aptly described the real flaw in the whole works. I believe “winning” as you suggest, has nothing whatever to do with which document is chosen and included. Winning, is allowing mutual agreement between a body who coalesce and unite around the Lord Jesus Christ, His instruction and His Redemption. “Winning” is pleasing Him and Him alone. And that means they choose not to dispute among them. There are yet many, (usually the very same ones), who choose to dispute and divide. A very great many have chosen to unite and mutually agree and not dispute among them as required by the Lord.

I think the body is very clear about who it is that demands that they “win” the GS effort as if it were a contest to be won. I will not dispute with you Rob and I absolutely refuse to compete with you in this “game” you have constructed. If you need to “win” the GS effort - then I declare you the winner. Now let’s move on and let it be.

Steve VanLeer

- Log March 05, 2018

Lori,

I appreciate the sentiment.

Jared Livesey

- Karen March 05, 2018

McKay and Gordon,

I left a comment addressed to McKay, but actually for both of you, way up higher in the thread. I think it will get lost in how long this thread has become, but I wanted to make sure you get it. It's right after McKay's comment asking for my input, and is identified with March 5th 10:02 a.m. Thanks. Karen

- JohnDutson March 05, 2018

We need to keep reminding ourselves that we are learning a whole new way of

governance, it will not be easy, its going to be messy and difficult.
I'm thinking we need more; "Lives guided and maintained by virtue, by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned, by kindness, and pure knowledge, without hypocrisy, and without guile. We seek His presence, to be His people, to abide His covenant, and for the establishment of Zion in preparation for His return".
There's a reason this has only been successful two times in history.

- Anonymous March 05, 2018

Jimmy,

During the first vote at the conference, the minority (and only the minority) will be asked whether or not they are willing to support the majority's choice of G&S. There needs to be "overwhelming" support from the minority for the vote to go forward from that point. I can't say what "overwhelming" support means, numerically. Or rather, I don't want to say. I fear that if we put a number out there, and tell folks, "O.K., if 25 people are in opposition, then the vote comes to a halt," then there may be some bad actors that will game the system in order to get to that number. Unfortunately, there seems to be a few in this movement that are willing to dispute anything and everything.

But here's a commitment: we will follow the biblical injunction to establish the matter "by the evidence of two or three witnesses." We will do our level best to find two or three wise, disinterested (not uninterested — disinterested) grey-hairs to stand as witnesses at the conference, and if they unanimously affirm that the minority has voted overwhelmingly in favor of the majority's choice, then we will proceed. We will try to find individuals to fill this role that have proven to be wise, and temperate. Any nominations?

Regarding your scenarios. The most important number in this process is the number of people in the minority that are willing to go along with the majority's wishes. That number will be the test of our hearts. That number will show us if we are ready as a people to move forward or if we are stuck in Babylon. The support for any given document is relatively unimportant. The document is not the important thing; our hearts are what's being judged here. Scenario 1 would deserve to fail, because the people could not be entreated. Scenario 2 would deserve to succeed, because it would show a willingness to be united. Both scenarios have 5% adamantly opposed, that's true, but scenario 2 has 20% that didn't get what they wanted, but for the sake of unity went along anyway. That deserves to be rewarded.

We could use some help making this vote happen. Are you interested?

Gordon
gordoplat@gmail.com

- Anonymous March 05, 2018

Thank you my sister Karen!

Gordon

- Log March 05, 2018

No number of votes can turn a disputed document into a mutually agreed-upon document in this matter.

If and when the SC places a disputed document in the scriptures while pretending they have fulfilled the requirement of the Lord, then we have failed at the assignment - not because the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement wasn't understood, but because the cost of accepting and doing what he required - adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ - was considered unacceptable compared to the cost of defrauding the Lord. As the SC have themselves said: "We frankly can't see much downside to [defrauding the Lord]."

The SC's explicit and self-declared inability to see the downside to defrauding the Lord, given that the Lord told us what the downside is within the text of the A&C - that the Lord shall give us tasks that we cannot fulfill - should give the covenant people of the Lord pause to consider whether they wish to participate in this fraud.

After all, as Joseph said, salvation requires doing all things whatsoever the Lord our God commands, not merely some things, thus the covenant body cannot be saved if the SC succeeds at perpetrating this fraud as they have openly purposed, even if some individuals may yet be found faithful to the covenant.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 05, 2018

Great, Steve! I'm glad we finally agree on the winner. That's one down and a couple of thousand more to go! Tee-hee!

You're a funny guy, ...in your own way, of course. The winning I suggested had nothing to do with me, …it is "your" document winning over "your" document, since you voted in both occasions, and in both occasions spoke out that "THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE HAS SPOKEN."

All this time I've been trying to see if we can continue working toward something that "I can agree to," something that "I would be willing to not only say, but to do," something that can include me and my family, without you tripping out on me. So if you are going to do as you say, and let me win, …then let's keep working together until we are in mutual agreement. I would call that a win for the two of us.

Sam Vaughn has proposed an idea of continuing in peace, without all this rubbish talk of making losers by winning over another. Let's win together. Drop your document, chalk all the work up you've done up to this point to experience, and let's figure this thing out. That way you don't have to only say you don't want to compete. By working together, we actually don't compete.

I get that you believe it doesn't matter much to Christ which document is chosen, as long as it's His word, that He's given us, and He is at the center, beginning and end of all we do (I'm paraphrasing you now). I believe it does matter to Christ. Would you recommend I pay less attention to the Lord's voice instructing me about Him, and defer to your belief's instead?

Brother, I am not motivated by guilt, and you don't need to exhaust your Delta-miles on me for a trip. Guilt trips have never interested me. Put simply, if I win, getting what I wanted, then you and I would continue working until we agree. However, if you win, then

the work ends, you print what you have pushed, you move ahead with your winning document, and I wish you all the best. Best of luck, and “Good Game.”

Malama pono a hui hou
(Take care of righteousness, until we come together again)

Rob Adolpho

- Log March 05, 2018

I am not the one who made the rules, and we all agreed to the rules by covenant. This warning is a logical consequence of the truth of the Lord's words and the fact that to gain salvation as a body we must all equally do all things whatsoever the Lord commands. Our failure at future tasks is guaranteed by the SC's success at defrauding the Lord by placing a disputed document in the scriptures.

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents March 05, 2018

Gordon,

Have you identified the minority? Has anyone identified the minority? Has anyone asked them what would work for them? How do you know the majority of minority are in agreement of this plan? I find it interesting, that those on the majority side make a decision and then expect the minority to agree and if they don’t they are in opposition. At each vote beginning June 10, there has always been a 7% minority, were they identified at any of these times and did anyone talk to or work with that minority? At every vote, those on the majority side forge ahead to create a process for everyone, never ever really talking to the minority. When has the minority concerns ever been addressed?

Q

- Log March 05, 2018

And when they shall ask you if you will accept the results of the vote, or, in other words, if you will agree with them to defraud the Lord, then you have your opportunity to make your loyalties known to both God and men.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 05, 2018

Q,

I cannot tell you the names or the number of the minority. I know that some (the "lots" group for instance) have reached out to those who they thought may be a part of the minority. And, if you will reread the Feb. 9 proposal, you will see that there will be an effort as part of this process both before and after the vote to reach out to the minority. I do NOT know, however, that the minority will go along with the majority's preference. I hope they will, freely, voluntarily, generously, but we proposed this vote precisely to find out IF they will.

I don't know how to convince you of the motivation of those involved in making this proposal, so I will just say this. We care very much that EVERYONE gets a chance to

stand up and be heard. We do not want to shut down anyone's agency. This vote requires no one to do anything they choose not to do. And, as I have outlined elsewhere, there are no less than 4 opportunities built in to this proposal for folks to opt out and bring the vote to a close. At every turn, if the people don't want this vote to happen it will not proceed. There are no overseers here. Only the people get to say what happens.

I respect the rights of the minority, whoever they are and however many there are to believe as they choose, and to stand up for whatever they believe in. You are at liberty, Q, to believe as you choose and to propose and pursue any course that you think best. And by that same standard, I get to pursue the course i think best. And to try to persuade others to come along. I think this is a fair way to proceed. I think this vote finds a balance between individuals' agency and the group's duty to finish the assignment given to us by the Lord. I think the process for this vote is inspired, but please don't take my word for it. Ask the Lord for yourself. I have, and I believe that if the minority can find it in their hearts to support whichever document the majority chooses, that they will blessed for doing so.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 05, 2018

Lux, no one has posted anything yet of which I'm aware.

Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

I appreciate your willingness to put yourself out in the open by responding to questions and concerns, Gordon. It's not easy.

The more I hear about this idea, though, the more uncomfortable I become. I will be very honest. I do not feel okay with proceeding. It definitely appears like certain folks are being challenged, like they have to defend themselves against others.

Your last sentences to Q reminded me of exactly what an LDS church leader would say in trying to persuade me to do what he wants. Scary. I know you can only share what you believe Spirit has conveyed to you and I believe you have good intentions, but...holy shizzle. Ima kinda freaking out over what I am seeing. This is the beginning foundation for Zion???

- TwoCents March 06, 2018

Gordon,

Thank-you for your response. So, it seems like you are saying, you don’t know who the minority are, but they will be made known at the conference and you are hoping they will go along with the majority. You believe this vote is inspired of God and you see this to be the best way to complete the assignment given. You believe that everyone has agency to choose, and you believe if the minority will support the majority’s choice they will be blessed. All in all, you are doing the best you can to unite the people. I hope I understand what you stated.

I agree with you, the motivation behind the people who proposed this process, and any other process is based on their understanding of love, peace, unity, etc. I believe everyone, including Jared has good intentions.

I also believe that everyone has a right to choose. God respects man's agency. I don't believe that anyone's intentions are to shut down anyone's agency. I'm not talking about agency, I'm talking about understanding. I'm not too sure why we have to wait for the conference to try and understand the next person. I've taken a lot of time to study and ask about voting, lots and majority. I just don't come up with the same conclusion as you do. I don't think I'm being prideful by saying this. I don't think it is contentious to make my voice known about this.

I believe, a "yes or no" vote doesn't really tell us the "voice of the people." To me the "voice of the people" refers to what their beliefs are and what they desire. I have talked to several people who voted yes to this document, some say they believe it's revelation from God, some say they believe once it's done they don't have to look at it again, some say it really doesn't matter, some say they just want this to be done, some say they supported it because they are friends with so and so, some say the document is "meh" but they will support it because they want unity. So, when you say you hope that the minority join the majority, what belief and desire am I supporting and joining?

Is this the mechanism (lots, voting, majority) that will be pushed on the people every time a decision is to be made? If you believe this mechanism/system is from God, why not include it in the Lots document, so everyone knows what to expect the next time a decision comes around?

I believe it is the Voice of the Lord that matters, not what the majority decide; therefore, I will do as the Lord commands.

Q

- Anonymous March 06, 2018

Lux,

Respectfully, when did you ever hear a GA say, "The church is going to adopt whichever proposal the PEOPLE choose. The decision is in the hands of the PEOPLE." I can't ever remember them taking that approach. Their approach is usually to dictate to the membership based on their privileged relationship with God. We suggest that folks go to God themselves if they want to know if this process is inspired. And the process, whatever else it does, puts the power in the hands of the folks. Is that the approach you see in the L.D.S. church?

You are right about one thing, however. This vote will challenge everyone to stand up and be counted. Is that a bad thing? Is it unreasonable to ask folks to be accountable for their choices? Are the scriptures rife with examples of that very thing? "We ought to have to choose." Do you remember those words? Do you agree with them?

If ever I have a family that I can surround myself with that is based on love, respect, and mutual sacrifice, it will come from this body of people. I treasure all of you; I want to find myself in Zion one day with all of you. I have no desire to offend or hurt anyone, least of all anyone in this movement. But we have a hard task ahead of us. We must come together in mutual agreement before we can move forward. This proposed vote is a way which can help us to come together. That is the sole reason that we have offered it to all of you.

Gordon

- LynneMcKinley March 06, 2018

Agreed on all points Lux. I'm biting my tongue here trying to restrain myself. Thanks for saying it almost exactly as I would have...

As a woman (we are legion) who has been serially abused by so-called priesthood authority over the course of a long and eventful lifetime it gets to the point where, like a good bear dog up wind, I can smell something coming before anyone can see it.

I smell bear.

- JohnDutson March 06, 2018

What if the REAL WORK taking place here is a “process” of development as a people learning a “new way” and not about the “chosen document “?
What if many people were told, by the Lord, they should write a G&S or how it should be adopted? NOT JUST YOU!
What if this really isn’t about a chosen document, but instead a process?
The process of the Lord taking a diverse people from where they’re at presently, not only the group, but as individuals, and under His care and direction bringing them together as to become a “people”. As one.
We are just at the beginning of learning new ways from God verses the ways of man and understanding and practicing a whole new way of governing ourselves.
Should we all be inspired and capable of writing a G&S? How can we hope to learn to be Zion if not so?
Does this have something to do with stripping ourselves of selfishness, pride, coveting and jealousy’s and coming unto Christ?
Isn’t this about a process of development above all else? Isn’t this just us working through a new way? Aren’t we “ALL” poisoned by this world and most if not “all” of our ways wrong?
I guess I am beginning to understand why it will be required for all to “know the Lord “who will abide in Zion.

- Anonymous March 06, 2018

I have one concern with this proposal, and that is the part below:

3-Then, if they are opposed still, we will announce on Sunday the 25th that there remain three (or however many) opposed to the proposition that has otherwise carried by the nearly unanimous consent of the conference, and ask the conference if as a body they are willing to proceed/adopt the chosen statement of principles despite the opposition by three (or however many). If this carries by a clear majority vote of the conference, then it is adopted, and the chosen statement will be added to the scriptures.

It seems to me that this part is trying to achieve by process what should be achieved another way. I may be way off on this suggestion, but… what if we replace this part with something more faith-based? What if instead of having this vote if the majority is still met with opposition after we have taken our opposing conflicts to the Lord to know His part, we take this situation to the Lord? We return and report. We say, “We have done everything we know to do to reach mutual agreement, and have gotten close, but still have not reached it.” And we ask for further guidance in the matter, even if it means, like the potter’s clay, we must scrap what we’ve done and begin again. I realize this may not

be a popular idea with the questions of who does the return and reporting? And who can we trust to receive the true answer? But perhaps we can begin by all having this prayer in our hearts, and trust in the Lord to tell us His part, so that we don't have to manipulate the outcome with processes.

Sarah S

- Log March 06, 2018

The sole issue with respect to the G&S is what the Lord said it was: "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

At Phoenix, you'll apparently have your opportunity to declare your answer to the Lord's question.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

All I can offer is that sometimes we need to speak so that we can either be reassured something is not so or let others see how we unconsciously carry damaging traditions with us wherever we go. I think men have a very different experience and perspective in religious traditions, which favor them in a lot of ways. But I also think we have many really good men in this covenant body, and for them I am grateful. They are like our Father of Lights, made in His Image. Sometimes I have a moment when that thought takes my breath away. There is nothing so beautiful and powerful as a righteous man of God. Well, maybe a newborn baby. :) Okay, so a righteous man and woman of God, together, as one. :) :) Zion!

Lori
PS--Good to hear from you, chica. Hope you are well and smiling much.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

Agreed, John. I do believe we, as a group, need more light. I at least do. I hope I am not the dim bulb shorting everyone out! Walking the talk of the sermons and scriptures is a challenge indeed. I've got a lot of stinking thinking to eradicate. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

Q, ever since reading your comments, I keep wondering what was the knowledge and wisdom of American Indians and Hawaiians had which you reference. I feel like I need some good history lessons from you and Rob, and there is much I/we can learn from your lives and ancestral histories. I love this concept of one circle, one hoop, medicine wheel, earth and stars as foundational building blocks for families and groups. If you have any recommended readings, please share. I want to learn more. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

Numero uno.

Hey Gordon. First let me say I'm sorry if I offended you. I probably should have worded myself better. Q and Rob are so much better at communicating than I am, and I agree with everything Q just commented back to you.

In my comment, I was specifically referring to this that you said: "Ask the Lord for yourself. I have, and I believe that if the minority can find it in their hearts to support whichever document the majority chooses, that they will blessed for doing so."

I don't believe you intended anything nefarious with that. I accept that you are being genuine and trying to help others understand this proposal. It just came across differently to me, and that is my own issue. But I also know there is a lot of dark intimidation used in human relationships to get others to agree or obey. It is prolific in all religions. And yes, I have heard church leaders say such a thing to me more than once. It's like saying 'trust me, I know what is best for you even when you don't,' but there's this strange veiled threat underneath hinting that danger is afoot if I don't hearken. It's also assuming what the speaker has said is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and if the listener hears anything different he/she got it wrong.

As to asking for myself, why bother? I feel like I am never given time to consider and pray and study any of these ideas. It seems once an idea is posted to the blog, bam! It is immediately put into action without any discussion or tweaking. And each new idea seems to get more complicated. I don't think I ever want to hear about voting ever again in my life, except I live in a country where everything is determined via votes and now I am in a covenant group who practice the same thing. Oh, dear.

And the lots version apparently has the Lord's backing, so why bother seeking an answer for myself? If I say He has spoken differently to me, then what? I'm opposing? I'm deceived?

It's like sustaining in the LDS church. Sure, I can oppose, but it won't change anything. Should it? If my opposing had the power to truly stop something, leaders would quickly take away the opportunity altogether or ignore me by saying it's just an offering of faith, prayers and support.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 06, 2018

Numero dos.

There has to be some greater way. We need more light. I don't have an idea yet, but I would really like for us all to unite in our confounded condition and ask Christ for His Light to show us the way. I wonder if we are just trying too hard to lean on our own understanding of how to do something in our eagerness to show we can do this thing.

I agree we are all accountable for our thoughts, words, and actions, to Christ and one another. It's just that this sounds like it is going to be handled by putting some few front and center in front of a firing squad. I cannot imagine how intimidating such an atmosphere will feel to someone. It feels unfair and wrong, but I get the belief that face-to-face might help build bridges of understand move hopefully those few along to agreement.

And yes, I definitely feel the struggle in trying to discern from among all these voices. To me, the choice is so simple: the doctrine of Christ and His law as He unfolded in His sermons. It's the foundation of a Christian life, and I feel we Christians have done a poor job in studying and living them. Maybe we should begin with the basics? I could live with such a statement for now, until we, as a people, become enlarged with greater light to show us the Way, otherwise I feel to wait. It feels both kind to us and kind to others to state we believe in Christ and follow Him. And Christ also said the way to learn and understand more was to obey and follow Him, to do the things He did.

Maybe I am still a baby in the gospel of Christ and all y'all are more mature and grown

up. I'll keep trying to stand and learn to walk with you, if you are willing to show me a lot of charity and patience. I'm sorry I can offer nothing more than a willing heart and hands. I won't dispute any documents, but I also do not know at this time if I will be voting in this next round. I don't think I am the one you all need to sort out in terms of opposition.

And Gordon, you're a good egg. Thanks for trying to help us all understand. Lori

- Anonymous March 06, 2018

Q.

I think it's a good idea to try to understand others in this movement. And, I applaud your efforts to do so. I also agree that there's no need to wait for the conference to make that effort. But may I suggest that the proposed vote can help us to understand one another. If, as I hope, a large part of the minority agrees to support the majority's choice despite their own personal preferences, won't that help us to see their generosity. Would such a vote help us to understand that perhaps we are beginning to abandon our gentile pride? If we lay aside our own desires to accommodate the desires of others, would that help us to understand that we are beginning to love one another?

A vote is an imperfect vehicle to bring us to perfect understanding, but perhaps it's a place to start. To my mind if the minority supports the majority's choice it communicates love, generosity, the abandonment of pride, and the desire for unity. That would be a good start.

You are right of course that it is the voice of the Lord that matters. Please ask him to tell you if this vote is acceptable to him, given our weakness as a people. Please forgive the suggestion if you have already done so.

Your brother, Gordon

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Please disregard my comment above. Unfortunately, I am unable to delete it myself. I need to further consider this proposal, and what it means.

Sarah S

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Q,

What you said really resonates with me; with my understanding of Zion.

I've really been concentrating these past few days on how we as a people can succeed here, and I believe our only hope is to learn from the medicine wheel you mentioned above. It is one wheel, not many, not one above another.

We all need to be working on the same document, not competing documents. Zion has no spirit of competition, but that is what we have here. It is chaos, not order.

You described the councils of your people. I believe that is what we as a covenant people must come to, or we will never be united.

What you suggest will take time, but we've already spent a year and are further from mutual agreement than a year ago. If we came together in a council, working on the same document until it was done, not rushing to vote to accept, but taking the time needed, I think we have a chance of succeeding as a people. Otherwise, even if we choose one of the existing documents, I don't know that we will survive as a people.

-Sam Vaughn

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Lori,

I highly recommend Hugh Nibley's "Promised Lands" article. It is found in the Collected Works of Hugh Nibley, vol 13 Brother Brigham Challenges the Saints.

I think it is a good place to start for all of us to begin to understand, coming from the background we come from. It is completely relevant to where we as a people are right now, and is a great segue.

I also would like to know more. I've learned more talking face to face with Rob and Q than I have found written down. We need more face to face :)

-Sam Vaughn

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Thank you for the rec, Sam! BYU.edu has it online so I will plan on studying it over the next couple of days. And I like everything you said to Q, and agree, especially how we may not survive this if we don't correct ourselves at this juncture. The idea of a council absolutely resonates with me, and taking time to work together. I will also study up on medicine wheels, to understand how they were created and used. Lori

Mutual Agreement and Being Divided

Sunday, March 04, 2018

By Sam Vaughn

I believe the reason we have not been able to achieve mutual agreement in writing a statement of principles is because of our being divided as a people. In the A&C the Lord pleads:

Let not your hearts remain divided from one another and divided from me. p7
It is true that the answer to your inquiry “will always be ‘ Yes ’” (Be of Good Cheer, p17). As Alma put it:

I ought not to harrow up in my desires the firm decree of a just God, for I know that he granteth unto men according to their desire, whether it be unto death or unto life; yea, I know that he allotteth unto men, yea, decreeth unto them decrees which are unalterable, according to their wills, whether they be unto salvation or unto destruction. (Alma 15:12)

So, as each individual or sub-group has asked for inspiration and revelation, it has been granted according to their desire and intent. And since each individual and sub-group

believes that their answer has come from the Lord (and they may be right), they stand their ground, steadfast and immovable. The Lord does not contradict Himself, but he does give us what we desire, even when we contradict or are at odds with each other.

As long as we are divided in seeking our answers, we will be divided as a people. We need to come together and be united in what we ask the Lord. In a situation where the Lord requires unity, if we come to him individually or in sub-groups instead of in unity, does it not constitute " scheming " ? Our schemes cause us to backbite, contend, and accuse. All of this is forsaking His words to do them.
Can we at this point at least do as the Lord instructed if we have a dispute?
Pray TOGETHER in humility and TOGETHER meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part. (A&C p8)
Standing steadfast and immovable AGAINST our covenant brothers and sisters is not humble, nor contrite, nor charitable. We cannot be on our own errands and hope to come to mutual agreement.
Recently Denver gave us this hint:
Truth must be the only goal. Truth, however, belongs to God. Our desires, appetites and passions are prone to make us stray well beyond the boundaries set by God.
-Therefore, when our pride is gratified, we should question if what we are advancing is truth.
-When our ambition is served, we should question if we are in the Lord ' s employ or our own.
-When we insist upon control, we should question if we are like our Lord or instead like His adversary.
-When we use any means for compelling others, we should wonder if we are mocking God who makes the sun to shine and rain to fall on all His fallen children without compulsion.
-When we display unrighteous dominion, we should question whether we are worthy of any dominion at all. " - *That We Might Become One* , p.6
Let us all be humble, patient, and easily persuaded, and drive our proud, quarrelsome tendencies far from us - even if it means we give up every document created so far, since they were all created out of division and not unity.
My plea is that we each humble ourselves to the dust, even consider ourselves as less than the dust, as king Benjamin ' s people did when they became united.
Can we come together at the general conference in a few weeks with a new heart and seek the Lord 's part?
Even if we all " took " the covenant, the Lord will not " establish" it until we as a people " repent and bring forth fruit showing repentance. " " Remember, that without the fruit of repentance, and a broken heart and a contrite spirit, you cannot keep my covenant; for I, your Lord, am meek and lowly of heart. Be like me. "
If you take upon you my covenant, you must abide it AS A PEOPLE to gain what I promise.
Unless we move AS A PEOPLE, we cannot obtain mutual agreement.

What say ye?

Comments

- Log March 04, 2018

Easily persuaded, by whom, exactly?

Has not the Lord said "Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man"?

Should we then be easily persuaded by men that the Lord does not mean what he says?

When the Lord says "mutual agreement," should we be persuadable that he does not mean "mutual agreement," but instead "majority rules?"

When the Lord says "Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man," should we be persuadable that he means "Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man... unless the trusted man is Denver Snuffer?"

Unless there is mass repentance of this people, that they believe and obey the Lord's words and no longer fight nor dismiss the Lord and his words, then as a people there cannot be mutual agreement as long as I am among you.

And this lack of mutual agreement comes not because I am not easily persuadable, but rather because you are in conflict with the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 04, 2018

Also, there is directionality to this unity stuff. We're not supposed to be unified for the sake of unity.

"Fourth: And do you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?"

Those who seek the Lord to establish his righteousness are not the ones who are supposed to be unifying themselves to the majority, whose hearts are not right, the Lord says in the A&C, and who return evil for good, the Lord says in the A&C, and who cannot disagree respectfully, the Lord says in the A&C.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 04, 2018

I very much like what you have stated, Sam, but what are you proposing? That we agree to at least wait until the conference before deciding a next step, where hopefully, presumably we will all be uplifted, strengthened, and nurtured by the word of God, and for those present, become more united in our affections for each other? Then perhaps His heart and mind will be more clear?

I'm all for waiting in patience for our hearts (mine most definitely) to gain some contriteness, humility, and greater love. But I think many want to just be done at this point.

I reflect on that singular moment at the edge of the waters of Mormon when a few hundred were baptized individually yet as a group. Mosiah 18...It's a great read...Maybe something is there in that account for us to comprehend here in our moment?

- JohnDutson March 04, 2018

Sam

I agree and appreciate your post, we only have a few weeks until conference, we need to unite!
But unfortunately, it needs to be accepted that there is opposition in all things and therefore those who have no interest in unity.
The Lord said.
“Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.” (A-C Pg. 8)
The Lord said this yet there are those “fixed in disputation” who want nothing but what has been available on earth for a couple thousand years included, and any proposal that forwards “anything” about the work now under way or wise in what we write, they “dispute” and cry, it’s my opinion that matters and mine only that will be advanced! They talk of unity as though it should be dismissed just "stuff"unless it submits to their demands.
But I feel progress has been made, I think we have the opportunity to move forward.

- KevinGillman March 04, 2018

Amen, Sam Vaughn. Praying together in unity to find the Lord's part is the way. That's exactly what we're instructed to do. If this is His work, and His assignment, we ought to be unified in hearing His part. I have not been convinced by the arguments of those with agendas.

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

Yes, possibly.

I’m not advocating "waiting" until the conference, per se, but the conference would be the best opportunity to get together with as many people as possible. We should be able to help any who want to come who aren't financially able. There may be other reasons people can't come, but the idea is that it is as close to getting everyone together, face to face, mouth to ear, heart to heart, as we can get.

I understand the feeling of wanting to "just be done." It's the same feeling a runner gets in a long race when side cramps and thirst start to challenge their endurance. But unless we come to mutual agreement honorably I don't believe we've reached the finish line.

I only make the suggestion, since I'm not part of the conference planning committee, but I believe we have some issues to work out.

Coming up with a document is only part of what we're facing here. There are spirits being manifest that I think are hard for many of us to understand (see T&C 35:6). Many of us are frustrated and want it to just go away, but I think it is necessary for us to work through this, in order to work out whether we are to inhabit Zion and can live in peace.

T&C 50:10 specifies that the inhabitants of Zion will be able to discern and judge conflicts, and prove all things pertaining to Zion. I believe this is our first major trial, as a people, without "Moses."

It is clear that we need to accomplish this nobly, and without accusation, backbiting, scheming, etc. But, we also are dealing with an adversary who will try us at every hand. We need to be able to "detect" and "drive" false spirits from our midst, "not with railing accusation, that [we] be not overcome, neither with boasting nor rejoicing, lest [we] be seized therewith." -T&C 35:6

(Continued below - Sam)

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

In a letter written by Joseph Smith in January 1833, he spoke of “the very spirit which is wasting the strength of Zion like a pestalence, and if it is not detected & driven from you it will ripen Zion for the threatened Judgments of God.” In that letter he says, “It is in vain to try to hide a bad spirit from the eyes of them who are spiritual for it will shewe itself in speaking & in writing, as well as in all our other conduct, it is also useless to make great pretensions when the heart is not right before God, for God looks at the heart, and where the heart is not right the Lord will expose it to the view of His faithful saints.” (JS Papers, Documents vol II, p. 368)

The spirits that cause us to publish something behind everyone else's back, or to demand everyone accept our document or be condemned, or to say we're done and everyone else should go away, etc., etc., need to be tried by the word of God and proven whether they are of God or not.

We as a people need to rise up to discern whether the spirits that actuate us are of God. If they aren’t, then we need to drive them out, by choosing not to be subject to them.

The Lord has given us a pattern for all situations:
“And again, I will give unto you a pattern in all things, that you may not be deceived, for Satan is abroad in the land, and he goes forth deceiving the nations. Wherefore, he that prays, whose spirit is contrite, the same is accepted of me, if he obey my ordinances. And he that speaks, whose spirit is contrite, whose language is meek and edifies, the same is of God, if he obey my ordinances. And again, he that trembles under my power shall be made strong, and shall bring forth fruits of praise and wisdom, according to the revelations and truths which I have given you. And again, he that is overcome and brings not forth fruits, even according to this pattern, is not of me. Wherefore, by this pattern you shall know the spirits, in all cases under the whole Heavens.” T&C 38:4

Do we speak in meek and edifying language, having a contrite spirit? That’s the first test. If not, we need to choose to throw it off, and start doing so, acting out of love, and not our own rightness. We have to choose it. Every one of us needs to look at our own words and actions and judge by this criteria. Otherwise, we can accuse each other all day long and be seized with spirit after spirit that we then must throw off before we can progress.

(Continued below - Sam)

- Anonymous March 04, 2018

At the end of the day, we haven’t reached mutual agreement - there are still disputes. Some see the disputes as bad, but they may also be calling our attention to legitimate problems. So how do we proceed? In the end, we may need to all come before the Lord and ask Him to rebuke the evil spirits, but unless we are willing to let them go, they may not go. Then we must rely on the Lord to finish it, as the previously quoted scripture continues, “according to men’s faith it shall be done unto them” - if we have faith He will remove the false from us. I rather think it is better that we govern ourselves by putting these things away than to see what He will have to do to root them out.

I see this as the greater task we’ve been given, not just coming up with a set of principles, but dealing with situations as a people. We must “equally walk truly in” His path, “not only to profess, but also to do as you profess.” How we do it, as the Lord said,

must be as noble as what we are doing.

Even if a particular document contains the words of truth, yet if those advocating it do so in a spirit of arrogance or pride, or compulsion, we cannot accept that document except we subject ourselves to that spirit of compulsion, pride, or arrogance. The woman who spoke of Paul and Silas “these are the servants of the Most High God that show unto us the way of salvation”, was rebuked by the apostle because it was a false spirit that proclaimed it. When Cain offered sacrifice, it was offered unto the Lord, but because it was commanded by Satan it could not be accepted by the Lord.

Others have suggested already that we meet regarding the G&S at this conference. I feel our hearts are still too divided to settle on any given document. We need direction from the Lord; without Denver participating we need to approach the Lord as equals, as a people. I have faith He will accept our efforts and direct us. I don’t know what that looks like any more than Nephi knew before hand what the spirit would guide him to do. Can we come together with that faith? Having come up with our best efforts, after study and effort, do we qualify for the Lord’s input?

- Sam Vaughn

- HuhWhatda March 04, 2018

The contention behind this project is mounting around “voting” AGAIN, …because ANOTHER deadline looms over us, with the project incomplete. As of recent, Karen Strong essentially stated that since the majority agreed to the process before the Lots program began, it should be published by the SC. McKay countered with a legitimate response, saying that God instructed in the answer to Shalyce, to: present it to the people, to Denver, and then you will know what to do. He then inquired, do you know what to do? Still no one knows what to do. Both offer good points. Among this group of people, there is no shortage of good points. I like the two of them, including Jim O’Rullain and James Fargo, and, while I don’t know Jared Livesay, I can also see logic in his tenacity. “Pressing forward” to the vote will crush the competition, finish the task, divide the people, and flatten our variety, to be limited to those who are aligned to the winning document. That doesn’t seem appealing to me.

Moses gave laws according to the desires of men. He suffered to write a bill of divorcement, allowing divorce, even when it was a false precept of man. God’s intent for marriage was not why Moses gave the law. Moses wrote the precept for the hardness of their hearts. God will not stop you from exercising agency, even if it is in support of a false precept of man.

Throughout the process, I have not locked my vote down simply because I think there’s more work to be done to find mutual agreement above and beyond simultaneously raising our hand and saying “Yes.” Sam is right, we can get anything passed off, ...but it won't ever be one, no matter how good of an imitation of mutual agreement it is.

The method here offers the only way for me to continue along this path with the rest of you. Let’s begin/continue to work on our relationships. Institutions isolate. Fighting opinions isolates. And compulsion isolate’s. Isolation ruins relationships, and provides no room for life to dwell upon the land, and no room for the rest of creation to progress. I am willing to continue to work until the work is over. However, if those in power want to force their opinions upon me, I will remain, and allow you to leave.

Many have set up stakes, supporting one document or another. But, if honesty were to win out, and their document ended up not being chosen, they would quickly abandon their argument, and jump on the conquering team, ...labeling their actions “humility” and

“meekness.” The contention is founded upon the shifting precepts of men, and that is such a shaky foundation.

I know what I know. I am willing to be taught more. But I will not push my opinion on another, even if it requires letting you all go. Sam’s offer represents hope for my continued participation in this work with you people.

Aloha,
Rob Adolpho

- TBM March 04, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- NiloArmas March 04, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 04, 2018

Yes. Yes. Yes. I hear what you are saying and agree. You are spot on about discernment and the spirits moving in and through this people. Christ will show each of us if we will turn to him and ask, then do as He instructs for healing and release.

I yearn for us as a people to display effort that is noble and honourable. I have so much to learn myself of this. And there is much yet to learn about embracing, loving, serving, and teaching others how to pursue Christ and His Zion, which Denver talks about in the "All or Nothing" blog series. We cannot teach what we do not know, right?

I hope we will each consider what you are saying, consider and ask Christ for help. I feel we need greater light, His light. We do need direction from Him. I need direction from Him. My heart has been bruised and pummeled in this process. I am grateful to say I still can feel love for everyone.

What are your thoughts about what specifically to do at the conference? Take time to openly discuss as a group? Pray together? A fast? How do we best utilize that time together, for those who can be there? (Not sure we can be there, but if somehow communications can be shared in real-time/semi-real time, that would be helpful.) I support us moving together as a group. Thank you for sharing. Lori

- ShaneGuymon March 04, 2018

You’re definitely just trolling us.

- HuhWhatda March 04, 2018

Sam and Lori,

You are my kind of people. Your words make my heart pound with excitement. I am speechless at the attitude of Sam's words, recommending the effort of how we must progress forward. His response to Lori was even better than his initial proposal. Lori's recognition also reflects my own. And I also appreciate Kevin Gillman's response as well.

Mahalo,

Rob Adolpho

- ShaneGuymon March 04, 2018

Log, Just clarify, you wrote,

“Therefore, anything coming from Denver Snuffer without “thus saith the Lord” or its functional equivalent does not meet the standard of delivering the Lord’s word. Denver’s words are not to be accounted as more or less authoritative than any one else’s. And it is folly to build on his words, just as it has been folly for “Christians” to build upon Paul’s words (just to pick one example; Paul would agree: 1 Corinthians 3:1-15)”

However Denver has stated repetedly that every book he’s written and every word he’s said in his talks is coming directly from the Lord. That he isn’t doing anything but the Lord’s will.

So there is your, “thus sayeth the Lord.”

Again, you’ve already stated that you don’t believe the answer to the prayer of the covenant came from the Lord. So, God knows your heart, therefore, you didn’t actually meet the terms of the covenant because you weren’t able to sincerely answer yes to all 4 questions.

So, you are free to no longer pursue this mission seeking to be free of this covenant that you mistakingly and pridefully entered into. This is just me using the same stream of logic that you seem to base all of your arguments upon.

- ShaneGuymon March 05, 2018

I love your idea and completely agree with everything you’ve written here. Thanks for sharing.

- ChrisChandler March 05, 2018

The spirit and method of this approach rings absolutely true to me as well. There have been too many agenda's from different groups clamoring that their document is the "one true document" and should be put into the scriptures.

Mutual agreement can happen when we get past the concept that we have to vote/legislate/campaign our position, rather than hungering and thirsting to know Christ's "part" in the matter. Once we seek His "part" and conform to that, no one will need say, "Let's have a vote on it." Our countenances will radiate to Him what we really are and what we really, mutually agree to.

If it is for a certain existing document, great. However, if it is for something totally new, then we can all be in a position to expand our hearts/minds to receive something new.

Thank you Sam for your post.

Chris Chandler

- Taylor March 05, 2018

Original post says: "Can we come together at the general conference in a few weeks

with a new heart and seek the Lord’s part?"

I'm in. I think various people or individual groups have done this, but to my knowledge it has not as yet been done at a general conference with having made known to the body as best we can that such a thing was planned. So yeah, Sam will you be the organizer of this? Have you asked the conference committee for a time slot in the agenda for this purpose?

It should probably be clear to people upfront though that even Lord himself who physically ministered, healed, and did miracles in Jerusalem still had those who disagreed with him, disputed, and some fully rejected. So.... I don't think we should expect anything less. However I like the idea proposed here of coming together, showing fruit of repentance, and asking for the Lord's part. I just don't think we should be ignorant of the fact that there may be those who disagree or dispute the results.

Taylor

- ChristopherPark March 06, 2018

This is something I can support. Seeking to know the Lord’s part is really the only instruction we have when we’ve come to the impasse we’re currently at. I think we ought to do this.

One thing that may be helpful is realizing that every single one of us could be wrong. We should not come to this expecting the Lord to tell us who’s right and who’s wrong, but that we’re all wrong and need higher instruction.

How do we make this happen? What steps need to be taken now?

- Log March 06, 2018

1 Nephi 15:11

Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

- Jay March 06, 2018

Jared,

You have already changed your position once, from what you outlined before the Rock of Jesus Christ, to the Rock of Jesus Christ in order for your proposal to be more aligned with something the body could accept. Why not be willing allow your position to change again?

May I share something from my own life? Years ago I had an experience with prayer. I had been engaged to a young woman for a couple of years. We had agreed to get married, but had not yet set a date. I somehow found myself unsure if this was right. I kept praying for some confirmation from God, that He would reveal something to me that would settle my mind and my heart and give me some peace on this issue. I found myself pondering deeply about this one night and took a long walk. I remember it was in

the dark of the evening as I walked in the fields surrounding March Air Force Base in California. At length I came to realize that all this time I had been unwilling to accept any other position than that I should marry this girl. My prayers were that God confirm my request for His blessing on the matter. It began to dawn on me that in order to truly hear God's voice I must be willing to accept whatever answer God would give, even if it was not what I thought was right. I had to humble myself and open myself up to His will for me. Once I did, my answer came. It was clear. My heart and mind were filled with clarity and peace, even in the midst of the disconcerting and uncomfortable circumstance I now found myself in in knowing I must now somehow find a way to break the news to my fiance that I must now call off our engagement.

I apologize for this long introduction to my question, but what I want to know is, if resolution to our differences the Lord requires us to "Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part." (A&C p8), how can I have confidence in approaching God in prayer with you if you are so clearly unmovable in your position to accept whatever answer He may give (providing you are willing to approach God in prayer with me in the first place)?

Jay

- Log March 06, 2018

Jay,

My service to God is between me and God. Your service to God is between you and God.

The sole question before you at this time is will you accept and do as the Lord has required, or shall you join with the conspiracy to defraud him?

Jared Livesey

- Log March 06, 2018

Also, Jay:

If you are unable or unwilling to dispute what I say, then you and I have no dispute to pray over. And if you should choose to dispute what I say, and I correct you from the scriptures, and you reject the scriptures, then your dispute is with the Lord and the covenant you have made with him, and has nothing to do with me.

For example, if you think you not only can, but should, or even must, trust Denver Snuffer, and I point out that by covenant you have agreed to conform your thoughts, words, and deeds to the following words: "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man," and you elect not to self-correct with respect to these words, then your dispute is with the Lord and has nothing to do with me. You should then wrestle in mighty prayer with him to understand and accept and conform to his words rather than seek to judge or sway me.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 06, 2018

One of the ironies of all of this is that "the Restoration" that's supposed to be being preserved has as part of its intent the following result:

"[T]hat man should not counsel his fellow man, neither trust in the arm of flesh[.]"

My only counsel to you is to trust in the Lord and do exactly and only what he has commanded, while explaining to you the consequences of not doing exactly that.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 06, 2018

1 of 2

Jared Livesay,

I have been reading your responses throughout this online. Your approach is nauseating to most because of the quantity of your posts and repetitiveness of your dissenting, disputing and opposing. You do not bother me so much, as I too am somewhat a nuisance, as I have been accused of pulling the “brown-card,” using the “race hammer,” not measuring my words before speaking, and speaking too openly that crackah’s get uncomfortable with my white jokes, because of their oversensitivity to surface kindness. Little do they know that I’m 25% Scandinavian, as my grandfather is a full-blood. I’m not irreverent towards white, brown, yellow, black, or purple black skin. For me, I frankly don’t think it matters much at all. Christ is what matters.

If you were to move and live in my hometown, you would be free to speak, and people would eventually warm up to your way of speaking, just enough to hear what you were saying, to figure out how you understand, so that we could make a choice to have a relationship or not. Of course, you might get beat up first. But, …if you were sufficiently self-contained, not lashing out, speaking in terms of your own opinion, …you would be more preferable than the limp wristed wishy-washy-ness of disingenuous home teacher-types. They would love you, or they would hate you. In either case, you would know it. Your bluntness would not be a deterrent.

I haven’t settled on what I think of you, simply because I haven’t met you, and digital words suck, so I’ve reserved my judgment. However, I have observed some of your comments. Personally, I am opposed to pushing my beliefs on anyone, and disagree, like you, with the motion to vote for that reason. I find it sufficient to state what I understand and believe, and if anyone is animated by the same spirit, then they’ll like. If not, then they won’t, and we must go back to the drawing board and continue to work towards something greater, ...until we finally find mutual agreement. So, although I haven’t necessarily engaged in a dialogue with you, except for briefly online, I have been reading your responses and recognize a similarity in spirit in some areas. Although we may have differences, I am writing based on those similarities; to confirm I’m understanding you correctly.

- HuhWhatda March 06, 2018

2 of 2

I think we agree somewhat that mutual agreement is not disputing. But, not disputing, I think, is the byproduct, rather than the product itself. Correct me if I'm wrong here.

So, In effort to clarify the thing people hold over your head about the covenant, I’m going to try to put your response into my own words, as an effort to express and seek understanding and confirmation from you. Feel free to correct me if I got that whole

scenario mixed up.

To summarize, observing your dialogue with John Dutson, you took the covenant in Boise, ID, standing and saying “Yes.” However, upon reflecting, you had a concern about one of the conditions. After agreeing to live by the covenant, your conscience would not accept a lie, which brought you to publicly disagree with the covenant. But, since you can’t un-ring a bell, all you could do is work at removing the lie within yourself, or suffer the consequences for not fulfilling the covenant exactly and precisely as it stated. For this reason, rather than accepting a “majority,” you require to do exactly as the covenant stated, and will continue to work together until we have “unanimity.” Given your understanding of the words of Christ, this is your way of living up to the covenant. Does that sum that particular scenario up?

Rob Adolpho

- Log March 07, 2018

Rob,

This might help further clarify the scenario:
http://logscabin.blogspot.com/2018/02/awake-and-arise.html

I will continue to work until this people chooses to defraud the Lord, as the SC and their co-conspirators have openly declared they intend to at Phoenix so long as the majority supports their fraud.

Jared Livesey

- Jay March 07, 2018

What purpose does further dispute serve? If at this point in our discussions thus far your arguments have not persuaded me (nor mine you), then why would you insist on further discussion, that would serve only to encourage contention, before agreeing to pray with me?

It's true enough that my relationship with God is between Him and I, and yours with Him is between you and Him. But if we refuse to come together in prayer and present our dispute to Christ with contrite hearts, how can we expect Him to tell us his part?

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Jared,

I have read your blog post now. You answered “Yes” based upon your trust for man, and that ain’t right. In repentance of doing so, you immediately confessed before all what you had done, and are now committed to never trust in the flesh again. You will only follow Christ, trust in His words, and obey His voice. That puts you squarely in opposition to the movement’s efforts of “the voice of the people.” ...Dangit, you seem to be socially “poison,” …but I find myself agreeing with the concepts you address, if I understand them as I do. I'm looking for a confirmation from you that I am understanding you correctly.

It seems like we agree upon the the Lord Jesus Christ leading it "ALONE." Re-editing, re-composing, and re-gurgitating quotes will never successfully represent the mind and will of the source, because they are man's best effort to convey a message given to them from the Lord, and not the words of the Lord directly to us. Instead, the documents being proposed are the words of man quoting other men, and using their relationship (the other men) with the Lord as justification for their ability to quote willy-nilly. If it is not directly the Lord's words, it will never lead to Zion. If this people will not be governed by the Lord's voice alone, then the test has been delivered, and the people have chosen to be led by the voice of men instead.

Have I missed something so far, or do you think that I understand the framework, minus all the details?

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Christopher,

I don't think we "make" anything happen. I think what you must do is decide to act upon "the voice of the Lord" alone, instead of being pushed around by "the voice of the people."

Right now, Sam Vaughn's ideas are the only one's that make sense for us to continue moving forward towards no disputations and waiting upon the Lord. It recommends that our emphasis be on how we work this thing through, working in peace, and allowing the end result to be led by the Lord, thus qualifying us as His people.

Although Jared Livesay has managed to grow a reputation of dessenting, opposing, and disputing everyone, in favor of "the Rock" document, ...I find myself agreeing with his core concepts that the words of the Lord is the only thing sufficient to produce something mutually agreeable. People have tried to use quotes to represent the Lord, but I am not convinced they know what they are doing, misapplying them without knowing the purpose of the project. Jared, speaking for himself, has locked down words in a document that represent Christ's words, found in scriptures, and confirmed to him by Christ's voice, ...and for this reason, if I understand him correctly, he will not move from Christ's words. I do not believe he would reject more of Christ's words, but it is clear that he is not willing to deviate from Christ's words. I'm coming to realize that Jared and I have a similarity, in that I too have heard His voice, and the documents being pushed are contrary to the Lord's instructions to me. If anyone is to gather into Zion, it is the Lord's voice alone that will do the gathering.

This thread, initiated by Sam Vaughn, represents an environment of peace that provides a place to discuss with one another, without pushing our opinions on the next person, and finish the work by a man-made process, only relying for the voice of the Lord to animate. If I were to answer what you should do to make this happen, or what steps you need to take, it would be contradictory to what Sam is proposing. As I understand it, let the voice of the Lord instruct you.

I know, I know, it sounds hoaky. But, I think we haven't gone that route of seeking "pure revelation." Not saying that others haven't done much and haven't had answers to their prayers. I am saying, however, that once we get an answer, we immediately mingle it with the philosophies of men, and then drive it home as if they were purely the voice of the Lord.

If I can advise on this matter, I would suggest you continue to recognize a spirit of peace, like you did in the words of Sam Vaughn, and interact with them accessing that same spirit in you. Those kinds of posts are rare in these threads.

Rob Adolpho

- Log March 07, 2018

If you will not admit to a dispute, there is nothing to pray over.

If you have a dispute with me, bring it forth, and let us see if your dispute is with me or with the Lord.

For the one whom you dispute is the one with whom you should be praying.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log March 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log March 07, 2018

Rob,

I'm not going to say it's perfect, but actually, that's a pretty good summation.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Jared,

I wrote a response to Christopher above, and used my knowledge of what I understood of you, identifying with you. Can you tell me if I got the gist of it right, or not on that concept?

Thanks,
Rob Adolpho

- Log March 07, 2018

Rob,

It is close enough.

Jared Livesey

- Dani March 07, 2018

I would add for those people that think Jared has no love for them that he shows

enormous love of God and us by not wanting to break or encourage others to break the command God has given. We are, after all, talking about salvation--literally line upon line.

- Taylor March 07, 2018

Rob refers to a more blunt style as “more preferable than the limp wristed wishy-washy-ness of disingenuous home teacher-types.”

LOL. Disingenuous home teacher type. Rob that had me rolling. I know you and could picture you saying that. Haha. I want you to stay part of all this. In Phoenix and until then or perhaps beyond we have to be enough of a nuisance to God that we bug out of him a solution. I can’t think of one but know God can.

- Jay March 08, 2018

Why herein I think it is a marvelous thing that Christ's commands that there be no disputations among us (3 Ne 5:8 RE), yet in his answer he would require a dispute before praying together?

- Log March 08, 2018

I suggest to you that the resolution to the contradiction you seem to perceive in the Lord's words is that the Lord is not in 3 Nephi 5:8 RE commanding **us** but is commanding **other specified people**. Specifically, he is commanding those twelve he is commanding at that time.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

John, could you help me find where Christ said this, taken from your comment to Sam.

'The Lord said this yet there are those “fixed in disputation” who want nothing but what has been available on earth for a couple thousand years included, and any proposal that forwards “anything” about the work now under way or wise in what we write, they “dispute” and cry, it’s my opinion that matters and mine only that will be advanced! They talk of unity as though it should be dismissed just "stuff"unless it submits to their demands.'

I'd like to read it in context to understand better. Thanks.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

I hope those attending will be mindful of casting out Satan from their midst as they gather and before making decisions or taking actions.

I have never participated in any gatherings, but I now wonder if thought was given to cast out beforehand at each of the meetings where a GS was being worked on? What about as any of these ideas for moving forward were formulated? Are we all mindful of doing that in our homes regularly or as moved upon by Holy Spirit?

I do know the adversary and his minions are diligent in their work to destroy the people of God. We must match that faithfulness by hearkening to Christ's commands lest we are overcome.

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Attempting to write responses to these comments for the last couple days, and following some of the other threads has expanded my view of this discussion and broadened my perspective.

The question keeps being asked, "what do we do now?" Rather than try to respond with my thoughts here to get lost in comment-land, I want to submit another blog-post to the main thread. Hopefully it will strike a chord there. Thanks for all your kind words and encouragement :)

-Sam Vaughn

- Jay March 08, 2018

If those words are not meant for *us* but specifically for those twelve he is commanding at that time, then why would you want to include them in The Rock of Jesus Christ intended to bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing of the Lord's work now underway?

- Log March 08, 2018

Did I include them?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

Log,
I think the issue when you thought you made a mistake in making the Covenant, or in following a man (Denver), was that you doubted and then feared (fear is of the devil). The Spirit convicted you for rejecting the Lord's true messenger, and you mistook it for being condemned by the Lord for following a man. I have seen it happen to people before. Once they reject the Lord's true messenger they damn themselves, and cannot progress. That is my understanding of what happened to you. I am sorry for your situation. I hope others will not make the same misstep. I have lost some of the people I love the most because of this misunderstanding. Denver did say, paraphrasing, (that it would not be well to with those who reject the Lord's true messengers). Rejecting the Lord's true Servants = Rejecting Him. Not good! I have seen that to be true. It is also scriptural. If we make a stance to not acknowledge the Lord's Servant, we make a stance to not asknowledge the Lord. I doubt you will consider this idea, because those who fall into this snare become blinded and cannot see their own error. Those that follow this path become dogmatic in their views and fight against Zion. I am not speaking evil of you, just trying to explain what I believe really happened to you. God Bless!

Proposed Voting Timetable

Wednesday, March 07, 2018

Friends, After considering our request for a few weeks, the scriptures committee has agreed to the February 9th proposal and has promised to publish whichever document the majority selects through this process. A number of people who will not be in attendance at the conference have requested the opportunity to participate on line on the second vote, the vote to accept the majority choice. Therefore, there will be an

opportunity beginning March 22-23 for them to do so. If there are those who prefer to vote by proxy, that will also be possible. The vote will follow the timetable below.

Timetable for Proposal
Now until Thursday, March 15 Online - guideandstandard.blogspot.com Receive Guide and Standard submissions for later vote March 15-March 22nd Online- Link to be provided Online ranking of documents

7 pm
7 pm March 22 - 7 pm March 23 Results of Vote announced and a 24 hour period begins- 7 pm , in which those who will not attend the conference can vote on-line to accept or reject the majority's choice. Friday, March 23 7 pm
Online voting ends to accept or reject the majority choice for those NOT attending the conference Saturday, March 24 at the conference in Phoenix Voice vote to support the majority or dissent (for those WHO ARE attending the conference) Saturday, March 24 after the conference Delegates meet with those still in opposition to the majority to listen and ask them to join with the majority Sunday, March 25 at the conference in Phoenix Announce the number of those still in opposition to the majority's choice and ask the conference if they are willing to proceed with the adoption of the G&S despite the opposition.

Please post this on discussion groups, Facebook or blogs as you are able.
Gordon Platt Jeanene Custer Donald and Christy Danner Paul Durham
Rebecca Wolford and others

Comments

- Log March 07, 2018

The Scripture Committe and their co-conspirators to defraud the Lord: "After considering our request for a few weeks, the scriptures committee has agreed to the February 9th proposal and has promised to publish whichever document the majority selects through this process."

The Lord: "Behold, mine house is a house of order, saith the Lord God, and not a house of confusion. Will I accept of an offering, saith the Lord, that is not made in my name? Or will I receive at your hands that which I have not appointed?"

The Lord: "I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow."

The Lord: "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

Do you really want to be found among the number of those who publicly reject the Lord's requirement and fail to do as the Lord has required, and thereby declare by their deeds that they do not desire to be his people?

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents March 07, 2018

When I read the scriptures about Lots, Voting, Majority Rules, I see it differently. I don't see how one verse, in the BOM guides us to utilize lots as a way to determine the Lord's choice. The Book of Mormon talks about hearing and abiding the Voice of the Lord. Its argued that the Voice of the Lord can be heard by the lots process. But if that is the case, then a lot more would be said about this process in the Book of Mormon.

It seems its very clear to some that the voting process to obtain the Voice of the People is what the BOM suggests. If that is the case, then a lot more would be said about this process in the BOM.

The process I get from the BOM is: desire to know the things the Lord is teaching, believe that the Lord can make it known to me, ponder in my heart, and then get "caught away in the Spirit of the Lord." This to me is a reliable process, that is spoken about all throughout the scriptures.

If this was about a personal preference, my actions would be different. I am standing up and making my voice known to all, right here and right now about my belief and desire. I don't need to wait for a conference to do so. I get it we disagree, you can go on and I will not stop you. I just know for myself, I can't go down this path with you. I don't see this to be kind in word or deed for at least my tribe or my ancestors.

Q Adolpho

- TBM March 07, 2018

I have a question for the committee:

The final step on Mar 25 is:
>Announce the number of those still in opposition to the majority's choice and ask the conference if they are willing to proceed with the adoption of the G&S despite the opposition.

How many (%) are needed to adopt the G&S despite the opposition? A majority? Mutual agreement? (Is it meta-mutual agreement at this point?)

I would make an alternative proposal for the final step:

If we don't have mutual agreement at the end of the process (and it is unlikely that we will) I propose that we publicly admit our failure to the Lord, and ask Him to give us a path forward.

This is better than going forward without mutual agreement (i.e. if there are those who still choose to dispute), since it seems that God requires mutual agreement.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Rob,

Mormons mistakenly emphasize their relationship with their dead ancestors in the spirit world, when what they should emphasize is a reconnection to their fathers in heaven.

Which is more important a devotion to our departed dead or a commitment to be grafted in to the tree of life? I would like nothing more, Rob, than to be a member of your tribe. But, I do not refer to culture or ethnicity. I want to be a part of the family of God — with you. In order for that to happen we have to comply with the Lord's commands. He has directed us to come to mutual agreement on a statement of principles. This vote is a pathway to help us make that happen. It may be an imperfect pathway. It may be culturally tainted. It is no doubt inferior to a process where we just all come together in love and patience. But, it is a process that can get us over the hurdle to mutual agreement in the next few weeks. Please join with us in supporting the effort to come together as a tribe.

your brother, Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Jared, I'm not understanding where this new, strong, condemning language is coming from. Do you believe it helpful or hurtful to call people conspirators and their potential actions fraudulent? If helpful, I must inform you it only appears to cause further pain and widens the gulf between many. Your words are not being received. Can you see that?

Perhaps you feel inspired by a duty to defend a truth you see, but if anyone were interested in the truth I see it is that Christ also said "...my will is to have you love one another." What does obedience to Christ with regard to that look in practice to you? Maybe that answer will help me see what is not obvious yet.

You do not have any direct control over what people experience when reading your thoughts, so perhaps you can anticipate that and speak in a way that their hearts may understand and encourages openness? I have concern people are simply going to put on headphones otherwise.

Just some thoughts. I believe we each desire oneness, but the struggle is very real. Are we each striving to be charitable and measuring our words, as Christ also counseled? The struggle is real for me.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Even if that number is one, my heart is broken. I just quite literally don't know what do at this point. I want to support everyone. If it is decided to move forward I won't be rejoicing or congratulating myself or others. I like your suggestion though. Very much! I (we) need more light!

- Log March 07, 2018

Lori,

I appreciate that you mean well.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Gordon,

Sorry bro, you might be addressing my wife, and not me, as I haven't posted a comment here. But, as we are united, I can respond concerning what my wife has stated

concerning our dead ancestors.

You see, those who know nothing as of yet of what the Lord is doing INCLUDES the dead. Not only does it include our dead, it also includes the Earth, the vegetation, and the animals. However, not only do you disregard ethnicity and culture, you haven't considered that the family of God includes our dead too. Do not underestimate a tribal mentality, projecting on us your cultural upbringing of what that means. It is our cultural upbringing that has given us an advantage regarding the concept of the family of God, and the importance of belonging to it. No harm done in misinterpreting. You were raised differently than us, and that ought to make us valuable to one another.

The Lord has commanded us to come to mutual agreement, and then defined mutual agreement as not disputing. Yet, the recommended option above has chosen to lock down documents, put them up for a vote, and then… Then what? It's obvious that I am in disagreement, and will not continue based on the voice of the Lord to me. It's also obvious that Jared Livesay will not continue with any of the documents based on the voice of the Lord to him. And by adding more emphasis on finishing the work, we have ignored the actual doing of the work, which is to be a people who are mutually agreeable.

Meetings, votes, counseling with opposers, trying to turn their chip into looking the same as everyone is does not make the material mutually agreeable. Naturally, people have returned like a dog to it's vomit by using guilt, using clubs of the masses, and using the threat of a take-away (loosing the covenant) to force a unitary result. That's not right, and I'll have nothing to do with it.

The work of "relationships" has been substituted by what you call "process." The quality of our relationships suck, as we haven't the time to thoroughly understand one another, allowing agency to rule out, refusing to dispute. Rather than doing the work of relationships, we are forced to institute a process.

Good Luck Brutha!
Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

TBM

Supposing we do this, (I like your idea) and supposing we get a path forward from God, won't there STILL be those who probably disagree with it? They won't like who the answer came through, they won't like some of the phrases or ideas, or methods it involves etc. etc... There will be opposition to anything the Lord does and says right? Even the Lord himself during his physical ministry in Jerusalem had constant opposition and straight up rejection.

So, really, your alternate proposal sounds awesome, and I support it. I just don't think we should have an expectation that even if the Lord gives us a path forward, there won't be those who disagree with it, and then STILL claim, yet again, we don't have mutual agreement. So in that sense, nothing may change from where we are now, except there may be some who have more confidence that they are doing the will of the Lord in-spite of opposition. And for that reason, I like your idea.

In our present state, I think we need to acknowledge that our decisions will need to be made in the presence of opposition, not in the absence of it. Opposition is necessary. The issue in my estimation is discerning correctly what is opposition, and should be ignored, and what is from the Lord and should be heeded despite the opposition.

Thoughts? Do I see this wrong? Sincerely, if you see more clearly can you assist me?

- Mark March 07, 2018

Rob. Could you submit or re-submit a G&S that you would be able to mutually agree upon and then see if everyone else can come to mutual agreement with? The only issue that still exists is that if it isn't "The Rock of Jesus Christ" there will never be "mutual agreement". So, maybe the other option mentioned of admitting our failure and praying for a path forward is the only option?

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

This is where theology meets the real world. Heads might be in the clouds, but feet must be on the ground. There is an opposition in all things, even in the remnant world.

- Taylor March 07, 2018

Rob you make a really good point. If we are to become of one heart, that seems like it's going to involve some relationships. Right now most of the people in the movement don't have that. As you put it, the relationships suck. Most hardly know each other outside small pockets. I suppose inspired processes can lead to unity of heart but it seems like relationships would do so more effectively and are part of it.

The only way I know how to let relationships grow and develop is by honest and heartfelt interaction, time together, and shared experiences together. Which is very difficult when you are spread across the globe. And even with relationships there is no guarantee that it will completely put a stop to any disputes about the G&S by anyone in the fluctuating body of believers.

Rob, I hope you don't leave, or give up on this. You and Q's views are valuable and welcome. I have hope we can just put up with this feeble attempt we are all making to fulfill an assignment, until we all grow in light and knowledge.

- Blair March 07, 2018

I'm at the point where I don't really love any of the proposals that I have seen, but I could go along with them, because I see nothing harmful in them, and I don't think that the G&S is the end-all, be-all document. It is merely a starting point, a framework that helps us and "those who know nothing of the Lord's work" work together and begin to align our hearts.

I have a question for Rob and Q Adolpho and a few others, who have expressed a desire for us to be more aligned with each other, hear the voice of the Lord, and put that into a G&S. I would love for that to happen. What I am struggling with is, what do I do about it? I'm already praying for this, I'm already trying to align my heart with the Lord, I'm already doing everything that I can (to my knowledge) to hear the voice of the Lord. Of course I could be studying scriptures more. Of course I could be crying to the Lord more. I think we all could say that.

Perhaps I have little imagination, but as far flung as we all are (there isn't a single covenant holder within 150 miles of me, and the nearest actual fellowship is 3 hours away), how do we knit our hearts together? How do we move forward in any way other than voting? How can I really get to know all of you? How do we do the work of relationships?

I guess what I am struggling with is, what alternative do I have to voting that I am not already doing?

I'm sorry, I'm just an idiot working through all of this, and I need concrete choices.

Preaching to me that I am not following the voice of the Lord or that we are "defrauding" the Lord, is not helpful. I truly believe that almost all of us are doing our best to seek and follow the voice of the Lord, and accusations that any of us are not are only going to delay and derail the work before us.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Anon, I'm not TBM, but I wanted to share my perspective that I am withholding any thinking about that possibility--opposition, and I do believe it is only a possibility rather than a given, until we are in that moment and facing it. I want to put my energy--thoughts, prayers, faith, and hope, in each of us to be prepared to receive Christ's part. Who knows? Maybe it will be something amazing that none of us has considered as an option or idea? That is why I think we need more light, His Light, cause all I know is what I know, and that is the way decisions have always been decided upon in the political and religious cultures of my life. I need Him to help me see a different way. Lori

- TBM March 07, 2018

Indeed Anon. As long as free will exists, there will be someone who opposes. That's why the whole requirement of mutual agreement has been so perplexing for me. I just don't see how mutual agreement is ever possible.

That's why I can't help but think the whole G&S is about something besides getting a G&S. Maybe about developing our hearts or developing patience, or forcing us to ask ourselves why we want Zion and what w are willing to do to get it.

God can do anything...except force our minds. He can give leprosy to the dissenters, if He wants to remove people from the covenant so that the remaining people have mutual agreement that is His prerogative (not ours).

I think the best thing we can do is wait. We are commanded to get mutual agreement; we are also commanded to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness? (and we don't get to decide who is seeking the Lord). We have conflicting commandments. I am hoping that waiting for further light & knowledge will resolve it. I don't know that it will.

http://atbmblog.blogspot.com/2017/11/contradictions-what-if-were-going-about.html

I don't know how this ends; we have no assurance of success. I've believed for awhile that angels gather Zion. This means to me that only a subset of body at large might be selected. Maybe the test is in the waiting. On the other hand, maybe the clock is ticking and we're running out of time. Then the test becomes "What are we willing to do to achieve Zion?"

Are we willing to break the 4 questions to achieve the G&S?

Are we willing to take liberties with the definition of "seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?" in order to get the G&S done?

I didn't feel this way before. I was on the side of '91% is enough' some months ago. Now I'm not sure. Now I think that mutual agreement means that there is no one left disputing. But I'm not at all sure I'm right.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Jared, do more of that!

Show appreciation, verbally express compassion, verbally express warmth towards others. I believe THAT, at this point, will get you much further with people than all your other comments on this blog combined.

People have a hard time warming up to someone when their words come across very cold and rigid and condemning. But your simple expression of appreciation towards Lori just now did more to soften my heart that any of the other things you've said lately.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

TBM I have these same struggles and have had many similar thoughts as you shared. We are united in that!

Maybe we all start by simply being united in our struggle to get this right. :)

Anon

P.S. Lori you sound like an awesome person. Would love to meet one day soon.

- TBM March 07, 2018

We can be united in failure. We can be united in asking for mercy & knowledge.

- TBM March 07, 2018

I suppose, BTW, that we don't need 100% mutual agreement in admitting failure to the Lord, since an admission of failure is not in itself a G&S.

- Taylor March 07, 2018

Well put Blair. I second all of that.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Some of my profound moments of progress came from admitting my failure or weaknesses to the Lord.

- Log March 07, 2018

In order to counsel someone in the execution of their tasks, you first have to know what their tasks are. But this brings up another interesting fact: one of the intended outcomes of "the Restoration" we're allegedly "preserving" is that man should not counsel his fellow man, neither trust in the arm of flesh.

Jared Livesey

- TBM March 07, 2018

And yet, here we are, posting in the comments. Part of me wonders if the big twist at the end is that all who have been commenting on the G&S are all disqualified, and only the ones who have been silent get to go to Zion, while Oompa Loompas sing songs about us.

- Mark March 07, 2018

Thank you Blair. There are many, many quiet, humble souls in this movement that are NOT in the popular cliques of this movement that are doing their best to do what is right and align with God. Surely the Lord is more merciful than what we are making Him out to be. Be one and if ye are not one, ye are not mine.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Jared:

I was just sharing some outsider ideas, and my personal belief of what would be helpful to you. But it kind of felt like you threw it in my face and say I'm "counseling my fellow man" contrary to the scriptures of the restoration.

That definitely took a major withdrawal out of the relationship account I was attempting to build with you. But, no matter, all is forgiven. I don't know if I dare ask you to forgive me of my "counseling of my fellow man" because frankly you leave me with little confidence that my apology wouldn't be thrown back as well and maybe even condemned.

But here goes anyway, forgive me for counseling my fellow man as you state occurred. I won't do it again.

Anon

- Log March 07, 2018

What is my counsel except "trust in the Lord and do exactly and only as he has commanded"?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

My intent is to seek to become one with others of the covenant. In case I didn't communicate well, my last comment was a gesture of good will asking if you would forgive me for counseling you, as my fellow man, in the execution of your tasks.

Anon

- Log March 07, 2018

Anon,

My comment was to TBM, as I was typing as you entered yours, apparently.

I don't take offense. Nothing to forgive.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Oh ok, thanks. No offenses on my side either.

Anon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Blair, you are awesome! I agree with and believe all you expressed. Maybe it is for us to learn how to have faith in each other, to believe the best of each other, to uplift each other because we have learned to care deeply for each other, more than we care for a document of words? What was it that created an atmosphere of no contention among the post-resurrection Nephite-Lamanite people? Was it not love of God, which is love for everyone? Like Christ has told us, it is not enough to say we love God. Our actions have to match our words.

Maybe we need to consider small gatherings being "called," like conferences except not so heavily planned? Where we just spend time with people? A remnant version of FHE? This could mean traveling to someone farther away, like you are, to simply hang out or help with whatever you or your neighbors need. It would be like we simply feel a desire to meet and then act on it; or someone shares a need in their area, and those who feel inspired with specific talents or skills or resources offer to assist. I guess we can just start thinking outside the box and be willing to move out of comfort zones. I believe we are trying our best to sort ourselves out.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Wow, TBM. We must be on the same wavelength. I commented on the same alternative yesterday on the two other posts about this proposal. But, I'm not certain on anything, except trying to do what is required of us. Maybe this it. It seemed like a good idea to me at the time, but like I said, I'm not certain.

Sarah S

- Log March 07, 2018

This is what you could be doing instead of voting.

Don't you agree that being faithful to the Lord is preferrable to defrauding the Lord?

Does anyone need an explanation of why "majority rules" is not "mutual agreement" when a proposal is disputed?

Does anyone need an explanation of how placing a guide and standard into the scriptures by majority rules is defrauding the Lord, who has publicly required of us to adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement?

You have a way forward to succeed in this assignment already. The way has been prepared for you.

All you have to do to succeed is accept and do as the Lord requires of you. If you choose to defraud him, you fail.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Jared, thank you for always being kind and respectful toward me. I know I can get a little animated at times. I have been working on that, not reacting so much but instead taking pause and considering what someone means instead of simply words used. Your proposal really has helped me understand the foundation of a good Christian life. Maybe if we Christians were better at walking the talk of the sermons more would be turned to Christ and not be so angry at Him, blaming Him for all the evil in the world.

I'll just end with this: I would love to see you gather with others and bond over some games or hikes or good food or whatever you might feel inclined to share in. I do believe most others here would be welcoming of you, even to discuss and listen as you share your understanding of this task we have been given. I don't know where you guys live, but if you are in UT (ever) my home is open to you and yours. It ain't much, but if no one minds a very humble, small abode and the craziness of my family then mi casa es tu casa. And everyone here can consider that an invitation. Lori

- TBM March 07, 2018

log--

"trust in the Lord and do exactly and only as he has commanded" pretty much sums it up.

- TBM March 07, 2018

Sarah S--

I was inspired by your post yesterday.

- JuliusQVernon March 07, 2018

I support TBM is publicly admitting to the Lord that we have failed. Collectively we have failed, we take this to the Lord and plead for mercy and further light and knowledge.

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Taylor,

You got a point, it's tough to have long distance relationships. And I don't have any plans on giving up on working towards a mutual agreeable document. I've been trying to keep working through all of the different iterations. But, ...each time, ...those who feel "in charge" of things quickly slaps things together, not spending much time on the content, and spends an exorbitant amount of time pushing everyone to agree with them. I am always left to wonder why we don't spend tons of time on the content, requiring us to spend less time on getting people to agree, because they already agreed through the process?

For my family and I, we will not stop working on this project and working to be united with this entire movement. If the document of the winning votes are printed in the scriptures, and it is still not mutually agreeable to me, I will be unable to keep the covenant. I know better than to take a covenant that I cannot keep. But I will have not

left those who voted. They will have left me.

It is really nice to be valued, Taylor. I appreciate your concern.

Mahalo,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 07, 2018

Blair,

You certainly have a point concerning long distance relationships, especially through digital words. Most times the digital communications fall short because people project their own perceptions instead of verifying and understanding. Rather than talking to the person, they talk to their own perceptions. They may as well just talk to themselves, because they sure aren't talking to the person.

How this is to be resolved would depend on our individual ability to check ourselves as we seek to understand. It takes a lot of time. It's an investment of time. There's a risk involved. You gotta have thick skin too. I believe it is worth every minute. For an eternal relationship, I am willing to risk it.

Not sure if that helps at all. Good luck.

Rob Adolpho

- LynneMcKinley March 07, 2018

If there is another vote, it will not be an accurate representation of numbers. Many like myself have been so emotionally and spiritually beat up over this whole thing that we just have to say no to another vote, and another vote, and another, and infinitum. How will you measure us?

"We can be united in failure. We can be united in asking for mercy & knowledge."

"TBMMarch 7, 2018 at 10:32 AM
I suppose, BTW, that we don't need 100% mutual agreement in admitting failure to the Lord, since an admission of failure is not in itself a G&S."

I do, however "vote" for a united petition to the Lord for mercy in our failure. And whether it is admitted or not, we have failed. We have broken tender hearts and alienated newcomers who see this stuff (it's public...hello) and want nothing to do with it. Or us. Or this movement. I dare not share this link, or this view into the insider infighting with those tender investigators who have been searching and sacrificing all their life to find us. We have failed. Another vote is another failure: it will not count those who are at the verge of not caring anymore because we have cared so deeply, and have been so thoroughly wounded in this process. God help us and have mercy on us....

- Log March 07, 2018

Lynne McKinley lays her finger on what may be the core problem facing this people.

Lynne believes we do not care enough about what others think of us.

On the other hand, our entire problem may be reduced to the fact that we care what others think of us above what God thinks of us, forgetting the teaching of the Savior in The Rock of Jesus Christ:

Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

In order to be as Jesus, we also must no more care what men think of us, but God alone.

"I receive not honour from men."

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 07, 2018

Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently. Henry Ford

I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work. Thomas Edison

You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space. Johnny Cash

Failures, repeated failures, are finger posts on the road to achievement. One fails forward toward success. CS Lewis

The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. Ralph Waldo Emerson

There is no innovation and creativity without failure. Period. Brene Brown

A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else. John Burroughs

There's a silly notion that failure's not an option at NASA. Failure is an option here. If things are not failing, you are not innovating enough. Elon Musk

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up. Thomas Edison

If you look at great human civilizations, from the Roman Empire to the Soviet Union, you will see that most do not fail simply due to external threats but because of internal weakness, corruption, or a failure to manifest the values and ideals they espouse. Cory Booker

We are broken humans attempting as a large group who are strangers mostly to do something we have no current example how to do. We only know imperfect and broken ways due to the cultures we have been raised in, which are also filled with broken

people. Let us cloak each other in charity as we look to Christ for direction.

- YourFriend March 07, 2018

I support the call for a representation of the voice of the people. And I appreciate the scripture committee's agreement to post a document based on that voice. However, do we have a method that ensures only valid votes are being counted? As impressed as I have been at the level of knowledge, charity and understanding of most who post on this site, there may be those not especially in agreement with this movement (and I am not talking about those who are sincere and just disagree with one G&S vs another), who could try to throw off the vote through falsification in some way. Do we have a way to ensure the vote is verifiable? Just a thought. No Russian jokes please. Hehe
Thanks! Lisa

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Lisa,

Only one vote will be counted per device. That should take care of most shenanigans. But of course any on-line participation is open to malfeasance. We will do all we can to ensure a fair vote, and then we're going to pray for heaven's help.

Thanks. Gordon

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Part 1.

Do not the Lord's words to us in the A&C about learning to "respectfully disagree" imply that He expects us, as a people, to have differences of opinion? Does this imply that we will not always 100% agree? We all come from different backgrounds and cultures, and have different opinions and perspectives. Therefore, can the work of developing the G&S include imbedded within it an opportunity to learn how to respectfully disagree with one another? Is respectfully disagreeing part of "relationship building", as suggested by the Adolphos? In that spirit, I would like to respectfully disagree with the essence of two proposals put forward, and ask their authors to persuade me otherwise.

We've been taught to not add to nor subtract from God's commandments, which invites confusion and error. As we know, Adam instructed Eve to not only partake of the fruit, but also to not even touch it [his innovation], which later led to confusion when Eve was confronted by the adversary who held the fruit and yet remained "alive".

The commandment from the Lord to us regarding the G&S is simply: "Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them-so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you." (A&C, p8) And so I ask:

Does Jared's proposal, the Rock of Jesus Christ, potentially subtract from this commandment, not quite reaching the mark? (ie, does the Sermon on the Mount, though timeless and still relevant for today, provide sufficient guidance regarding the Lord's "work ***now*** underway" in terms of ordinances, priesthood, etc?)

Do the Adolphos' ideas potentially add to this commandment, going beyond the mark? (ie, does the idea that the G&S should circumscribe all truth into one great whole - serving as a vehicle to build relationships and becoming Zion as part of the writing

process, as well as incorporating the King Follett discourse concept of becoming Gods, and that the document should simultaneously appeal to all peoples, nations, cultures, as well as the dead, animals, and plant life - go beyond the Lord's commandment?)

As both approaches include concepts, teachings, and aspirations that are true and noble, I do not necessarily find fault with the underlying content of either. However, does not the Lord work with us line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, and there a little? Has He not asked us to collectively take a small step forward with this assignment? Does adopting the Rock of Jesus Christ proposal represent even a step or is it merely standing still? Do the Adolpho's ideas represent a step or a quantum leap or somewhere in between? Does an infant grow from laying on its back to crawling to walking to running to climbing a mountain in a single day or in one step? Are we not a diverse, weak, and disorganized people, at differing levels of spiritual development, with many incorrect understandings of His ways among us? Is the Lord expecting an Olympic team of marathon runners at this point? Would He not be happy, as any parent would be, if we were able to collectively "butt-scoot" across the floor just a few inches? - to which some may say, "That's not even a crawl! We can do better! We can run!", and they'd be right, as we have a brain and legs and feet, we have the potential, but a "butt-scoot" may be all we can collectively muster given our current developmental stage. As we successfully navigate each step in humility, will not the Lord will give us more guidance and commandments (not a few) that will help us to unify, bring us closer to Zion, and become more like Him in the process? I am grateful for the loving and merciful way in which the Lord brings all of us along together.

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

Part 2.

Relationship building is critical, but is working towards such an outcome specifically mentioned as a primary purpose of writing the G&S as per the A&C? What if we were to simply try to take our first step in relationship building, even a "butt-scoot", by learning to respectfully disagree with one another throughout the remainder of this process? And a real "butt-scoot" at that…beyond a "Good point bro, but…" or a "Whatever you're into is cool dude, but…" or a "You can believe what you want to believe, but you are breaking covenant if…" and so on, only feigning respectful disagreement. Can we really learn to respectfully disagree so that we will know that we are loved by and precious to one another, and come away from a conversation, email, blog post, or text knowing that the quality of our relationships, our respect for, and our tenderness towards one another has increased and not been diminished by virtue of how we have interacted with one another, even if we disagree? Can we do better than we have done since last June or July or August? Can we start now? Jared, Rob, Q, and others: You are precious to me in this movement, just as anyone is. You have strengths that most of us cannot fathom. There is no handbook of instructions to guide us in this assignment, so we are trying to figure this out together. We all have different opinions and backgrounds. However, despite our diversity, the Lord is tender and patient with all of us. I hope you will see my intent above was merely to ask questions and not to accuse or criticize your positions? I hope I have understood and stated your positions accurately. If not, I would welcome a correction to my understanding.

God has asked us to write a statement of principles that will bless, benefit, and inform those that are new to the work now underway - no more, no less. Let's complete the task at hand with exactness, refraining from adding to or subtracting from the Lord's commandment. I may respectfully disagree with the views of others, but I choose not to dispute them, so perhaps that means I mutually agree with them given our new understanding of these things. I really don't know anymore and so I am glad to join in

with the majority on this one, and continue to walk with my brothers and sisters towards Zion.

What I do know, however, is that no one among us is trying to intentionally break the covenant or disappoint the Lord in anything that has been put forward here. Even though I respectfully disagree with their positions, I have benefitted from many of Jared's perspectives and have taken my own study of the Sermon on the Mount more seriously because of his advocacy; and I have gleaned insights from the Adophos' different perspectives on issues for which I will be eternally grateful. However, I believe the Lord will be pleased with whatever our collective efforts produce, because it will be our first attempt at crawling, from which we may immediately tumble onto our backs again with a look of shock and surprise on our faces, "we did it, we crawled!", but we will find ourselves looking up, to the Lord, and He will encourage us along with gentle correction and guidance as would a loving parent. He will make marathon runners of us all if we allow Him to do the training…step by step, line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, there a little.

May God bless us with more tender and kinder hearts, and to learn to build our relationships by respectfully disagreeing with one another.

- Log March 07, 2018

Anonymous asks:

"Does Jared's proposal, the Rock of Jesus Christ, potentially subtract from this commandment, not quite reaching the mark? (ie, does the Sermon on the Mount, though timeless and still relevant for today, provide sufficient guidance regarding the Lord's "work ***now*** underway" in terms of ordinances, priesthood, etc?)"

The Lord, in the A&C, said this: "The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation."

How does the gospel allow people to understand his work? The Lord in the A&C tells us: "All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know."

It is the Holy Ghost and not men which will show those who believe and obey the gospel all things they must know. That excludes any further teaching role from us, including on such topics as rites, ordinances, priesthood, temple-building, tithing, and anything else. The Lord said, in the A&C: "Cry peace. Proclaim my words. Invite those who will repent to be baptized and forgiven, and they shall obtain my Spirit to guide them."

That is all we are to do. To teach more or less is to curse, harm, and misinform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

So does The Rock of Jesus Christ fall short of the mark? To the contrary: it is the only means by which those who know nothing as yet concerning the Lord's work now underway may be blessed, benefitted, and informed. It is by freely believing and doing what The Rock of Jesus Christ contains that men may obtain the visitation by fire and by the Holy Ghost and are then led by the Lord to all truth and every good thing. The Lord directly instructs men about his work. If men do not freely believe and do what is contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ and are led by men instead of the Holy Ghost, they languish in darkness and ignorance, ever learning yet unable to come to a knowledge of the truth, even if the man they are led by is a prophet.

Jared Livesey

- Blair March 07, 2018

Well, until I get more knowledge from the Lord, or get a better, more concrete idea from any of you, then I will continue to vote for what fits best with the light I have been able to receive. I support this plan to vote, even though it is exhausting and seems like it was done already.

I will also ignore those who cry foul and declare that the majority is oppressing them, because I honestly have not seen any proposals from them that I can act on. I'm really tired of fluffy words, and am ready for concrete proposals.

- Log March 07, 2018

Here is an additional observation on "the mark."

The word "sin" means, literally, "to miss the mark."

We learn from James that sin is transgression of the law.

To miss the mark is to transgress, or go outside of, the law. Therefore, the mark is the law - of God.

We know what the law of God is: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them, for this is the law and the prophets."

And then we have this: Behold, I am the law, and the light. Look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live; for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life. Behold, I have given unto you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments. And this is the law and the prophets, for they truly testified of me.

Hence The Rock of Jesus Christ is, quite literally, the written mark: it is the law and commandments of God, which all men must obey or abide without salvation.

The Rock of Jesus Christ is, in other words, what Jesus Christ requires all mankind to accept and do (1 Nephi 13:40-41; 3 Nephi 15:1).

Jared Livesey

- Log March 07, 2018

Remember this also: "But behold, the Jews were a stiffnecked people; and they despised the words of plainness, and killed the prophets, and sought for things that they could not understand. Wherefore, because of their blindness, which blindness came by looking beyond the mark, they must needs fall; for God hath taken away his plainness from them, and delivered unto them many things which they cannot understand, because they desired it. And because they desired it God hath done it, that they may stumble."

The Jews looked beyond the mark - the law and commandments of God - and wanted to know about things they couldn't understand, since they were not led by the Holy Ghost because they did not believe and keep the law and commandments of God, so God gave them things by the prophets that they couldn't understand so that they might

stumble and fall.

The Lord in the A&C said this: "If the gentiles unto whom the Book of Mormon was given had hearkened unto the Holy Ghost they would have come unto me in Hyrum and Joseph's day. But they did not hearken, and would not allow me to abide with them in word, and in power and in very deed."

As Joseph said to the Church of his day, the people were darkened in their minds because they depended upon the prophet - they were not being led by the Holy Ghost.

They were taking Joseph, who was a prophet, to be their leader instead of executing the law and commandments of God - the gospel - in the Book of Mormon so that they would be led by the Holy Ghost. Therefore they did not come unto Christ. They misunderstood the Lord's work and received things through Joseph that they could not understand, stumbled, and fell.

If we do not wish the same outcome as our fathers, let us learn from their outcome and take The Rock of Jesus Christ for our written foundation, both to execute and teach as it is written, and no more lean upon men, even if those men are prophets.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 07, 2018

"Give to every man that asks you to, and do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it" (Luke 6:30).

This is concrete, actionable, specific, and commanded.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous March 07, 2018

TBM,

If there are a few who remain in opposition to the nearly unanimous majority, but if every effort is made to lovingly listen to their concerns, and if we all do our best to assure them that despite our difference of opinion we continue to want to be with them in fellowship, if all of that happens but the majority decides to adopt a G&S despite their opposition and add it to the scriptures in fulfillment of the Lords command, is it fair to say that we have chosen to not dispute?

I recently wanted to buy a hunting rifle. My wife thought diapers were more important (the two-year old twins probably also favored the diapers). My wife went ahead and bought the diapers. When I complained, she smiled sweetly and kissed me on the ear. When I complained the next day, she made me breakfast. When I moped around the day after that, she suggested we go get ice cream. Despite our opposing agendas she chose to not dispute.

This is one of the wisest things I think has been written about this proposed vote. Janeen wrote it on Feb 10.

“We may have children who perhaps have chosen differently than we would have hoped. We don't stop loving, serving, praying and doing all we can for them any more than Lehi or the Lord did and does. However that doesn't mean we stand still our efforts

to move forward. We can acknowledge and respect those who have different views without their views keeping us from moving forward as we feel we should."

If there is a nearly unanimous decision to adopt a G&S despite the opposition of a few, then we are following a pattern practiced by holy men. If we respond to any who may disagree with patience and love, we are doing as the Lord does. We do NOT need unanimity to proceed. It is pointless to insist on unanimity when the Lord has defined our duty otherwise.

We're making this harder than it needs to be. Let the majority choose a document. Give the minority a chance to show their generosity and support. Let those that are united decide if they want to proceed despite a few who remain in opposition. And let it all be done with a surfeit of love.

Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

So Gordon, you and the others who have created this plan are unwilling to change that last step? Is that what I am understanding?

- Log March 08, 2018

Mutual Agreement Re-Revisited

To make the issue of mutual agreement understandable, imagine the following scenario.

The Lord comes to Adam and Eve and tells them, "I require you two to choose a restaurant by mutual agreement and order dinner there. The restaurant should serve only healthful and nutritious food. The dinner is for you to eat. If you fulfill these conditions, I will pay for your meals, and not otherwise."

Adam ponders a bit. He thinks to himself that he and Eve don't often agree on where to eat dinner and asks the Lord, "What do you mean by 'mutual agreement'?"

The Lord says, "As between one another you choose not to dispute."

Adam is still confused. He asks himself - isn't disputation always a sin? If so, isn't the Lord really saying no choice of restaurant should be disputed, and, if so, that the first one to select any restaurant effectively picks the restaurant for the both of them? But Adam doesn't ask the Lord to explain further.

Eve understands. Adam and Eve must be mutually agreed, which means unanimous, upon their choice of restaurant. If either she or Adam chooses to dispute going to a particular restaurant, then they both know they are not mutually agreed upon that restaurant and shouldn't go there. Eve also understands that there aren't very many restaurants that serve only healthful and nutritious food. There might be only one restaurant that fulfills the Lord's condition. Since Eve is the family cook, by long experience and study she knows what foods are healthful and nutritious.

Adam decides that what matters most to him is who wields power in his and Eve's relationship, and he decides that person will be him. Because of that decision, he further decides that what the Lord means is that he and Eve shouldn't dispute; Adam thinks if he chooses not to dispute with Eve, then he can say he is mutually agreed with himself and can go wherever he wants and the Lord will pay for his meal. The Lord's

condition that the restaurant should serve only healthful and nutritious foods does not enter into his thoughts at all. Adam thinks if food tastes good, it must be good.

When Eve tells him his choice of restaurant serves unhealthful and non-nutritious foods, he does not believe her. When Eve tries to explain calories and vitamins and minerals and protein and fat and carbohydrates to Adam, he thinks she's trying to deceive him so she can take power over the choice and their relationship. But Adam chooses not to dispute with Eve when she chooses the only restaurant that she knows serves only healthful and nutritious food. Instead, Adam condemns Eve for disputing, and then gives her the silent treatment as he leaves to go to his choice of restaurant and not hers.

Question: Does the Lord pay for Adam's meal?

Question: Is this a celestial marriage?

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

I object to the Rock of Jesus Christ.

- Log March 08, 2018

That's already been accounted for.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Anon, may I ask why you object to a proposal consisting only of the doctrine of Christ and a condensed form of His sermon on the mount? We all should take this time to speak so we can listen and be heard. I am genuinely interested in understanding your thoughts. Lori

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Jared, it appears everything must be approved by you, but if someone else disagrees with you,that is of no importance. Every other one person is as important as you are.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

I have a question on process, if I may ask. Who are the "delegates?" How many will there be? Who is deciding that, and who has offered themselves up as tribute? Will the delegates and those still not in agreement meet openly before the body of voters or privately? Perhaps those in disagreement can decide that? I thank those deciding things for offering online voting. Lori

- Log March 08, 2018

You are able to spin this situation howsoever you wish, but in the end, the Lord's requirement is the Lord's requirement.

The only question before you is will you accept and do as the Lord has required, or will you join with the conspiracy to defraud him?

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents March 08, 2018

This is my answer to the question about how do we have relationships so far from each other:

A relationship of love is being able to understand the next person, before placing judgment on the matter. A relationship is being able to see it through the lens of the next person, as best as possible. If you still have a difficult time understanding that person, then go to the Lord and ask Him to help you understand that person: He knows each one of us, by way of His experience in the garden of Gethsemane.

Although, we live miles apart, we can use this venue to try and understand one another. A lot of research has gone into how to develop lasting relationships. Dr. Gottman did research on what makes for a satisfying marriage and what predicts divorce. It boiled down to how often a couple utilizes four styles of communication: Criticism (something is wrong with the other person), Defensiveness (defend your position without understanding the next person), Contempt (a statement that puts you on higher ground) and Stonewalling (listener withdraws from the conversation). The more a couple utilized these styles the chances of them getting a divorce was high. Conflict or disagreement are not bad, if you can learn from them and progress forward-how you go about it, is important. Hearing and understanding, being direct, seeing the next person the way Christ sees them, and dialoguing are all important in a relationship.

Since we are far away from each other, I have chosen to discuss my beliefs here and not in private conversations and meetings. I have opened myself up, to all, to see and know my heart. I do this, in hopes that others may see why I am choosing the way I am. I do this so others do not just see me as opposition. But because people believe I am disputing they don't want to engage in a conversation. And without conversations how do you have a relationship?

It's really hard to have a conversation with someone when they go radio silent or they write anonymously. I agree Lori, "we all should take this time to speak so we can listen and be heard."

To me, being humble doesn't mean quiet or shy. Was Alma humble? Was Samuel the Lamanite considered humble in his day? I'm sure the LDS don't believe Denver to be humble. To me, humble means doing exactly what the Lord directs you to do.

I believe we can start having relationships, even through these blog posts. It just starts with a continuous effort to understand.

Q

- Blair March 08, 2018

Log, I agree completely with your statement regarding Luke 6:30. It is clear that you are referencing your own G&S proposal as being the right course. I have already considered your proposal, and I absolutely think that the doctrine of Christ and the sermon on the mount/at bountiful both need to be included in the G&S. I disagree, however, that they provide enough information to inform those who know nothing of the Lord's work in these days.

There was a time that I was very sympathetic to your proposal. However, your conduct has convinced me that while you preach exhaustively the sermon on the mount, you really don't understand it. This will be the last time that I respond to you.

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Amen, Gordon.

- HelpMeUnderstand March 08, 2018

I am the "anonymous" who wrote the 2-part entry above and have given myself the handle "Help Me Understand" to differentiate myself from other generic anonymous posters. Jared, I thank you for taking the time to explain your position so thoroughly. I found myself agreeing with many of your points. Your concerns are valid and I appreciate your sincerity and dedication to the Lord, and the Lord alone. And to be sure, Jesus Christ is the only foundation upon which we can or must build, for all others can fail.

I do not dispute your position, and I could probably live with your proposal. However, if I may press the issue a bit further, I wonder if the issue we are having here is how far the needle should or can go in terms of what are considered Christ's words and what may not be.

Let me try to explain, and forgive me, for you are probably growing tired of continually defending your position, but I have not been able to read every post on this forum. Certainly Christ spoke words while mortal, words which were recorded by men who wrote them down, such as His disciples in Israel, including Matthew, or Nephi (and then Mormon). Those words, including the Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful, went through various translational processes and then came to be as they are in our scriptures. However, I'm sure we all can agree that when the Lord died on the cross He did not cease to speak, true? Just as before He was in the flesh He spoke, true? And that since the death of His mortal tabernacle He continues to appear and to speak to His servants, telling us "whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same" (D&C 1:38), true?

Here is something else interesting the Lord also said to His servant Joseph Smith in 1831:
"And this is the ensample unto them,
that they shall speak as they are moved upon by the Holy Ghost.
And whatsoever they shall speak when moved upon by the Holy Ghost shall be scripture,
shall be the will of the Lord,
shall be the mind of the Lord,
shall be the word of the Lord,
shall be the voice of the Lord,
and the power of God unto salvation.
Behold, this is the promise of the Lord unto you, O ye my servants.
Wherefore, be of good cheer, and do not fear,
for I the Lord am with you, and will stand by you;
and ye shall bear record of me, even Jesus Christ,
that I am the Son of the living God,
that I was, that I am, and that I am to come."
(D&C 68:3-6)

At the beginning of the verse the archaic word "ensample" is used. This word means "example; a pattern, or model for imitation" as per Webster's 1828 dictionary. The Lord is telling us that this is the pattern that He follows and that we are to follow. I find that interesting and something I should take note of…the Lord pointing out a pattern. When those set apart speak when moved upon by the Holy Ghost, what they say is scripture,

but not just that, as words in a book, but those words constitute the actual will, mind, word, and voice of the Lord unto salvation. His voice, His words, His mind, and His will.

I think that is probably where many have taken issue with your position, in that it is perhaps too narrowly focused on only some of the Lord's words. And again, the sermons you are focusing on include imperative teachings of the Master. However, given that many believe that the Lord speaks His mind, will, words, and voice to His servants when they are moved upon by the Holy Ghost, and that those words constitute the Lord's words and instructions to us regarding the "work now under way", many believe that by ignoring those words and by failing to teach them to others, we risk offending the Lord by saying or suggesting that those words are not His words.

Perhaps there is an impasse here, but perhaps there is a way to bridge the gap. Can you see a way?

- Log March 08, 2018

Blair,

That's your agency. In the end, the question has been simplified for you down to two options: either accept and do as the Lord has required, or do something else and defraud him.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 08, 2018

HMU,

Not all words from the Lord are equally significant to every person at all times.

The Rock of Jesus Christ contains that which suffices for the one who both freely believes its contents and freely does what it contains to receive the Holy Ghost, that they may be led by God and not men. Thus they will be blessed, benefitted, and informed by God himself, rather than cursed, harmed, and misinformed by even well-meaning individuals who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

Since it fulfills the Lord's requests, we need not look to another document, even if other documents could have potentially done the same job. Once you have found a tool that will perform the required task, you need no longer look at other tools to perform that task - or, in other words, once you found what you were looking for, you stop looking.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 08, 2018

Q,

Might the pursuit of relationships with each other be a distraction and a false path? Might not our time and efforts be better spent instead in pursuing a relationship with Jesus Christ by mighty prayer and doing the works he commanded in the Sermon?

For when we are one with God, we will then be one with each other.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Blair, if you don't mind me interjecting myself here for a moment. May I ask you to help me understand this statement you just made?

"...I absolutely think that the doctrine of Christ and the sermon on the mount/at bountiful both need to be included in the G&S. I disagree, however, that they provide enough information to inform those who know nothing of the Lord's work in these days."

What do you understand the Lord's work to be right now? This is something I have pondered since He gave us His answer last July. I am interested in understanding what you have come to understand. Perhaps I am in need for the greater light you can offer.

Also, a week or two ago I had posted a comment in frustration. I basically said that I could not support any proposal because of the behaviours of everyone in supporting their various statements. But then I was corrected through Spirit and given an example of the Book of Mormon. Would I reject or not study it due to the "poor" examples of Mormons? Of course not. So why can I not look past any supposed failings and weaknesses of each of us here when considering their proposals and ideas? I went back and deleted the comment and have tried to repent.

Too much of what I have thought has come because I choose to judge others instead of allowing them to be, accepting them as they are and where they are. I hedge up the way with all manner of brambles and thorns that I choose to believe exist or think I see.

I would ask you and any others who may feel fed up with trying to dialogue with Jared to be keep that door open. Please keep trying to understand and extend mercy in moments you may feel someone is being a butt. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Jared, I think relationships are everything on this path to Christ. What you mention of mighty prayer and doing His works involves learning to love and serve others. We cannot do it alone. Or perhaps I misunderstand what you are saying?

It began/begins with the man and the woman, then they have seed and those relationships flow outward to cover the whole earth. Even the sermons are based upon relationships, how we see and help others, with the goal being a continuance of serving, forgiving, blessing others until the challenges inherent among us at present are no longer even needed--sickness, poverty, homelessness, differences, etc. because we have overcome the flesh individually and collectively. Any man or woman who has learned to put others before himself or herself, I believe Heaven will not be able to restrain itself from abiding with such an one. Those in such a group will be glorious and full of light.

- Log March 08, 2018

I understand many think relationships with other mortals are everything on the path to Christ.

I am saying this is not so. Our relationship to Christ is everything on the path to Christ. Our adherence to his law and commandments is the entire path to Christ, regardless of others.

The Sermon isn't about relationships with those who love you, or are your friends. The

Sermon is about how you behave towards your enemies, who are those who hate you, curse you, spitefully use you and persecute you, revile you, cast you out from among their society, or kill you because you love them as Christ loves them: you do good to them and tell them the truth.

Remember - they did all these things to Christ. They did all these things to Joseph.

And, recall, after 14 years of living with him, Joseph told the Saints that they didn't know him. They never knew his heart. Relationship building doesn't work on the path to Christ. We are either reliant upon Christ alone, and look to him for comfort and companionship, or we are looking to men for approval.

You can't have both: friendship with the world is enmity towards God.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

I will continue to ponder what you are saying. I do understand the sermons are not about only those we care for and love. As He teaches in Luke 6, which I know you are familiar with:

31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.

32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.

33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.

34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

I understand that to pursue Him is to invite opposition and reviling and suffering. He says as much in scripture.

What I mean with relationships is that I do need to care about others, not what they think of me or do to me or for me, but that my heart is filled with God's love for them in every thought, word, and action. I am a poor servant, however.

I do believe God means for us to have friends and to be a friend, to be a wife or husband and to have a wife or husband, to have children and grandchildren, according to His wisdom and timing for our lives. We are not to walk this path completely alone, unless family and those of the world would reject us to that extent, like Moroni and Ether.

When I consider Malachi's prophecy about hearts, I think of relationships. A relationship with Christ is to know Him, and it is my understanding that means we will also come to know the Father and the fathers, and the Mother and the mothers, and all our kin folk backwards and forwards. And there is also how the man is not saved without the woman neither the woman without the man--that is also relationship...both with Christ.

I am not thinking of this from a perspective that relationships with others will control my

heart or dictate my standing with Christ, even my pursuit of Him. But I will best come to know Him by beginning with following His example. He had family and friends, as well as spent time among strangers, serving and teaching all. Lazarus was His friend, and He cried with family and friends, mourning with them and it surprised the church leaders seeing how he cared.

I will come back and re-read what you have shared. I trust that you always have a good perspective and understanding. It can just take me a minute to catch up, but I hope I made myself a little more clear. Probably not, but ya know.

- Log March 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log March 08, 2018

Lori,

What I am saying will take a long time to process.

Mark 3
There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him.

And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.

And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren?

And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

=====

John 15: 14Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

=====

Luke 14
25 ¶ And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

...

33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

=====

Charity is the end of discipleship.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Yes, I can now see it will take some time to understand what you mean. Maybe I have a paradigm or two that need reconstructing. LOL I will study out these scriptures and anything else I am led to, as it is I have wondered in times past what Christ meant by "hate" and "friend" in these verses. Clearly he did not mean what we would mean? Gotta love the contradictions: love and bless your enemies, yet hate father, mother, wife/husband, children, brethren and sisters. Looks like I will get to learn some new ideas and truths.

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

Jared,

I'm responding to your question you asked my wife about relationships with each other being a false path. I totally get what you are saying, because it isn't our relationships that save, but the relationships with Christ, as you have stated. Besides, if you give the assignment to a bunch of Gentiles to establish a relationship, it simply turns into home teaching 2.0. Our relationships will become even more surface than it already is (and it really is surface in many circles). While we might wind up with a bunch of care packages, doily cloths, flower arrangements, and an abundance of freshly baked cookies or zucchini bread, we will remain full of ignorance. So, I agree that if all our emphasis was on relationships with others, it would certainly be a false path. And to make the path even more false, to try to have a relationship with our dead (like the LDS claim), although sometimes I wonder if it wouldn't be easier to have peaceful relationships with our dead ancestors than a peaceful relationship with the living involved in this Governing Principles document. But, a false path nonetheless.

However, I do not believe we can have a relationship with Christ, having not proven our Christ-like behavior in our relationships with others here on this blog, in our fellowships, and in our daily walk. If a relationship with Christ is what we seek, to acquire His words, from His mouth (and I think that is precisely what's missing from this assignment), our efforts must be driven to fulfill what is necessary to have a relationship with Him, …and that addresses our relationships. I don't think that means what most people think it means though.

People act really funny when they know someone is looking that they regard important. If Denver were on this thread of blog most would not be so bold in their treatment of you and others who voice opposing views, such as myself. You and I are sort of in the same position, considered the ugly ducks that stop the progression of the whole. I'm just lucky I'm brown, because let's be honest, there's a ton of white guys here, so if they cast you out, your kind won't be missed (Jokes!). But, seriously, it wasn't until the A&C came out that suddenly the Aug 5th got a 100% subscription. I'm sorry, I don't play like that. I try to be the same guy in all instances. Trust me, it's harder to live that way than it is to simply blend in with the crowd, shifting with opinions of social acceptance. I am not simply obstinate though, as many claim you are. Like you, I have really strong points that anchor me. If someone could satisfy those points, I would not resist, similar to your point that the words that guide us must be Christ's words alone.

My point is, relationships ought to matter, but only in terms of your relationship to Christ.

When we see Him, we ought to know Him, because we are like Him. We ought to consider how Christ would react and respond in our day, by pondering how he responded in His Earthly ministry. And then we ought to have good relationships, as we work out our relationship with Christ.

I think it's unnecessary to set up billboards, mass market the world market, or go door to door. I think it will begin with our simple personal interactions, to greater capacity of fellowships, to an even greater capacity until it rolls forth to fill the Earth. Do relationships with mankind matter, yeah, but only within the terms of our relationship of Christ dictates.

People have asked us how do we mover forward, and that is what we mean by relationships.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

Blair,

You gotta do what you gotta do. If you have no idea how to do something, and in the absence of knowing you choose to go with the crowd, then be free to go with the crowd. We are all defined by how we choose, not just by what we choose.

Choose wisely young padawan.

Rob Adolpho

- TwoCents March 08, 2018

Jared,

Our first and foremost relationship should be with God. We should have a relationship/fellowship with his angels, his son and God the Father first and foremost. I believe a relationship is with all of God's creation, because all of His creation point to Him. I believe I can learn a great deal about God, through my interactions with both my friends and "enemies."

Q

- TwoCents March 08, 2018

I have learned from the voting system that you better know what you are voting for, otherwise if you don't, you could get stuck incorporating something you don't want. I believe that by saying "yes" you agree with the majority in saying that these Governing Principles are written to the capacity of your understanding and these are the Governing Principles that you will abide and be judged by. The majority is also agreeing to the process in which this came about and will be judged according to that as well- because you will be judged by what you do and say. So, if you vote in favor of this, then you are bound by heaven to follow it and you will be judged by it.

Everyone has been given time to read this document, everyone has been given time to review critically and to comment before you adopt this document as your guiding principles to follow. You will be held accountable. You can't tell the Lord you didn't

understand, you didn't know, or too much was required in a short period of time. You can't say, well the majority decided. You will be held accountable. The Lord requires it and he commands us to be wise in word and in kind in deed. For these reasons, I take this assignment seriously. Therefore, I will read it, pray about it, examine it, ask questions, and voice my concerns. I should be able to do this without being called a dissenter or the opposition.

At each new dispensation, a body of teaching is given, and each dispensation is organized according to the circumstances of the people and the work to be accomplished. In Moses' time, they had to write Governing Principles document(Exodus 24:3). In Joseph Smith's day, they too were required to write a Governing Principles document. These principles are to be used to guide our fellowships/relationships with God, The heavens, His creations, and His people both living and dead. We have been given knowledge, teachings from the Lord, which I consider a gift, that teach us how to do this. I believe, we receive a gift by saying and doing the things we have been given.

Given what I understand about what is being voted on, I know it's very important to voice my concerns, otherwise, I will be accountable for not speaking up.

Q

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Lux,

Those that are proposing this plan, did not create the plan. As I have said, I believe this process is inspired. Because I am confident that this is true I am unwilling to change the particulars. If the plan fails, however, I will be happy to support whatever plan you propose that can get us to a G&S that fills the Lord's requirements.

Gordon.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

Gordon, okee dokee. I'm confused now since there are names attached to the idea, but thanks for responding at least.

- Blair March 08, 2018

Rob,
You have talked a lot about trying to understand others. Why must you assume that you understand me, and know my motivations? If I wanted to go with the crowd, I wouldn't be on this path at all.

I'm trying to understand your position and thoughts on this, and the patronizing behavior doesn't help.

- Blair March 08, 2018

Rob,
Please don't take my last comment to you the wrong way. I'm just tired of being accused by those who consider themselves 'the minority' (a term that I have not given to anyone) of going along with the crowd, or trying to force a plan through. We are all different, we are all trying. I have tried not to lump everyone into the same label, and I think that is the only way that any of this is going to work.

- Blair March 08, 2018

Lori, I am still working out what the Lord is doing in our time (as I'm sure all of us are). I think that there are a number of nuts and bolts type stuff that should be included to better help others who know nothing of this work. Stuff like the mode and words used in baptism, and the prayers over the sacrament. I think how fellowships work with each other and how decisions can be made without an organization are also important (as we can see from this whole mess we are in). I don't pretend to have any or all of the answers, but I do know that there are some important things that the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful leave out. Things that people who know nothing of Mormonism or even of Christ would need to know.

As for my decision not to respond do Log anymore, if communication with him was the respectful give-and-take between equals, then I would continue to discuss, persuade, and seek to be persuaded. However, dialogue with him isn't a dialogue, no matter how much I or anyone else tries.

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

Mark,

I don't have anything to re-submit. I have been trying to continue working through this process, adding more to the subject matter, concerning the King Follet Discourse. I have also been asking the question of how the project will be used, rather than designing something that has doesn't function. The more I ask questions, the more answers I am given. I have proposed these stones of progression here, but people are too busy running to the finish line, that new perspective is an unwanted attribute, as it means restarting, and restarting after each circus of miscommunications just doesn't seem very appealing.

When others are ready to continue working, there's more to think through. However, if it goes to a vote, and the current documents are published in the scriptures, then the window of opportunity has closed, and we all must move on as we all choose.

That's the reason I like the ideas proposed by both Edwin Wilde and Sam Vaughn. It gives me hope of working things out still. If I were to be totally honest, I'm waiting to hear the voice of the Lord in a document, and frankly all I hear is men regurgitating His voice. So, I'll join you in praying for a path forward, to hear the voice of the Lord. When that happens I intend to stay there.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

Blair,

No worries, I never claimed to understand you, or your drivers. Those who desire a vote simply don't appeal to me as concerned about the results of what that will do, but are to be free to do as they desire. It's tough to face being falsely accused, and I guess by writing your comments here, your bound to get falsely accused for something. If you can get past it quickly though, it helps. Otherwise, it will eat you up.

The problem with trusting in processes is, relationships suffer. With processes, people project their perceptions on others. And rather than engaging with people, we engage with our perceptions of people instead. We talk, looking past the people, having a

conversation with our perceptions of them, rather than talking to them. Don't let it get you down. It's a natural byproduct of trusting in institutional systems.

The best franchises succeed because they remove discretion. A 16 year old can manage a McDonalds, yet can't even clean his room. Discretion is removed because processes replace the need to make choices. In this movement, we have been given our agency and discretion. I will never give that up, even if I am a singular minority. Take that or leave that however you like. I mean no offense by it. It's actually quite neutral.

If I sounded patronizing, I wasn't intending to be, so I'm sorry.

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Q,

I had no idea. Thank you for shedding some light for me to see by. What the swear words? I thought it was a total lockout to have Denver helping? Or am I misunderstanding something? I guess I am showing my naivete and gullibility. Lori

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

Lux and Q,

The basic idea for this vote first dawned on me about three months ago. I don't claim that It was unique to me, however. I had been thinking about the dilemma we faced, and wondered how to come together as a body of believers. The idea was fleshed out over the next few weeks as I talked to my family and others. I felt all along that the Spirit was guiding the growth of the idea. Things that Denver has taught served as confirmation that an approach along these lines was acceptable to the Lord given our weakness as a people.

But he did not suggest we follow this approach. I have no idea if he approves of this effort or not. I don’t even know if he is aware of it. As far as I know he has been scrupulous in avoiding getting involved. I have tried all along to communicate that I believed this idea was inspired, therefore I can’t take credit for it. I have suggested repeatedly, however, that folks find out for themselves if it is an acceptable approach. I believe heaven will tell you if you ask.

Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Gordon, I'm one of those folks who trusts things as they appear to present themselves; a dangerous weakness in these days. And my trust is stretched ever so much right now. Too much is left unsaid, too many remain anonymous or don't even speak openly, lots of people have ideas, and it all contributes to the atmosphere.

I believe you are sincere and desire only good things that will enable us to move forward as one. That's all I can offer for now.

Voting is acceptable and honours agency when allowed to happen freely in an informed way. It was inspired by God as part of the U.S. Constitution. I was thinking today of the contentious nature and difficulties faced by the fathers of this country to agree on The

Constitution's principles. Slavery, in particular, was a heated topic. Ultimately, the few who still wanted it won the day. Otherwise the document would never have been ratified. Such is the fallen, stubborn nature of man. An opportunity was missed to spare our nation a civil war.

Can we learn from our past?

For myself, I can choose not to dispute any proposal, but so what? Plus, there are only two ideas I think worth supporting, and only one has been fully fleshed out and written. So I just don't know how that helps. I think lots of people are disputing, they just don't say so.

And I do not know who is making decisions around here. I need a rest.

- TwoCents March 09, 2018

Thanks Gordon,

So you are saying that God inspired it, not you, so you can't take credit for it and that's s why you can't change anything about it. Thanks for clearing that up. Q

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

Gordon,

We have perhaps fifty people who have commented on this site since the Scriptures committee invited the assembly to email recommendations on February 8th. Adrian Larsen, John Dutson and Edwin Wilde made proposals. Others offered sound advise but not proposals to accomplish the requirement we were given. Keep the commandments, love one another, humble yourself, stop talking and start listening is really sound counsel but not a proposed pathway to a G&S accepted without disputation.

Your August 9th proposal says, “starting immediately” suggesting a fresh start. The lots G&S, August 5th, The Rock of Jesus Christ, NONMANNCAF have been been submitted for vote since this proposed vote was made. Does that mean they will not be on the ballot?

Anonymous

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

I believe what you intended to say was, "have NOT been submitted." And yes, to be included in this vote someone, anyone, would have to submit their document for consideration to be published in the new scriptures. If you would like to see one of the above documents, or any other document that you believe fills the Lord's requirements, included in the new scriptures please send it to this site.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 10, 2018

Blair,

You might interact with your perceptions. But I interact with people, clarifying my perceptions, welcoming correction, and seeking accuracy. You have lumped me into a

group of people you have experienced. But you haven't experienced me, so you can accuse me all you like, it won't make it true.

You are free to have your opinions about me. I'm glad you recognize that people engage online with perceptions rather than people. At least you can see it. While you call it natural, I think that we should be better than that, engaging with one another, instead of our assumptions.

I think people are afraid though.

Rob Adolpho

- AndEva March 11, 2018

LOL Rob, love you brother. Your words make sense!

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

I request that the NOMANNCAF, The Beginning Believers Help List (the printed pamphlet that has been sent around), and the original Governing Principles (the first document by Jeff Savage) all be submitted to the voting.

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

I made a proposal in Sept, just following the Boise conference. It has not been presented anywhere that I have seen. I was told twice by the Spirit to present it, which I did. It was essentially the same as Jared Livesey's proposal.
When I inquired about my proposal, I was told that it was not adequate because someone or someones felt it did not include some things "that Denver felt should be included".
A guide and standard, or a statement of principles, in my opinion, is not to be a re-write of the LDS church handbook of instructions. It should be simple, straightforward and most important, it should tell people how to come unto Christ; how to obtain and adhere to the strait & narrow path. That, in my opinion, and according to the impressions I have received from the Spirit, is best summarized by Jared's proposal. Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- McKay March 19, 2018

Assuming complete unanimity is never achieved on a Guide and Standard then publishing that Guide and Standard in the scriptures would FORCE that G&S on those who oppose it. If, however, every individual must ADD the G&S to their own scriptures once they choose to join with those who have mutually agreed on a G&S, then agency and accountability is preserved. This vote in Phoenix may achieve mutual agreement on a G&S among the 300-400 who attend but that would not prevent those not in attendance from agreeing in the privacy of their own home and adding the G&S to their own scriptures.

Some Thoughts on Our Assignment

Thursday, March 08, 2018

Some thoughts on our assignment

By: Edwin Wilde

Our assignment is to write -and then adopt- a statement of principles and then add it as a guide and standard. The verb 'to add' conveys the idea that this statement is not THE guide and standard. I believe this notion is supported by the prefix 'A' used instead of using 'THE' to preface the idea of what this statement of principles will be. (ie., 'A' guide and standard.)
In other words, this statement of principles is to be added to something else. The only thing, to which it can be possibly added, is the body of scripture that has just been finished.
Would it make sense that the body of scripture that we have just completed is THE guide and standard? Would that justify the use of the prefix 'A' describing the required statement of principles as A guide and standard, instead of describing it as The Guide and Standard? (i.e., we at times refer to 'the Law;' but when a bill gets ratified it is a law of the land, and not the Law of the land.) To me this makes sense because we are going to add the statement of principles to the recently completed body of scriptures.
Wouldn't that mean that we have already agreed to be guided by the full content of the scriptures that we recently completed and received them as our standard? (see the second promise in the A&C, wherein the Lord asks whether we will receive the scriptures as our standard by which we will govern ourselves and guide our words, thoughts and deeds.)
Would that mean that we have already accepted to receive as a standard and guide, the full content of what Jared Livesey has proposed as the statement of principles required by the Lord to be written and adopted?
I believe this to be the case.

Would the Lord require something to be adopted, that had already been adopted, and that by covenant? To me that defies logic and reason, but above all, as I have taken this matter in consultation with the Lord, I am consistently persuaded that Jared is acting without knowledge. That doesn't mean that I think he is wrong or evil, but just that he isn't any more informed than am I, regarding what the Lord intended to be the statement of principles.

However, Jared also brings up a good point that as of yet I have not heard to be satisfactorily resolved: if mutual agreement means that we choose not to dispute with one another; what happens when one person insists on their right to dispute?

So far I have heard people insist that the Lord couldn't have meant unanimity when He used the term mutual agreement. But that's not the point. What do we do when the Lord requires that as between one another, we choose not to dispute; and there are those among us who insist and refuse to desist from their right to dispute? Do we really just kick them out?

Who is going to play the part of referee to eject them? Nobody was given the right to record the names of those who partook of the covenant, so does anyone have the right to

kick another out of the covenant? If not, does anyone have the right to tell another that they are heterodox because they do not submit to the orthodox?

In this case, what is the orthodox? Whatever the majority decides? What happens when in the future a majority decides against the orthodox position of today? Does that then become heterodox? Or is it fundamental orthodoxy that cannot be moved?

It really seems to me that we are all acting without knowledge here. When Joseph and Hyrum were taken, the saints were faced with having to act. They voted without knowledge in which the result was that they received dear brother Brigham and his accompanying 'ascent' out of the lush green valley of Nauvoo into the barren, desolate mountain land of the Great Basin.
It has been pointed out that of all the arguments that were advanced in trying to decide how best to act, nobody submitted the idea that their situation must only be resolved by revelation from God.

I wonder if those who decided that Brother Brigham and his band of apostles were the guys to follow -after hearing the various arguments- had asked the Lord if He would accept that decision, what would have been the reply? (Honestly I don't doubt that there were those among that group who did just that.) I believe that the Lord would have responded that such a decision was sufficient for His purposes.

You see, we're not going to frustrate, impede or derail the Lord's plans. We are all very eager (myself included) to fulfill the purposes of the Lord in our lives. However, mans plans generally get frustrated when we are impatient and decide that we need to act without knowledge.

Now surely Nephi moved forward taking the spirit as his guide, without knowing beforehand what he was to do. However, in doing so, Nephi was not acting against another commandment that the Lord had specifically given to him in that situation.

The LDS temple ceremony recounts how Adam and Eve acted because to them it seemed that there just was no other way to keep the commands of God.

Because of their relative chronological proximity to Enoch and Melchisedek, the Israelites just knew that there had to be a king, and therefore figured that if they could just get God to give them a king –based on the pattern of the neighboring nations- that they could then solve their problems.

Time after time, what we see in scripture are people who act without knowledge; and the results that follow are never positive. They break one commandment that the Lord had given them in order to attempt to abide another commandment that they prioritized higher. Yet the people never get closer to having Zion other than by crossing off another mistake not to commit from the list, for future generations hopefully to learn from.

Some have suggested that we go to the Lord and concede failure. I would rather see us go to Him as He suggests in the A&C, and concede that we don't have enough knowledge to know how to proceed while also keeping all of the commandments that He has assigned to us. Perhaps that's the same thing, but the used car-salesmen in me, says that the second one sounds better and will hopefully inspire greater pity from the Lord than just going to Him, and saying, "we failed."

Instead of forcing a vote -where we already know that there are those who dispute- would it be possible to come together in Phoenix in sackcloth, ashes, fasting, prayer and explain to the Lord that we don't know how to proceed. Let's ask Him to help us understand what the way forward is when someone chooses to dispute and by this break the mutual agreement that otherwise might exist.

Perhaps He has a revelation in the midst of all this that He wants us to receive. Perhaps like the revelation that become the introduction to the Book of Commandments, what He intended all along was for us was to humble ourselves as low as the dust so that we would approach Him together –as He instructed in the A&C- and ask for His part.

He has promised that if we would do this with contrition and sincerity of heart, that He would fulfill His part of the bargain. Can we study how to come together with respect, reason and persuasion? Can we meekly present this dispute to Him in humility and being contrite? If so, can we have hope that from the time of Adam, down until the time that we solicit this answer from Him, He has always been willing to answer the honest seeker of Truth?

God I hope so, because otherwise I just don't know what to do anymore with regards to this thing.

Comments

- userHL March 08, 2018

"Let's ask Him to help us understand what the way forward is when someone chooses to dispute and by this break the mutual agreement that otherwise might exist."

This is an inspired recommendation. Thank you.

- TwoCents March 08, 2018

Denver states, "Each new dispensation is responsible for fixing the canon in order to reclaim truths, to correct errors and to adopt guiding principles applicable to their day." (Pg. 7 Things to Keep Us Awake At Night) Moses and his people had guiding principles: Moses went to the Lord; the Lord spoke to Moses and gave him all the words, and all the judgments; Moses went to the people and told them; all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the Lord hath said will we do." (Exodus 24:3)

Moses told them to repent and follow Jesus Christ, receive the Spirit and be taught by heaven, which will reveal all things; but the people did not listen.

For months and months, we disputed over the meaning of mutual agreement. Then Denver studies it out, asks and receives a definition. Now we are disputing over: whether or not this document is viewed as important; what it means; what it's going to be used for; what light means; what heart means; what should we do about dissenters; and etc etc. I like and support Sam Vaughn and Edwin Wilde's suggestions, because it wipes away all of our own understandings and views, making room to become converted to His views. We must receive counsel from Him, not give it. We have to get direction from Him, because it's His lexicon we need, so that we can understand what He is asking of us and saying to us. This is His work, not mine not yours. Let's let Him lead out.

Q

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

I don't know why there's an oft repeated inference that the people who do not agree are going to be "kicked out," "ejected"...or no longer part of the covenant. This is fear-mongering that keeps getting put forward. It is a form of manipulation that appeals to people's emotions, and it has an undertone of accusation to it that infers those who support anything with the majority are somehow without heart, judgmental, or taking away other's agency...or haven't taken the time to "hear" what others are saying. This just isn't right.

We have been told repeatedly that it is okay to see this differently. It's "how" we are acting that is most important for the Lord right now. And if someone continues to dispute after a decision is made, then that can be between them and the Lord to learn whether they have jeopardized their situation with Him. No one in the body will be kicking anyone else out. But it is true that "how" one handles things that don't go their way, is just as important for the Lord to see as is anything else. For it shows our capacity to deal meekly, and gently with those around us, especially when our attempted persuasion fails to persuade, and we are left disappointed.

It is incorrect to say "No One" proposed finding an answer through revelation. That just isn't true. Were you able to read into the hearts of others? Were you involved in the private petitions made by many, and God's answer to them? Were you involved in the group prayers that occurred? Just because a few disagreed with the manner revealed and shared with the body, does not mean revelation was not received all along the process. Nor was revelation lacking just because it came in pieces to different individuals, to combine as one whole. How glorious was that, that God spoke to numerous people to bring about a way forward!!! No ONE individual got to be looked to as "saving the day." I can remember Steve Van Leer posting several letters and comments testifying that he received revelation for his idea, and the others involved similarly sought and received revelation. They felt God's hand specifically unveil how things should be proposed to move this things forward. And, even now, Gordon has testified repeatedly that he has had revelation on this latest portion, and that God is the source...he's begged people to go ask God themselves. As the earlier revelations evolved and were shared, people were then at liberty to pray to ask God if He was behind the ideas proposed by Steve and those others connected with what happened. It is just not right to make a statement like you made.

Finally, this continued inference that this GS assignment is much more grandiose than it is, doesn't work for most of us. It's a point of view being purported to object to what has been done in order to promote another agenda. The Lord said it could've been done already and was a light thing. Please, let's stop adding things into what the Lord actually said to build up our view. This is nothing hard. Some are making it hard. We are our own worst enemies. And it is due to pride, masking as "following God," that people are unwilling to make this easy and become so hard-line and inflexible in their positions. It is time we begin to discern between spirits. When one says "I am right and all the rest of you are wrong"...my spirit hears alarm bells. I think Denver even gave a talk where he stated this attitude was suspect.

Thank you for trying, Edwin. But it is only a handful of people who insist on making this difficult and I do not want to be falsely "guilt tripped" into dragging this out under the pretenses of some higher revelation being required because the rest of us are lacking in revelation, or a false premise that it is unfair because unanimity wasn't achieved and we didn't listen or communicate enough, or the falsehood that one will be kicked out if they disagree.

- DarenReavis March 08, 2018

I second Edwin's proposal. Sackcloth and ashes and waiting on the Lord sounds way better to me than rushing the pass.

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

I think you are misunderstanding what Edwin is saying about asking for and getting revelation. It is true many have claimed revelation in this process, but you represent it as being altogether consistent with each other in one great whole. In reality, the revelations received by individuals or small groups have contradicted and competed against the revelations of the other groups. That is why we have so many groups that work in competition to each other.

I believe Edwin's point is that we, as a united people, have not asked for, nor received guiding revelation in this.

There is a qualifier to the phrase "it was a light thing" that we need to address. "If your hearts were right." My belief is our hearts are still not right. We still work in contention with each other. We are still competing. The spirit of competition is the spirit of contention. We all need to work on the same document, not two dozen. Until we understand that, the only principle that is being espoused is contention.

Sam Vaughn

- etluxentenebrislucet March 08, 2018

I am in agreement with asking Christ for direction on moving forward.

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Amen. Thanks Darren.
There is no time frame. We keep setting dates, voting, dates, voting, dates. Ugh

The man in Denvers vision kneels, waits on the Lord.... And after a long time, the Lord comes and takes the man by the hand.
Can't we just wait? Focus on studying the Covenant, loving one another, becoming holy studying the Standard and Guide which is the Scriptures themselves.

- EdwinWilde March 08, 2018

Part 1:

Anonymous,
I want to clarify some things that hopefully will bring us closer together.
To your first point:
You're right: nobody gets kicked out by simply disagreeing with someone else in this movement.
The decision on what to put in the scriptures as a statement of principles is supposed to occur by mutual agreement. We are told that mutual agreement means, that we choose not to dispute.
Well who is supposed to be making the decision about which we are to agree not to dispute? The Scripture Committee that was called by God? Because if it is their job to put a document in the scriptures, I don't know how we even got here. Seriously. This website shouldn't exist and there is no 'voice of the people' to elect a document. 89%,

91%, 93% none of that should matter because it should be their assignment to complete and which they did complete and anyone that wants to dispute the document that they already put in the scriptures, should get to choose whether they will be in mutual agreement or not.
However, I believe that we got here, precisely because the Scripture Committee has felt that upon reading the A&C, it was the Lord's people who having partook of the covenant, they are the ones that are supposed to write and adopt a statement of principles by mutual agreement. A document about which we choose not to dispute.

Which brings me to my point in my OP. Who is going to decide what is the protocol we are to follow -being justified before God- when one, two, ten or four hundred decide to choose to dispute a document that another portion of those who have entered into the covenant, have decided they desire to add as a guide and standard?

Excuse me if I have ignorantly passed over some information that would answer this for me. Pardon me if I ask for help in clearly being shown where the Lord outlined what He intended to do in this situation.

- EdwinWilde March 08, 2018

Part 2:
When you said, "It is incorrect to say "No One" proposed finding an answer through revelation" I think you misunderstood my point. I was pointing out that at the time after the murders of Joseph and Hyrum, neither Brigham nor Sidney suggested resolving the succession crisis by appealing to the Lord and waiting for Him to reveal His position on the matter before acting.

I know that revelation has been received by many within this movement. However, almost to a man, everyone that has produced a document that they put forth as a statement of principles has claimed that the Lord told them that their document is the one that He finds wants or finds sufficient.

Which leads me to ask: is God trifling with us? Did He require this document of us without really caring about what we produced? Does it really not matter which document that gets produced? Can anyone come up with their own document, and have it be acceptable to the Lord?

Adrian Larsen has pointed out that a few of them are mutually exclusive. Yet once again, the documents that he highlighted, each claim to be the one document which the Lord said He wants and finds sufficient.

You point out that the Lord said that this assignment was supposed to be a light thing. Yet I am still in limbo about what He means by that. Does He mean not heavy, or does He mean light being the opposite of darkness?

I know there are many people who have felt inspiration as they have moved forward in what they feel are their best efforts to complete this assignment. I was a fellowship representative that attended the first 3 meetings and participated in many prayers and counsels that all felt very inspired.

However, upon reflection, I wonder about that short-order-cook-god that Denver identified and who seems to direct everyones inspiration (mine included) since the beginning of the disputing started almost a year ago. That god seems to inspire everyone to know that their document or effort to produce a document is exactly that which He wanted and approves.

Is there anyone that has produced a new proposal to produce a new document since March of last year, that has shown that what they thought was right was actually then rebuked, chastened and then taught by the Lord what His desired portion is?

- TBM March 08, 2018

I agree Edwin. You've said it better than I did.

- EdwinWilde March 08, 2018

Part 3:

I am without knowledge on this. That state is not for a lack of prayer, pondering and study. I have asked, I have searched and I have knocked. Increasingly what I see is more fracturing, more fighting, more choosing to dispute. Yet all from people that I am convinced do not want to fight the Lord; but who may or may not be fighting the Lord.

Can you share some knowledge with me? And I am not talking about knowledge in the way that LDS use it. I am not talking about what you really, really, really believe about any of this. In my total ignorant, deplorable state I plead with you to share with me some knowledge or confess that you -like me- don't know what to do.

I am not suggesting that by asking of you that, that if you do not have knowledge from the Lord about how to act, that you should sit and do nothing. If you want to go forward claiming that you don't 'know' what to do, but you're confident in whatever you have/will decide, then I commend you for it.

However, as for me the way forward seems to me to be provided in the A&C when the Lord says that instead of disputing, we each bring our dispute before the Lord in humility, accepting before Him that we don't KNOW what to do.

- TBM March 08, 2018

Something I've been thinking about...

Chapter 4 in Dave's The Second Comforter talks about the test of apparent imminent failure:

>One of the necessary experiences through which you must pass is the experience of apparent imminent failure. This experience is as necessary to your development as was Christ's experience on the Cross when the Father withdrew His presence from Christ.

>This is no random history. It is a description of the things which everyone who seeks to know from God about His great mysteries must pass through. It is a formula for how this process works. It is the fullness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is what He would have you do, as well.

This might be where we are as a people. Mutual agreement is impossible as long as humans have free will. We need...something...to get us through this. I don't know what.

- EdwinWilde March 08, 2018

Random curiosity: was this written by Mr. or Mrs. M?
Because I would guess based on the organization of thought, that it was written by Mrs.
But use of the name Dave makes me think it could have been Mr.

I definitely have felt the imminence of our failure in the impossibility of achieving mutual agreement. Which makes me feel like we either need to get more knowledge from the Lord, or something else that I can't wrap my head around but I'm sure at this point is going to be uncomfortable, at least for me.

(by the way, are you coming to Phoenix?)

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

I think we all need to take a step back and try and live each proposal put forth. Only time, experience, careful contemplation, study and prayer will reveal to us the truth of the matter.

- Anonymous March 08, 2018

Edwin thank you for your post. I support it.

You've done a great job of taking the challenges we as a body are encountering and forming that into a question we can take to God.

This is an example of a petition that is in my heart at the present moment to the Lord, that I believe aligns with your OP. I would gladly join with others in expressing anything along these lines in Phoenix. Others might be more eloquent, but this is my feeble attempt.

Father in heaven, we have labored as a body to compose the required statement of principles but admittedly have divisions, and have members who yet choose to dispute. We have members who are weary of all the tools we have thus far attempted to utilize, and we confess that as yet have not been able to succeed in fulfilling the assignment in a way we all feel is honorable and indicative of the destination we desire to reach.

How would you direct us to fulfill this assignment in our present circumstance when there are many with inspiration they feel is from you but which sometimes conflict with each other. How would you likewise direct us when we have those among us who elect to continually dispute and break the mutual agreement we might otherwise have?

We as a body would rather wait patiently upon you than rush ahead and yet again fall short of the beliefs we profess. We acknowledge you have instructed and corrected us in the A&C,for which we are thankful. As we each attempt to live those teachings in our individual lives we petition for further direction in the completion of this assignment, petitioning your merciful hand to heal our hearts that we may be one. Help us make this assignment a light thing by revealing your part, and if needed correcting us. We are weak, broken, and prone to err, but we believe through Christ, all things are possible.

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 08, 2018

Edwin,

How do you keep all of the Anonymous' in order. The first one seemed aggressive. The next signed his name, so he's not really anonymous (Sam). But the third seemed to be

easily intreated, understanding the conundrum you described. I recognized kindred spirits in the third. I am tempted to give the anonymous writers super hero names like Peter Parker, or Bruce Wayne, or Clarke Kent, just so I can keep them organized in my own head.

But, now that I think of it, our ability to hear the voice of the Lord in the document is really being tested hear. If the other documents were animated by Christ, then I sure don't recognize it. And by the sounds of people's reactions, claiming that it isn't good, but it's not bad, and it's not like the content is not true, ...well that can come from a myriad of places.

I truly believe that the Lord would never give a commandment save He already prepared a way to accomplish it. Denver was removed from the task just as Lehi was removed. The voice of the Lord made His wishes known to Nephi, and the task was complete. It seems like the same pattern that Nephi relied upon ought to be the same pattern that we rely upon. And that is the voice of the Lord, whether it is to receive the revelation and write it down, or if it is to read what has been written, discern the voice of the Lord in the content, either case you must be seeking the voice of the Lord.

Thanks Edwin. I'm down with your suggestion. I think it represents meekness and humility much more than simply rolling over to submit to a process of voting.

Aloha,
Rob Adolpho

- Taylor March 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Taylor March 08, 2018

Above anonymous is me. The one with the prayer @8:52pm. Apologies for posting without my name.

Taylor

- Taylor March 08, 2018

Rob I'm anon 3. I sense the same kindred spirit in you and Q. I'm therefore motivated to wait on the Lord, and build relationships until God answers.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Rob, I am sorely tempted to claim Diana--Wonder Woman. Haha!

On a less frivolous note, I've been considering Nephi and his brothers lately.

I'm curious about the pattern I see and would like to hear your thoughts.

1. Nephi could have just offered up to follow the voice of the Lord at the beginning, but instead went along with a method his brothers understood and had faith in. Perhaps he let Laman lead out even.

2. They sacrificed (again) every worldly thing they still had, including Mom's beautiful China and Dad's fav Hawaiian shirt.

3. Nephi and his brothers have now exhausted their own ideas and problem-solving abilities. Things get hairy, scary violent requiring an angel to stop thge crazy darkness. But Nephi has tremendous faith and understood the importance of taking the record with them into the wilderness. His ability to inspire faith where there was none is quite amazing to witness.

4. Then the magic happens and he's taking steps not even knowing where they will lead him. We know the fruit born from his yet greater sacrifice at that point. Nephi knew the voice of the Spirit. He also knew the word of the Lord and how to apply it (wisdom).

What is in this account for us to understand and liken to ourselves concerning our own task? Is our next step a sacrifice of some kind? What could we as a body offer up? Why didn't Nephi go forth on his own to begin with? Was the task given to all the brothers or just Nephi? His brothers lacked sufficient faith and relationship to begin with, else they could have joined the effort and seen the hand of the Lord as Nephi had. I'm curious to know what you see.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

In this slid who you state: "I do not believe He is asking us to innovate. (Nowhere does His request indicate that, not even the use of the word “write.”)"

Yet - in your very next slide you quote from the Answer and Covenant wherein the Lord does say that we are to "write" a statement to be added:

“I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you” (A&C, p. 8).

- TBM March 09, 2018

Anon, that's how we ended up where we are. Many documents had >85% of the vote, but it was argued that 100% was necessary.

All of the words in the Lots doc are true. As far as I can tell, all the words I the other docs are true too. There are many sets of words which are true.

If mutual agreement only means "mutual agreement among those who mutually agree", then it doesn't mean much of anything at all. 51% would be sufficient. Or the group could split into subgroups who mutually agree on some other things.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

In this slide show you state: "I do not believe He is asking us to innovate. (Nowhere does His request indicate that, not even the use of the word “write.”)"

Yet - in your very next slide you quote from the Answer and Covenant wherein the Lord does say that we are to "write" a statement to be added:

“I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you” (A&C, p. 8).

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

Are we to believe that in Enoch's city there were NONE, ZERO individuals who chose to

dispute any of Enoch's teachings?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

I view this task to be in part about me showing what is in my heart, how I will respond to others and whether or not I will seek them out to help them come to Christ, rather than viewing them as self-selecting for something else; as though I am a bright, shining star in the heavens and they are choosing the dark side of the moon.

One person choosing to dispute does not impact any individual's growth or journey to Christ. But if one person chooses to view others as less than or negatively different in some way, growth is slowed or stopped.

As regards this task of creating a statement, when I imagine a group of individuals who have all chosen not to dispute with one another, I envision a group of people holding hands standing in a circle. Anyone choosing to dispute is standing on the outside, not holding hands, not encircled by those of the circle.

My heart is such that if I am standing as part of a circle of people but notice one or more standing outside looking on, I want to understand why; I want to hear their stories and see if they won't come and join in. Or perhaps I should join them? If they truly desire to join with us in the circle I will seek to open a way for one and all to come join, even to invite them to stand in the center so I may learn from them and offer love and support until they feel they can hold my hand.

I am not interested in standing with my back to anyone trying to pretend they do not exist or are unimportant.

It is one thing for someone to self-select by turning around and walking away from me. It is quite another for her to remain close by and say she desires to be with me on my journey.

This is how I feel I can ensure my heart is right, with Christ and with others who may disagree with me. I will seek to help and serve them, without resentment, jealousy, hurt, or anger.

I want to learn to let go of resentment, judgment, backbiting, finger-pointing, pride, self-righteousness, and any other bricks that can be used to build a wall. I want to be inclusive.

I was given a dream the beginning of January where I was shown what pride in my life looks like. I was horrified...HORRIFIED, and have since been praying and working harder at letting Christ heal me. I've been propped up and filled with so much fluff of rights and self-aggrandizement and instant gratifications and pride in myself throughout life that healing these parts takes time and attention and willingness to change. I feel that is universally true.

We love a good "righteousness will kick virtue's ass every day" story, thinking righteousness is all about being right or appearing strong and united in number. Yet the One who is Righteousness was laid low to the earth in Gethsemane pleading for release and bared butt-naked on a cross for all the world to deride and humiliate, and this after a lifetime of obedience to His Father in all things. Any takers on that experience?

Sometimes we have to be willing to put on a new lens prescription in order to see someone else's view. If I am unwilling to do that, I'm not willing to leave the 99 to seek out the 1.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

Please, any of the disputers, list the disputable teachings in the LOT G&S - which are from teachings which Denver claim come from God and are intended to help us all to keep the Law and Doctrine of Christ - so we can understand your dispute?

Persuade us that the Lord didn't inspire those teachings and why we shouldn't deem them worthy of consideration.

Then, persuade us that when the Lord told us in the Answer and Covenant revelation "to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you" (A&C, p. 8) - why that couldn't be a compilation of His teachings which help us understand how a fellowship COULD be run - not some law - but a "guide" - as to how to actually keep the Law of Christ in our modern situation.

I have yet to be persuaded and I'm easily persuaded.

- TBM March 09, 2018

Dunno

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

TBM @ 10:39

I dont see how there is any more meaning in pretending to have unanimity among a group you can't even define and which is in a state of flux. That too is meaningless since you may not have unanimity, but wouldn't know it due any number of practical challenges. And the moment you have it, you could loose it.

I can argue all sides of the mutual agreement topic and the solution, in my opinion, is neither.

Hearts must change. I'm starting with my own.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

P.S. TBM I see you as friend, not foe. Least there is any confusion or appearance of hostility in any of this online stuff.

You have valid views and I truly want to come to agreement.

- TBM March 09, 2018

Mutual agreement really does seem impossible. I see why one could conclude that there's no way 'mutual agreement' means 100%. That was my initial reaction and it may be the correct one. This is why I often compare all this to the conflicting commandments in the Garden of Eden. The answer back then was to wait until God returned (I think), and I think it's possible that the right answer now is to present our failure (failure so far, Edwin) to God and ask for a way out.

But I'm just as perplexed as anyone here. It's easy for God to part the Red Sea (the elements are happy to obey God), but mutual agreement requires free will, and God won't mess with that.

A light thing if our hearts were right. It is not a light thing, therefore our hearts must not be right.

- TBM March 09, 2018

Fair enough.

- TBM March 09, 2018

So, then, what is the miracle that will make our hearts right?

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

This is very light indeed among those who choose not to dispute. The problem is that it appears that somewhere the decision was made by someone that that definition has to mean 100% agreement.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

We were ALL ONE that September weekend in Boise. I would bet that virtually everyone present who accepted the covenant believed that the teachings given by Denver Snuffer were inspired of God - including the 10 Lectures. Denver claims that all of the content of those lectures were given to him by God.

Many of the quotes compiled in the LOT G&S were from those lectures and helped persuade everyone that God had begun His work anew in our day.

Therefore - why is there a dispute in this thing? Who or what is inspiring these disputes? Try the spirits indeed.

All of that being said - yes - we probably should unitedly come to God and plea to know His part in this dispute. But how and what does that look like? If Denver can't be involved - who is going to receive the revelation?

Why not "choose NOT to dispute" the LOT G&S and then present it to the Lord through His Servant and then wait upon the Lord's answer and or correction? Why can't that be the path forward? Surely the Lord, in His Mercy, can correct us and give us His part. Maybe he is waiting for that first?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Dani, I am saddened to learn your proposal presentation has not been given its own post on this blog. Greatly saddened. Seems not right given all the other ones.

But thank you for it! I feel you did a good and succinct job in stating why we should choose Christ's words. You have outlined all the reasons why I am wonderfully okay with only using the Doctrine of Christ and His Law as spoken in the Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful. It has nothing to do with anything Jared has said. It is solely because of the words of Christ Himself. They fill me with Light.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

To those who believe with genuine faith in Christ that Denver has brought you, us, the world also, Christ's words today, what is your understanding of why Denver was commanded to speak to the LDS first?

Why worldwide Christians second?

Who is next, if anyone, and why them? Simply fulfilling prophecy? Why was the prophecy given to begin with?

Do you also believe that no one person or group of people has been since forever, or will be henceforward, able to find Christ without having first heard about or from Denver Snuffer?

Only him, or could any one of us become a witness and messenger of Christ? And then, would we want someone to create a statement of our teachings as a guide and standard, or would we be more pleased to focus on the words of Christ given in such singular ways as the sermons were? (Understanding from the Lectures on Faith, that the way ordained for anyone to know of God's existence in the first instance is through a messenger's witness.)

What do you believe is Denver's importance to you now, and going forward?

When do you anticipate needing only Christ, or do you ever?

I hope to gain some understanding of the push behind statements that contain much of or mostly teachings that have come through Denver Snuffer.

For myself, it does appear we are rather fulfilling verses in D&C 76--those of John, those of Apollo, etc., which Dani did use in her ppt, and which Denver also has discussed in talks and on the blog. Idolatry is an easy trap to fall into for all worshipers. So, if y'all could help me understand how your proposals are NOT doing that, I would surely appreciate it. I genuinely want to understand your perspectives.

Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

And what if teachings from Denver are being turned into stumbling blocks?

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

Part of the answer on the clarification to Mutual Agreement was the insight that the Lord could have disputed with someone every day of his life. But he chose not to. I don't see very many people talking about that part of the clarification on what mutual agreement means. If someone in contrast disputes at every single opportunity, sometimes hourly, I wonder if they somehow feel they have greater reason or justification to dispute with others than the Lord had?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

I myself am wondering if we haven't confused Denver with Christ Himself. So when Denver has said more than once that he has no spokesman, shall we understand that is also Christ saying He has no spokesman? And did Christ not state clearly He employs no servant at the gate?

Where does the hearkening to the words of Christ given through messengers or a messenger stop and the worshiping and obeying of Christ actually begin?

I am so glad we are finally having this discussion out. It has been long overdue. Perhaps we can finally come to sound understanding of each other and from there see clearly Christ's part in helping us truly have mutual agreement.

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

Part of the answer on the clarification to Mutual Agreement was the insight that the Lord could have disputed with someone every day of his life. But he chose not to. I don't see very many people talking about that part of the clarification on what mutual agreement means. If someone in contrast disputes at every single opportunity, sometimes hourly, I wonder if they somehow feel they have greater reason or justification to dispute with others than the Lord had?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

How is only accepting a statement of the doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ equal to rejecting a messenger from God? I don't understand and need help seeing your perspective.

Denver's blog, books, talks, papers, all of it, still readily seen, available, accessible, even in the restored scriptures. Is it thought others will never find or be led to those things unless we first talk about them in a guide and standard, which will also be in those same scriptures? Is there fear people will do things wrong unless we spell it out for them?

What about all the other prophets? Oughtn't we to mention their teachings too? Didn't Christ say we should search the words of Isaiah, for they are great? And what about Enoch and Moses?

A new dispensation is upon us. Yes. Denver is a messenger sent by God. But to what purpose or end? Who is the author of the salvation of men? Denver, with his many books? Or Christ the Lord? Who shall we teach our children to hearken to and to follow? Who will we point others to first?

Shall we have a G&S that resembles the creeds and handbooks of other churches, or do we want to be different because we "talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophesy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins"?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

We don't get to choose how others will respond, though, do we? I only have direct control over my own responses, as do you. So perhaps the "message" in that was seeking from Christ to understand His heart? Why did He choose not to dispute with others and when? I am learning that it should never matter what someone else is saying or not saying. I can still choose love and stay out of fear, anger, hurt, resentment, etc. Showing kindness to someone, especially when we might think they are being rude or disruptive, might actually do the more good than other ways we might respond. I am trying to stay out of accusation, because that is the role of a true adversarial spirit.

- Dani March 09, 2018

I appreciate your kind words to me and to Jared.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

You have spoken truth.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Who is choosing to dispute? One person, who says she cannot abide but one way, or everyone else who says they must be "persuaded" before they will change?

- Dani March 09, 2018

Do I get to determine what you should "deem worthy of consideration" and ask you to follow it? I don't believe I do. On the other hand, God does, so if God--who has the power to do so--directs the lady in Taiwan to the teachings of Denver Snuffer or you, great! If we get that message from God directly then we are not trusting in men. And The Sermon is how a fellowship should "be run" if it is the Law of God.

- Dani March 09, 2018

Anon @ 9:48
I apologise to Edwin if he or others feel I am horning in on this post. I posted here on two counts:1-I think my proposal is related to the OP because I am also advocating waiting for further revelation if need be rather than breaking the commandment, and 2-the SC determined that I should not have space for my proposal since it comes in part to the same conclusions as Jared's, even though I believe it is significantly different in content. That means I would have to post in someone's comments or not at all. And, you know, God...

- Dani March 09, 2018

I see how what i wrote could be misunderstood. I intended to say that not even the Lord's use of the word "write" necessarily means innovate. That's a can of worms to try and prove one way or the other and would decimate more proposals than one.

- Dani March 09, 2018

If we ever meet, please allow me to hug you.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Dani, that is not right. Are people not supposed to be submitting proposals right now? I sent an email to the SC requesting your proposal go up. I am not okay with this. Lori

- etluxentenebrislucet March 09, 2018

Dani, I don't know if you mean me, Lori (et lux en tenebris lucet) or Anonymous. But if me, I am a hugger, girl, so yes! If you didn't mean me, I still say yes and let's grab Anonymous too. :)

- Dani March 09, 2018

Yes, Lori. You. But Anon too. Why not?

- TwoCents March 09, 2018

Anonymous,

If you want to present this document to the Lord as your fruits, I can respect that. If you want to choose, out of all the teachings the Lord has given us, by way of Denver and even Joseph Smith, these words, I can respect that. If you want these to be the fruits you offer, I am not in your way of doing so. Out of all the words that have been offered I would choose different words making my fruits different than yours- for instance, I would choose words that speak about the idea of coming into his presence, face to face, having a personal relationship with Him without any man between me and HIm. Your document doesn't say anything like that, yet that's what has brought us together in the first place.

You have asked if there is anything inherently wrong? From my point of view, yes, there is something inherently wrong with the Lots document. Looking at each principle in an isolated manner, and the document seems harmless. But considered as a whole, it leads to nowhere. The assignment serves a purpose, and the men your document quotes know that purpose, but you have combined them into a cut and paste collage of your own design. Whose mind and will ordered the heavens? That's whose mind and will ought to order this effort. Currently, your document has no direction. There's no direction to remove the necessity for an overarching governing body, like a scripture committee. There's no direction for the use of the document once it's published. What's to stop this from becoming the same things as the LDS, the methodist, the baptist, etc.? You have reduced men of grand vision to a short order check list, and that is inherently wrong to me. Where the people have no vision, the people perish.

Q

- Anonymous March 09, 2018

There is less than a week left to submit documents for the proposed conference vote. If no one requests that their preferred document be considered for inclusion in the scriptures, then the vote comes to an end before it even starts.

Please consider submitting your document for the vote. It may be unlikely that we choose not to dispute at the conference. It may be the case that we are more concerned with our own preferences than we are with the desires of others, and that a dogged defense of our own position is more important than a charitable view of the opinions of others. But I for one haven't given up hope that we will transcend our squabbles and use this first conference since entering in to the covenant to finish the Lord's assignment.

The work of building relationships can continue. The work of building toward unanimity can continue. The work of becoming Zion-like can continue. We do not have to accomplish all of that immediately. We simply have to stop arguing about all of this. Choosing a particular G&S is relatively unimportant; ceasing to dispute is everything.

Please, brothers and sisters, go the extra mile. Put up with the indignity and inconvenience of another vote, for the sake of unity. This vote provides a mechanism for the minority to show their largeness of soul by voluntarily accepting the majority's choice. And it also gives an opportunity to the few who may remain in opposition to voice their thoughts and concerns, and have their position respectfully heard.

There is an opening to finish this assignment in the next few weeks if our focus is love for each other and the Lord. The conference setting gives us the right atmosphere to come together in unity. If we will take it.

Gordon

- Dani March 10, 2018

Unity in Christ is the only unity that matters, the only unity that can be eternal. See the revelation regarding James Covel in D&C 121: Behold, verily I say unto you that his heart was right before me, for he covenanted with me that he would obey my word and he received the word with gladness. But straightway Satan came and tempted him, and the fear of persecution and the cares of the world caused him to reject the word, wherefore he broke the covenant which he had made, and it remaineth in me to do with him as seemeth me good.

- AndEva March 10, 2018

Amen.

- IDK March 10, 2018

If our focus is love for each other and the Lord, there is no need to push this to get done by the conference. He did not say, If you love me get this done, He said if your hearts were right. Why are people in such a hurry? We have been given no deadline and God is very patient. If we care and love each other like we are commanded to, we would not want to push something done at the expense of others hearts. We know there are people who are not ok with a vote, not ok with the lots and many other proposals. Though we may not understand each others views totally, wouldnt love have patience, pray and fast with them, ask God together to show us the way to get over our differences? Our hearts are not right if we are willing to let people be hurt just so we can get a job done for the Lord. Since the heart is what He wants fixed, why can we not work on that first? Will He give us another assignment if we dont show that we hear and value their views as well? Everyone is hearing different things for this G&S, but no one has knowledge of what to do. Once EVERYONE gains the knowledge they need, there wont be disputaions among us. Just like none of us would dispute over the fact that the LDS church cannot give you eternal life, we have enough knowledge to not dispute this fact. Lets take the time, and follow what James 1:5 directs. We lack wisdom and are wandering around in darkness trying to argue our way out. Lets follow Josephs example, get down on our knees together, maybe even fasting, and humbly ask God for help, together. Proving to Him that we do love and value each and every person and their opinions and views no matter what they are. Being in a hurry only hurts people, lets be patient like the Lord, and expect He will show us the way in His own time, not ours. Would it be a more loving approach to pray and fast together, asking God His part than to hold another vote, when we already know there are those who don't want it? These are all questions I've been asking myself, as I wonder how do we come together on this? Thank you Edwin for your thoughts. It made me realize how much we are in need of Gods direction on this.
Sheri

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

IDK

Do not murmur saying, Too much has been required at our hands in too short a time. If your hearts were right it was a light thing I have asked. You hinder and delay and then you say I require too much of you and do not allow you time, when, if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves you could have finished this work long ago. Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required. — The Answer

"Our hearts are not right if we are willing to let people be hurt just so we can get a job done for the Lord." Fulfilling the commandments of the Lord often involves hurting people. Moses killed the Midianite children, Nephi killed Laban, Zeniff and his folks killed 3000 Lamanites in one day "in the strength of the Lord," and many, many other examples.

I think all of your goals are worthy goals, we should pursue them. But we should do what the Lord has required of us first. And he has already condemned us for hindering the accomplishment of this task and for delaying getting it done.

Gordon

- EdwinWilde March 10, 2018

I am confused by some of the responses.
I am also confused at how all of the anonymous folks believe that it is at all possible to keep their continued arguments in line.

But I would like to clarify: I am not disputing the Lots document. I am not disputing the Normanschwartzkopf document. I am not disputing the Adolpho's or Sam Vaughn.
I am not persuaded that Jared Livesy's proposal is what the Statement of Principles should be, because it has already been fully adopted in the whole of the scriptures. So I don't believe that the Lord would ask us to adopt something that has already been adopted.

A part from that my thought is only that the only clarification we have on the meaning of 'Mutual Agreement' is that as between one another, we choose not to dispute.
I have heard a bunch of people insist that if others would just not argue with their proposed document then we could have mutual agreement. However, I am at a confessed complete lack of knowledge because we have at a minimum one among us who refuses to not dispute any other document than his own.
He is not the only one that seems intent on disputing on any other document than his own, but his case highlights a question that in my mind needs to be resolved before I can confidently move forward: How do we keep the Lord's commands when He has asked that we -all those who have entered into and accepted His covenant- only adopt a statement of principles by mutual agreement?
I have read many times how people propose that the Lord couldn't have meant that EVERYONE actually agrees with whatever document gets adopted, but in every case they confess that such a proposal is only their belief. In other words they do not have knowledge.

Am I to trust that because they feel confident in their belief to adopt a statement of principles while still having disputes from covenant makers, that I likewise will be guiltless before the Lord in doing so?

Or does anyone have knowledge about this question? Can anyone answer for me so that I can feel more secure? Because as of yet I have petitioned the Lord and I have not felt confident that such a position is defensible before Him.
That is not to say that if someone can provide more light, that I wouldn't listen, its just that, as of yet, I don't get how to get pass this seeming impasse.

- IDK March 10, 2018

Gordon,
You make very good points and that is why I have gone back and forth on this. What does the Lord require first, it to get done or our hearts to be right? If we get our hearts right, it will get done. If it gets done but our hearts are still not right, then what good is it? I understand your examples, but I don't think we are in the same situation. Unlike the examples above, we are all people looking to be one with God, we all took a covenant with Him, we all want to do His will, and are all just trying to figure out how to do that together. Hopefully with love and gentle pursuasion being our guide.
Sheri

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

When was the last time you read parable numbner 9 from the Ten Parables book? Perhaps that can help?

- EdwinWilde March 10, 2018

Anonymous,
I took your recommendation seriously and went and re-read that parable. Thank you.

I want to understand the truth that you believe you have found that can provide an answer to my question, in that parable.

So where or how do you see that it is explained/likened in that parable regarding mutual agreement? The Lord has asked us to adopt a statement of principles, and adopt that statement in a way that fulfills the idea that as between one another, we choose not to dispute.

Which document do you point to that fulfills that list of requirements?
And how do you point to any document and say that as between one another, we choose not to dispute it?
You seem to rely on the fact that because the concepts in the Lots document are sourced from the Lord's Servant in this dispensation, then that is the standard by which submission should be conditioned.
However, that Servant received the words of the Lord, and the Lord said that it had to be by mutual agreement.

I am not saying that I know that mutual agreement has to be unanimity. I just want to know how it doesn't have to be. Not explained by someones really strongly held personal belief, but rather can you or anyone point to the Lord's words (from any of His servants) and help all of us understand how we get around it necessarily being unanimously undisputed by all covenant partakers?

Because if you can't, then it seems to me that you are asking me and everyone else to just hope that what you believe is best, is actually best.

As a result I am asking, that if you can not demonstrate how any of the documents currently in existence, can fit the standard of having every covenant partaker choose not to dispute the hypothetical one document; and if you can not demonstrate definitively how the document which you desire to be adopted, doesn't have to fit that standard: then please, lets take our dilemma to the Lord, as a people.

Lets ask Him, for further light and knowledge. Has He not promised that if we do this with humility and sincerity/contrite heart, that He will tell us His part? Can we not trust that if He were to do this, that each of us who have been moved by His words up to this

point, will then be moved forward together on how to resolve this issue?

Nobody will need point to another allegory that may or may not apply, and suggest that if the other doesn't fall in line with what the first believes, that then the second person will be cast out for being disloyal.

Or do I not understand your point? If you have light, please share it. If you are like me, and don't know what to do, then lets take the Lord at His word, and take this to Him and ask for His part in this matter.

-Edwin

- Anonymous March 10, 2018

"as between one another, we choose not to dispute"

Where in that definition is the idea of 100% agreement among those who have received the covenant? Well, only in those who choose not to dispute, and those are they who are in 100% agreement despite their differing opinions and preferences concerning this assignment.

We don't get to choose what others will believe or do in any stage of progression. We only have control of that for ourselves.

There will be those who are aware of, or participate with those, who choose not to dispute. However, eventually those who are unwilling to bind the spirit which inspires them to dispute, such efforts to dispute will be unavailing despite their efforts and arguments which can be relatable, even persuasive. There are two groups, ultimately. And the real learning doesn't come until the group who can be identified as choosing not to dispute has self-selected to follow that Spirit instead of the many others.

The Lord wants to cause a division among the people. That is one fundamental way of how He operates to ensure the peace of His people. In the parable, it's indispensable for the peace of a people who finally choose not to dispute. Therefore, he allow us the opportunity to choose whether or not we will choose to dispute so that we can be identified as being capable of living in peace with others or not in order for the identified people go on to learn what He has in store.

Just because we have been called to something, doesn't mean we are yet chosen. For that a great deal of correct faith is required. So we must first choose to align ourselves with the Spirit which animates this work, or be cut off from among the people either by our own choosing or by the cutting off by the Lord's preachings.

To me, the parable illuminates what it means to dispute and what that looks like.

At some point we as a people have to learn how to not be derailed or stalled by those who choose to dispute and divide and instill fear whilst maintaining fidelity to the truth. We need to learn how to peaceably ignore those who choose to dispute and continue to do what the Lord commands despite others unwillingness to obey.

- TwoCents March 11, 2018

The one and only person I need to worry about obeying, is the Lord Jesus Christ. Its accepting and teaching what Christ established that is the sole basis of entering in the Kingdom of God. If the Voice of the Lord and scriptures are guiding your decision, I can

respect that. God will set up His dispensation the way He wants and I realize I need to submit to His ways. If you, Anonymous, believe you are listening to the voice of the Lord, good on ya and keep it up. Do what He commands, it's His work. But I too must do that. It is the Lord that you need to follow, it is He that you must look to and abide. I can tell from your comment, that you are trying to do what the Lord is telling you and you are trying to encourage the majority, based on what you believe, to do the same.

Q

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

Edwin,

If the Lord had waited to act until the third of the host were in agreement, the plan of salvation would not have been implemented.

If Noah had waited to act until everyone agreed to come on board, then the family of God would not have been saved.

If the Brother of Jared had tarried to find harmony with his community, then he and his friends would never have found a promised land.

If Lehi had listened to the complaints and frustrations of Laman and Lemuel, the enterprise would have died in the desert.

If Joseph had come west to the Rockies, separating himself from those he wanted to think of as friends, we might be living in Zion even now.

The choice is often to obey God's commands, rather than search for perfect alignment with the larger group.

"Am I to trust that because (others) feel confident in their belief to adopt a statement of principles while still having disputes from covenant makers, that I likewise will be guiltless before the Lord in doing so?"

No. Don't trust any man. Trust the scriptures that come from God. If a pattern is repeatedly taught as an example of the way that holy men fulfill their assignments from God, it is probably safe to emulate those patterns. But don't trust my word, weary God until He answers you.

If we have a vote, I believe that nearly all in the minority will accept the majority's choice. The folks in this movement have good hearts and are here because they recognize the voice of the Lord. If a few remain in opposition, I can still choose not to dispute. I won't argue, bicker, wrangle or otherwise contend. On the contrary, I plan to reach out to those few with an excess of love.

Isn't that a better plan than waiting even longer to adopt a G&S when the Lord has already warned us not to hinder or delay? We should do our best to love everyone into submission, but we are never going to get everyone to come along.

Matthew 13:47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:
48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 11, 2018

IDK/Sheri,

Thank you for what you expressed. I am in agreement. Hearts matter. People matter, especially to God and His Christ. Lori

- TwoCents March 11, 2018

https://youtu.be/-wcxJrhabtI

Q

- TaushaLarsen March 11, 2018

I think with ENOUGH beer we could all get this figured out in an afternoon.

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

Sheri, (this is a new anonymous that has only posted once, just FYI)

I like your willingness to consider Gordon's point and your honest inquiry of which comes first, "the chicken or the egg" sort of thing regarding our hearts vs. getting this done.

Consider something that has been pointed out many times that pertains to what Gordon is saying above, and your response to him.

#1 - Gordon's point is confirmed Denver's opening remarks in Boise. There are still the prideful among those who have accepted the covenant. Not everyone who entered that covenant will ultimately get the "right" heart. In fact, we know for certain, from Denver's remarks, that not all of us will.

So Gordon's point is VERY relevant regarding waiting around unnecessarily trying to get everyone appeased and agreeing 100%. It's futile. Some just aren't ever going to get on the ark, and they probably won't ever have it in their heart to get on. It just isn't going to happen, and we were already clearly told that. And pride is the reason.

The pruning to take place is literally among US...among the lofty (proud) we were told. It may not be a pleasant thought, but it's a reality. And if we are using some unknown and abstract means of determining when everyone's hearts are right (when we can't even know another person's heart for sure), then we will allow those whose hearts may or may not ever be right to potentially stall this indefinitely. Wouldn't Satan love that.

#2 - You point out that, contrary to Gordon's examples above, that in your mind, WE (of the covenant) want to do His will. So you feel Gordon's examples don't apply because we are a righteousness seeking people.

But you actually support the precise point I have seen repeatedly in these discussions regarding what the BofM teaches and why it supports being able to move forward now. You're actually confirming what Mosiah was saying about the majority being trusted to choose right...and this BofM teaching is perfectly applicable to our covenant body today.

Mosiah correlated this truth only to people who desire righteousness. If people who just made a covenant with God (most having sacrificed immensely for this) cannot fit into the description given by Mosiah, then I don't know who would ever fit that description. This

is why so many people have wondered why we continually set aside what 93% of the covenant holders agreed to as the way to move forward, when we've received the definition of mutual agreement that allows us to proceed without unanimity.

Thus, your very response to Gordon, ALSO supports moving forward with what the majority in this movement have found to be acceptable... trusting that they have taken this seriously, inquired of the Lord, and are not being led down a road that will take this assignment off course, or that it is being done with impure motives, etc. The majority can be trusted to have chosen right.

Thus, when I read your exchange here, I saw Gordon's point that there will inevitably be some few who will always fight against getting this GS accomplished now, and your realization that the people involved are for the most part seeking righteousness...as two realities that actually give an obvious reason to move forward and get this done as proposed.

Both your points support moving forward with without further disputation, with what the majority of covenant holders have desired.

Gordon's: because not everyone will ever get their heart right and be willing to get on board and delay this indefinitely.

Yours: because the majority of this people ARE capable of choosing right as a body, and thus, why not trust their decision.

An additional G&S Proposal

Saturday, March 10, 2018

This proposal is from Fawn Lively. Because of it's length, it is too long to post directly, so the PDF can be downloaded from this link.

Comments

- Dani March 10, 2018

Thank you for posting this. If anyone wants the version with the hyperlinks, you can find it here:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NVmWnZkzAFCtdpX3tHPvuz0AEZtQRnwqTkpc9LjqQ1s/edit?usp=sharing

- Dani March 10, 2018

Dani is Fawn Livesey (btw).

- AndEva March 10, 2018

Fawn, dear sister, I LOVE the way in which you were guided to lay the matter out. My heart feels this is a Light thing. All the scriptures persuade me, I am edified and desire to do better. I accept with ThanksGiving.

Eva

- Donald March 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- AndEva March 11, 2018

@ Donald... Honey and Vinegar mixed together are a powerful remedy for sickness! There's my deep contribution for today :)

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

Since his talk on Jan 14th I have thought a lot about this statement from Denver... Denver Snuffer talk Jan 14th, 2018 Minute 39:40–40:24 “Perhaps his most Godly example was the patience with which he dealt with those around him. Kindly, patiently, correcting them when they largely came to him with questions trying to trap him but affirmatively stating in the Sermon on the Mount how you can take any group of people and turn them into Zion itself, if we would live the Sermon on the Mount.” http://denversnuffer.net/resources/Clinton-Meeting-18.01.14.mp3

- Donald March 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- AndEva March 11, 2018

Donald, your comment was cute, why did you remove it? Made me smile.

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

I am posting this here, because I believe it is the most logical place for Jared to see it. Jared writes on LatterDay Commentary, Tim Malone’s website, a long explanation of why he does not support any other G&S, but the Sermon on the Mount. He explains how he made a mistake in making the Covenant. He thought the Lord (Spirit) left him because he was following a man. And now he cannot get out of the Covenant he made. So he is on a campaign to keep any of Denver’s teachings out of the G&S. I think I know what Jared actually experienced.

I think the issue when Jared thought he made a mistake in making the Covenant, or in following a man (Denver), was that he doubted his decision to make the Covenant, and then he feared he had made a mistake (fear is of the devil), then the Spirit abruptly left him. However, the Spirit was actually convicting him for rejecting the Lord’s true messenger (Denver), and he mistook it for being condemned by the Lord for following a man. I have seen it happen to people before. Once they reject the Lord’s true messenger they damn themselves, and cannot progress. That is my understanding of what happened to Jared. I am sorry for his situation. I hope others will not make the same misstep.

I have lost some of the people I love most because of their rejection of Denver after his excommunication from the church. The light in them went out. Denver did say, something to the effect of: (that it would not be well to with those who reject the Lord’s true messengers). Rejecting the Lord’s true Servants is the same as rejecting Him. Not good! If we make a stance to not acknowledge the Lord’s Servant (Denver), we make a stance not to asknowledge the Lord. I doubt Jared will consider this idea, because those who fall into this snare become blinded and cannot see their own error. Those that follow this path become dogmatic in their views and end up fighting against Zion. I am not

speaking evil of Jared, I'm just trying to explain what I believe really happened to him.

I think accepting the Sermon on the Mount as a G&S on a premise of a mistaken Covenant and an effort to remove any of Denver's teachings would not be a wise decision. However, we all have our free agency to choose. I am just making an observation based on what I have witnessed happened to others. The Spirit abruptly leaves them and they don't know why, they just assume, and make the wrong assumption. They scramble to try and get the Spirit back, but they can't if they don't know why it left in the first place. I hope Jared will go back in his mind and give my synopsis some thoughtful consideration. Once you go down that path, it is hard to come back. Thanks!

- Donald March 11, 2018

Sometimes I think I talk too much. :)

- Dani March 11, 2018

Who is more likely to understand what happened to Jared: Jared or someone else? The relevant point to consider is whether or not Christ taught the Sermon. To reject the Sermon as preeminent is to reject Christ. (And Denver Snuffer for that matter.)

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

In this slide show you state: "I do not believe He is asking us to innovate. (Nowhere does His request indicate that, not even the use of the word "write.")"

Yet - in your very next slide you quote from the Answer and Covenant wherein the Lord does say that we are to "write" a statement to be added:

"I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you" (A&C, p. 8).

I believe it is clear that the Lord intended that we write or compile something new, outside of the Law and Doctrine that is already within the record that we have all already covenanted to accept as THE guide and standard of our faith.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

I believe there is some truth to this - at least Denver has taught as much:

"What if salvation is not determined by grace alone, by works alone, or even some combination of the two? What if it comes from the ministry of one sent by God to declare salvation? And faith comes by hearing the message like Paul taught (Rom. 10:17). Paul was expounding a passage from Isaiah (Isa. 53:1), a prophet sent by God. Paul was likewise sent with a message from God. What if the meaning is that in order to receive salvation it is essential that the believer receive a message from a minister actually sent by God with a message for our day and time?

"What if salvation requires the same thing now as when Isaiah preached and prophesied, and when Paul taught, and when Christ ministered to mankind?

"What if there is a necessary relationship between the sender of a message (God) and the speaker of the message (one sent by God) in order for the message to actually result in salvation for the hearer-believer?

"Who has believed our report, indeed? And who, then, has saving faith?"

- Dani March 12, 2018

I recommend rereading the Answer and Covenant document.

- Dani March 12, 2018

Denver Snuffer: "What I have written is taken from the scriptures, primarily the Book of Mormon. If you understood the scriptures you wouldn't even need what I've written."

- TBM March 12, 2018

This quote stands out to me from Dave's Dallas talk:

>Early Christians were very diverse but they agreed on two things: Christ's doctrine,which I read to you a moment ago, and Christ's law. The law of Christ is found in theSermon on the Mount.13 Once Christians have these two essential teachings in commonyou can have differences on other issues just like the early Christians.

p.10 in the Dallas transcript
https://www.dropbox.com/s/ozvu7wy660dttm3/2017.10.19%20Christian%20Talk%202%2C%20Dallas%20TX_transcript.pdf?dl=0

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

And who understands the scriptures fully, really? I sure didn't especially before Denver came along and made them so much more clear. And yet, there is still so much more to learn. Are we guilty of saying: A Book of Mormon, A Book of Mormon, we have a Book of Mormon, we need no more scriptures, we have enough! Well I certainly do want and need more! I will take all the true word of God I can get. If there are/will be true Prophets and Apostles among us, won't we have more scripture? Of course we will. We have them now if we will open our eyes and see. But we are satisfied with what we already have, so why bother? Let's all just go back to sleep folks.

Anonymous reply, you have it right on. Great comments! Thanks!

- Dani March 12, 2018

Neither Denver Snuffer not his writing falls off the face of the planet if we choose Christ first and foremost. But more importantly, no person can learn for you. Many people can point in one direction or another, but only the Spirit can testify to your heart. More Denver:"The riches of eternity are offered by the Lord to you and each of you directly. It does not come from learning "secrets" from someone else. It comes by following the path. You do not need anything more than a description of the path. Follow it. Until you follow it, the heavens will remain shut against you. As soon as you follow it, you will have the results you would like to have."

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

It happened to my best friend right in front of me. I saw the fear in her eyes. I watched the spirit depart. I was powerless to do anything. She rejected Denver, then she rejected me. Then she persecuted me. Broke my heart to pieces. She still won't speak to me. She has no idea what happened to this day. We studied together for years, now

she has lost even that which she had. It is a horrible thing to witness. We don't have to choose to separate. When the darkness comes in, evil takes over and light flees. The light and darkness will naturally separate at some point like oil and vinegar. Darkness doesn't like to be around light.

I am not saying the Sermon on the Mount is not good or from Christ, of course it is. I am saying something new is afoot. Denver is bringing it about. Are we to ignore his influence and his teachings? He has been sent from heaven. We by our decisions will accept him or reject him. That is the test. Not including his teachings in our G&S because of not believing he is indeed sent from God is rejecting him in my view. Rejecting a true servant will damn you. Like it or not.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

Denver also said when the true Servants, Apostles and Prophets are gone from the earth, and there is no connection to heaven, things go downhill very rapidly. Denver taught me the path in his book The Second Comforter. He pointed me to Jesus Christ. I have received the results I have wanted and much, much, more. I will leave it at that. We have had the Sermon on the Mount since we have had scriptures. So far, it has failed to produce much fruit. Because people just read it. They don't do it. They cannot do it in a vacuum. That is why we need fellowships. I believe the fellowships are what we were to write a guide about. Why do you need a guide for something you have had since day one? The Lot's G&S has the Doctrine of Christ, plus the Sermon on the Mount as well as a basic structure for a fellowship. We need them all to complete the assignment in my view. You don't have to agree. We can agree to disagree. I do respect you greatly and believe your intentions are good. :) The heavens are definitely not shut to me.

- Dani March 12, 2018

Believe what you will. The man you are lifting up has asked you not to do so. We can take the sacrament every week, get baptized, build temples, meet oft(as many LDS folks do), and never receive the Lord. But, if we will take Christ seriously and keep His commandments to do them, HE will teach us. He will write His law in our hearts and our eyes will open to Him (to enjoy the smiles of our Savior, I think Joseph said).

Additionally, consider this thought experiment: Let's say God wanted to try His children to see if they would keep His commandments at any cost and leave ALL to follow HIM. He can't make the test too easy by allowing His children to be tempted by obvious errors and evil. No, the test has to be more subtle than that. He must test His children with something good to see if they will "have an eye single to [His] glory." That means He might send a wonderful servant such as Moses or Joseph Smith, someone who the people believe communes with God (someone who probably does commune with God).

"Oooh," the people might say. I can see this man. I believe his words to be good. Surely, if I follow him, he can lead me. Surely, God will tell the man everything I need to know." Unfortunately, we know how these stories end.

If you will imagine for a moment a funnel heading upward into heaven where the only people that pass through are those that look only to Christ. Doesn't it make sense that as the funnel narrows, the choices around you become more pure, more singular? And yet, no one will pass the funnel or the test while clinging to another.

I am sorry you lost your best friend.

- Dani March 12, 2018

Perhaps it is also necessary for me to say that I believe Denver has seen the Lord and conversed with Him. I believe he has been asked to teach. None of that changes anything. We HAVE to receive the Holy Ghost and know the things of God for ourselves, and it is only by perfect faith and diligence to Christ that we can do so. But when people keep shouting for a king, well, the Lord may just say, "Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee; for they have not rejected thee but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them" (Samuel 4:1).

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

“Even the scriptures do not give a blueprint to follow. “If they contained the necessary information, Zion would've been established long ago”. God alone will establish Zion; his instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once he instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that his directions to us now is consistent with what he prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. “But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God’s immediate commands to us.” That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there.” (Boise Covenant Conf. opening remarks 2nd Pg.)
I think this quote from the opening remarks of Denver say a lot about “the work now underway” as well as the G&S.

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

Time will tell. God Bless You! I wish you well!

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

Yes and in my opinion - the LOT G&S is a wonderful document, compiling the Lord's direct instruction to His servant regarding the creation of Fellowships which return us to a more ancient form of worship. Those instructions help us to actually practice the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount amongst ourselves and can help guide others regarding the work now underway. It indeed will bless, benefit and inform others about this work. No one who is disputing the adoption of this G&S can point out how those teachings and principles would not be helpful in the overall mission of coming unto Christ and keeping His law.

- Dani March 13, 2018

I am so very glad you bring this up, John. Thank you.

"God ALONE will establish Zion" (OR, p. 3). Notice "HIS instructions"...."the path to Zion is to be found only by following GODS's immediate commands to us"...."HE will lead us, teach us, command us, guide us, but we have to be the ones who become what He commands. We have to be the ones who do what HE bids us do" (OR, p. 3).

Isn't that beautiful? God will lead us. He will command us. He will direct us. There is no need to point to anyone but Christ.

Also found in the 'Opening Remarks':

"It is the Lord's purpose to create equality in his vineyard. In the allegory equality in the vineyard
appears three times in verses 66, 73 and 74. We cannot be greater and lesser, nor divide ourselves into an hierarchy to achieve the equality required for Zion. When a group is determined to remain equal (and I [Denver] am personally determined to be no greater than any other) then it faces challenges that never confront unequal people"

(OR, p. 6).

"We cannot allow ourselves to be drawn in to inequality when the result of this labor is to make us
one body, equal with one another. We cannot imitate the failures of the past by establishing an hierarchy, elevating ONE above another, and forgetting that we must be of one heart, one mind and with no poor among us" (OR, p. 6-7).

Let's not break HIS immediate command to mutually agree. I am sad that people feel so much hostility, but we have to do what the Lord commands. That is that.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

Not sure who is pointing to anyone but Christ? But to quote Denver and then ignore his words which many here believe come from Christ seems odd. And then whos definition of mutually agree? My guess is we're all much closer in agreement than what it looks like here.

- Dani March 13, 2018

Yes, I understand that your opinion is that this is a helpful document. If we are led by the Law, by the Holy Ghost, and by the commandments of Christ, His words to our ears, we do not need a handbook of instructions and it can, in fact, impede us.

- Dani March 13, 2018

Actually, let me be more bold. It will impede those who would be followers of Christ if they do not learn to take Christ alone as their guide.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

And bolder yet.For the record, when I comment to this group, the concept that the only name wherein man can be saved is Jesus Christ, I consider that as a given. But if one reads the scriptures, from the beginning of time when the Lord starts His work anew, He uses a human servant to help, not to save anyone, but help the Lord as a “servant” in His vineyard.
FYI, there are those who as of yet, don’t have a perfect connection to heaven, but that will be required, but in the mean time the Lord always uses servants to help.
Is following Christs words as written in Matthew and 3rd Nephi following Matthew or Nephi, or the Lord?
And judging others spirituality or love of God here in this forum discussing something most believe He did ask us to accomplish is rather judgmental, and of course not in accord with the Law of Christ.
I love the Lord my redeemer, I follow Him only, He’s my friend and my guide!

- Dani March 13, 2018

Thanks for your testimony of Christ.

- Dani March 13, 2018

Thank you.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

Dani and Others
I can't speak for everyone, but I know I'm not alone.
I'm very grateful you have received a testimony of the Lord and want to serve Him.
Its very important that you not assume that because I took, and plan to abide the covenant, including the G&S, that I don't have a "real" testimony of the Lord. I received my first witness of Him when I was 9 years old and many since that time. Also, don't assume that the only covenant I have from the Lord is this one we're discussing here, to be a part of this covenant people! I also have one from the Lord to me, given to me individually and separately from this. It's OK to have both, and hopefully many more. One doesn't cancel out the other one. One is between and individual and the Lord and the other is accepted individually but as a member of a group or people or a couple or a family etc.
The desire is to be a part of a "people" who all know the Lord. Aka Zion!
Your Brother in Christ.

- MichaelBurke March 13, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Dani March 17, 2018

The only person the majority (and minority) should be submitting to is God. All else is futile.

I once saw a playthrough of a game where it appeared that the goal was escape. Some of the people banded together into one big rolling ball that could power through the enemy traps with just the loss of a few broken off arms and legs. The group gathered more and more people and broke more arms and more legs in their unity of destruction and busted right through the final door just to find themselves in a new, dreary place, rolling down into a pool of filth, unable to separate, unable to move except to continue to struggle against one another. It was a very haunting image. Another child continued on his own trying to overcome the traps as they occurred. In the end, he disconnected the people from the controller only to find out he disconnected himself.

- Dani March 17, 2018

If, however, we can connect to the higher source, to have a relationship with the Lord, we won't need escape because nothing will have power to harm us.

- Dani March 17, 2018

In being lifted up, we will become and "be one."

- MichaelBurke March 21, 2018

Hello Dani,

I don't know what the weather is like where you are, but we're in the middle of a blizzard here, and I'm in the hospital on a heart monitor.

Would you please tell me if you believe God appeared to your husband prior to the conference in Boise? Adrian Larrsen wrote this to him on Tim Malone's "latter day commentary" on February 25th, and he still hasn't answered him.

"Jared,

The following two statements clearly claim you have been in the Lord’s presence, which implies you have seen Him face to face:

'The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost.'

'Afterwards, I fasted and prayed and was baptized again, confessing my sin, in the hopes that the Lord might receive me again into his presence.'

My question is simple: Are we to take these statements literally?—i.e. you previously met the Lord face to face, and that the covenant incident caused Him to deny you access to His presence?

Is this what we are to understand by these statements?"

I request your husband answer Adrian's question.

And as his wwife, surely you know whether or not Jared believes he's actually been in God's immediate, physical presence.

Is it your understanding and belief that he has been?

I request you please reply, and please tell us if this is what you believe

Thank you.

- MichaelBurke March 21, 2018

Hello Dani,

I'm in the hospital now, in a bed by a window, and I'm watching the snow fall outside.

In case you missed it, I wanted to let you know that I made a request of you here.

Please see comment thread above.

- MichaelBurke March 21, 2018

According to the heart doctor I saw today, part of my heart isn't getting the blood it should when I do the treadmill, and he wants to run a catheter thru my wrist or my groin tomorrow, to see if some artery is blocked.

I think I'd prefer the wrist.

Could you please grant my request here Dani?

And/or ask Jared to call or text me?

Thank you.

- Dani March 22, 2018

Michael,
I hope you are receiving the help you need. It is not appropriate for me to answer your questions regarding Jared.

- MichaelBurke March 22, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke March 22, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke March 22, 2018

Thank you Dani.

Sorry for the typos.

Jared has my phone number.

Could you ask him to call or text me?

Or to answer Adrian?

Adrian asked Jared the same questions I asked him in the comments section of his February 25th "Arise and Awake" post on Tim Malone's "Latter Day Commentaries" blog.

Could you please ask him to post a reply there?

I'm in room 5 west 5b Wilmington hospital, Wilmington Delaware, and the land line here is (302) 320-4445.

That's the direct line to the room, and Jared already has my cell phone number.

Could you please ask him to call or text me?

They're doing an echo cardiogram, an artery test, and they may be putting a stent in today, but I'll be in and out of the room.

If he doesn't get me, could you please ask him to call back until I he does?

And as you've already shared your personal belief that Denver has been in the Lord's presence, and conversed with him, could you please tell me if you personally believe that your husband has too?

He sometimes talks as though he has, and that's why Adrian asked him those questions.

Could you please ask him to answer them?

Thank you, and may God have mercy on all of us.

- MichaelBurke March 22, 2018

Here's the link to Adrian's questions.

https://latterdaycommentary.com/2018/02/25/awake-and-arise/#comment-36378

- MichaelBurke March 22, 2018

I just got back from Christiana hospital, which is where they sent me for the cardio catheterization. They picked me up around 1:30, and I just got back here around 7:30, and my cell phone was here all day. If Jared tried calling please tell him I'm sorry I couldn't answer the phone, and please ask him to call back. I'm still in room 5 west 5 b Wilmington hospital, Wilmington delaware, (302) 320-4445.

And if he can't reach me at that number please ask him to call my cell phone.

Thank you.

- MichaelBurke March 23, 2018

They said my heart function was 19% when normal is 45%, and the heart doctor at the hospital wouldn't give me the note I needed to return to work, but my primary care doctor had office hours today, and he gave me the note I needed, and I should be back at work next week. Still haven't heard from Jared yet. Would you please ask him to call or text?

Daily Update

Sunday, March 11, 2018

As of today we have these G&S proposals on the ballot. Voting under the proposed process by the Platts begins Thursday March 24th:
A NEW CONCEPT FOR THE - Statement of Principles/Guide & Standard! (Submitted by John Dutson.)
The Rock of Jesus Christ (submitted by Jared Livesey.)
The Guide and Standard Chosen by Lots (submitted by Jeff Reber.)

Comments

- Anonymous March 11, 2018

According to the March 7th Proposed Voting Timetable: I thought voting began Thursday, March 15th - 22nd. With a follow up short vote for those not able to attend on the 22-23. Is this an inadvertent typo?

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

I am sorry, I cannot vote. I know many others who likewise will not vote...again.

Can we all PLEASE, take a step back, a deep breath and just be still. We are rushing the pass.

Listen to the 2nd talk to the Christians in Texas, there is a huge hint given in there. The ONLY thing we are to have in common belief as a Standard and Guide is Christs Doctrine and Christs Law which is the Sermon on the Mount (and at Bountiful)

Other than that... You (We) and all other Faiths, Tribes, People are free to form their communities how they are divinely inspired. We don't need some document of a list of rules and practices that will become ritual and a handbook, and place others in a position to judge how faithful another is living the 'handbook' we've all had enough of that!

Our mutual agreement is to agree to Christs Doctrine and to keep His Law! There will be many communities with their own flavour coming from their own backgrounds and their own records and their own experiences. Each have a role to fulfill. Let's not conform them to believe as Mormons, THEY WILL TEACH US! And they will expound on "our records" And teach us of theirs, they might teach us how to truely worship. All people who will come, will each have to write their own statement of principles as said in the Answer from the Lord to the Prayer offered by Denver. This way... With Christs Doctrine and Law as THE ROCK or firm foundation... Each communities statement for years to come will be LIVING, evolving beautiful. It's Freedom, can you not see it? Do we not Trust the Lord in His own Words? Why must we seek to control the outcome and how people desire to worship?

Please, no more arguing and contention, thinking we know people's hearts and motives when we don't even comprehend our own. I am ashamed of us and myself and our ingratitude for what has been given. Therefore, let us repent and offer an offering of Thanks giving unto our God who has condescended to give us so much according to our willingness to receive. This really is a LIGHT Thing. HE AND HIS WORDS ARE THE LIGHT THING.

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

To clarify, I am not promoting any persons document, but you know what... There are some among at us who we have labeled "bad fruit" when really their fruits were from a true source but we judge incorrectly because of the weakness of being human.

What I wrote above, the realisation of how simple it all is came from many days and months of prayer, study and seeking to know the Lords part.

- TBM March 12, 2018

Here's the money quote No one sig:

>Early Christians were very diverse but they agreed on two things: Christ’s doctrine,which I read to you a moment ago, and Christ’s law. The law of Christ is found in theSermon on the Mount.13 Once Christians have these two essential teachings in commonyou can have differences on other issues just like the early Christians.

p.10 in the Dallas transcript
https://www.dropbox.com/s/ozvu7wy660dttm3/2017.10.19%20Christian%20Talk%202%2C%20Dallas%20TX_transcript.pdf?dl=0

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

Thank you TBM.

How beautiful to have this as our "Title of Liberty " hoisted on a pole, in which all can rally around in Thanks Giving! An emblem of Christ in very deed. Which if we are humble enough to LOOK, will heal us! Or is it to simple or too easy that we must die of fevers and sickness of endless disputes? We are given the Liberty and Freedom to

worship God, to come to know the "Gods" To be taught and edified by diversity of beliefs and understanding... To teach and be taught. An exchange of Truth, connection... With Christs Doctrine and Law as the Nucleus kept in its purity and without deviation from the covenant. I am excited by the knowledge to be restored, recovered and given. I am hopeful. I Trust God and believe they are no respector of persons or people and they will teach and illuminate each who accept this Liberty, through the Holy Ghost...

- JohnDutson March 12, 2018

“You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.“ (A-C PG8)
This quote says there are people who also need to be informed about the work NOW UNDERWAY (such as Zion)and WE need to WRITE it.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 12, 2018

Thank you, no one significant.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

John - those little details aren't important evidently.

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

And WE can still write it!
Write between you and God. Then Share and write with your spouse. Then both of you write and share with your children. Then share with your community...and you listen to what they have written with open heart. Mutually agree upon the minimal... Which is Doctrine of Christ and Sermons. Then mutually agree with others on same foundation. Gather in unique fellowships who profess the same values as you while being open to, and supporting others to worship how they are led.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

Wouldn't it be nice if what you just said were actually the assignment we were given? Piece of cake and I don't think anyone would disagree with you. Unfortunately, no amount of creative interpretation changes the fact that we have to have a statement of principles written by the people added to the scriptures the Lord accepted last September. That's the reality and we were overdue with it six months ago.

The scripture committee bowed out then, the people stepped up to complete it, and it was finished symbolically at Thanksgiving. What has ensued since then has been strange incense.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

Ya.... Strange incense and NO SENSE

- Anonymous201 March 12, 2018

A question regarding this statement “Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.”
Does this mean we need to explain the “how” of the work now underway, so as to be wise in word and kind in deed, so there are no errors made when fellowships are established? Or can we be wise in word and kind in deed by only stating the foundation from which salvation can come, Doctrine of Christ and the Law, and let the scriptures contain the “how”?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 12, 2018

What happens if the "voter turnout" on this thing is even less than the more recent ones? Has thought been given to a minimum threshold to consider it sufficient to move forward with the outlined agenda? Will it be treated the way elections happen these days with a minority of voters deciding the matter? I am just wondering.

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

Thank you Anon,
I respect your words and hadn't considered there was a time frame/date. Will you please point me to where the Lord gave us a time frame and how we are 6 mths over due? I ask sincerely.

- Anonymous201 March 12, 2018

Another thought...when I have conversations with others about our movement, the way I try to be wise in word and kind in deed is to emphasize the Doctrine of Christ, the Law, and the scriptures that contain them, not to explain how fellowships and ordinations work, although those things come later.

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

I don't agre with the comparisons you draw between Strange Inscence and the challenge we have here.
And that is Ok if we disagree kindly.
If you would read it in context...

http://denversnuffer.blogspot.com/2014/12/strange-incense.html?m=1

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

Beautiful! I love your teaching method. Lay the foundation first. Too much too soon and it can't turn a soul completely from God and unconverted... They turn and rend you.

- Noonesignificant March 12, 2018

'Can' not can't.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

NOS,

The Lord never gave the latter-day Saints a timeframe in 1841. They just had 'sufficient time.'

Likewise, we have been given an assignment to:
-Write a statement of principles (keeping in mind those who have no knowledge of the Lord's work currently underway).
-Adopt it by mutual agreement.
-Add it to the scriptures (The Guide and v Standard) that precipitated the need for The Covenant.

The scriptures are nearing completion, if not already complete. The time is now to finish this assignment and add it as a guide and standard, by mutual agreement.

-Edwin Wilde

- NOS March 12, 2018

Thank you Edwin. Appreciate your clarification. I agree. We need to get this done.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

Assignment given in March 2017.
The Lord's words in the Answer in Aug. 2017 state that it was a light thing that could gave been accomplished by that time. It's now almost 7 months since then.

- Anonymous March 12, 2018

The Lord gave a very direct and very basic assignment that was easy to accomplish....write up a simple statement about what we have come to learn in all this. Some few have added to this assignment what they think it should be using their own word play. Some other few have taken veto power unto themselves to hedge up the way, albeit with good intentions. That is the reference to strange incense.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

I know there are those who don't believe in what's been offered via the covenant, but just want to be part of the fellowship community, that's some of our challenge, because we should want all to be involved. At the same time abide the covenant taken and seek after all we believe the Lord is offering. I think all can be accommodated because at the core of the covenant, and abiding it, is the Doctrine and Law of Christ in how we interact with one another.
"The greatest instruction that I know out of, given by God at any time, to any generation, is a rule of community found in the Sermon on the Mount and in the Sermon at Bountiful. Now we have the answer to the prayer for covenant, that not only resonates with the message of those two sermons but applies it directly to us in our peculiar circumstances, to fix our peculiar defects and urges us to more like Him." (Opening remarks Boise Cov. Conf. 2nd pg.)
"Even the scriptures do not give a blueprint to follow. "If they contained the necessary information, Zion would've been established long ago". God alone will establish Zion; his instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once he instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that his directions to us now is consistent with what he prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. "But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God's immediate commands to us." That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there." (Boise Covenant Conf. opening remarks 2nd Pg.)
I think this quote from the opening remarks of Denver say a lot about "the work now

underway” as well as the G&S.

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

Yes and in my opinion - the LOT G&S is a wonderful document, compiling the Lord's direct instruction to His servant regarding the creation of Fellowships which return us to a more ancient form of worship. Those instructions help us to actually practice the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount amongst ourselves and can help guide others regarding the work now underway. It indeed will bless, benefit and inform others about this work. No one who is disputing the adoption of this G&S can point out how those teachings and principles would not be helpful in the overall mission of coming unto Christ and keeping His law.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

So, here’s a question. Does it make since that included within a group who mutually agree, there would be those who “respectfully” disagree?

- Dani March 13, 2018

No.

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

Yes. There is an opposition in all things. The requirement of unanimity makes it impossible to proceed.

- Dani March 13, 2018

"But without faith it is impossible to please God, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a revealer to those who diligently seek him" (D&C 48:7), but "in a word, there was nothing impossible with them who had faith" (LOF 7:15).

I believe this.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

Yet, in heaven, in the presence of God Himself there was not unanimity. So here out of God’s presence, in this fallen world, we’re supposed do want wasn’t possible in heaven?

- Dani March 13, 2018

I don't believe God gives commandments that we are unable to keep. As Nephi states, ""I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men save He shall prepare a way for them that they may
accomplish the thing which He commandeth them” (1 Nephi 1:10).

I have been called naive more than once, but I really do believe that the Lord wasn't being hyperbolic when He asks us to "be of one heart" (A&C, p. 8). I don't know what happened in heaven, except that those who departed who those who would not accept Christ as the Redeemer.

- Dani March 13, 2018

*were those who

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

I mean no offense, John, but for myself, I have not had a revelation to reveal greater light and knowledge to me concerning what all happened before I came to be on this earth. I wonder if perhaps we ought to reserve use of that as an example applicable to our current challenge until more is revealed? Just my thinking.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

I guess I don't understand what your saying? You're not aware of the war in heaven and the 3rd part cast out?

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

I mean no offense, but just in case here's some reading on the subject and no DS references.
LDS Edition
Abraham Chapter 3
Moses Chapter 4
Revelation Chapter 12

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

John, I am perfectly aware of what you are referencing. If you still feel confident in your knowledge and understanding of the "war in Heaven," I will leave you to continue using it as an example of disputers and disagreeables on this blog. But I would think we would be striving very hard not to create division through inferences. It also can have a tone of self-righteousness, if one feels she is on that "winning" side. As you were.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

OK, I really didn't see it that way. We're here discussing an issue that I feel is very important. I didn't realize quoting scripture was "winning" and not allowed. It appears to be ok for Dani but not me? I'll bow out of any further discussion on the scriptures or this matter.

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

The problem is that to you and Jared "be of one heart" means Jared's one heart. No one else's heart matters.

- Noonesignificant March 13, 2018

Question:
What is stopping us from having a United document that states that we receive with gratitude the Lords Doctrine and Sermons as the absolute Guide and Standard to unite us.

And a separate document, not part of the Guide and Standard, but a document laying out ideas for forming fellowships, ordination, etc....?

- Noonesignificant March 13, 2018

None of us can know or have the right to judge another's heart. That is up to our Lord. I believe everyone here, has the best of intentions to be faithful to the Lord and one heart with eachother.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

“Even the scriptures do not give a blueprint to follow. “If they contained the necessary information, Zion would've been established long ago”. God alone will establish Zion; his instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once he instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that his directions to us now is consistent with what he prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. “But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God’s immediate commands to us.” That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there.” (Boise Covenant Conf. opening remarks 2nd Pg.)
I think this quote from the opening remarks of Denver say a lot about “the work now underway” to be required in the G&S.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

OOPS, I LEFT THIS OFF
“You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.“ (A-C PG8)
This quote says there are people who also need to be informed about the work NOW UNDERWAY (such as Zion)and WE need to WRITE it.

- Anonymous March 13, 2018

Log

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

John, you needn't feel put out. I tried to express what I believe with the command of language I have, and it did not convince you or help you understand what I meant. I was speaking of an example you were using and it did not mean you should not use scriptures or not continue to discuss. Has Dani used the "war in Heaven" to express her understandings and identify people in the covenant body? If she has I would still feel the same. I was focused upon what was said, not who said it. Perhaps we should all agree to not utilize any forms of digital communications to discuss, because this is a struggle to get anything across without sounding like a braying donkey, to use Joseph Smith's turn of phrase. Forgive me for offending you. Again, as you were.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

No one significant, I would say it is us, all of us.

If one looks back at the original, written by Jeff Savage, and then reviews D&C 20, one gets why they all have looked as they have. As a whole, we have worked to replace

something meant to instruct people who had formed a church more like what we think of as church and less like what would have been seen in post-Resurrection Christianity. It's all we know, or perhaps are able to imagine.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

I'm not feeling put out, no worries. But I confess I still don't understand your objection for quoting scripturally sound war in heaven to make a point. But I'm ok if your ok!

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

John, please don't turn off your computer because it is me. :)

Question for you: If Jehovah is the same yesterday, today, and forever, what could He have meant by saying "my work now underway"?

If Christ was busy teaching by word and example what we call the Sermon on the Mount in Jerusalem, and then taught it yet again, by way of command from His Father, among the remnant of -ites in the Americas, is it possible He would want us to focus upon the same thing today? Did He also teach His law in the days of Noah or Enoch?

Why do we not have a record of Him teaching some things we have heard recently?

Do not mistake my questions for doubts of any kind. I am simply asking for other views and understanding. I maybe have missed something along the way. Probably have in fact. One could view all this as a continuance of the Restoration begun by Joseph Smith, but then should we be able to confirm everything in a statement of principles by scriptures--the Old Covenants and the New Covenants?

I honestly don't have a lot of answers, but these are things I ponder.

I sincerely want to understand why it is felt the Doctrine of Christ and His Law from both sermons is not sufficient for any family or fellowship worldwide today. And just because we've had them both forever is not a convincing reason for me.

Do we Christians have them down really well? We know them forwards and backwards? They are spoken within every breath? I surely cannot say that for myself. My whole life I've "had" the law of Christ yet my religion somehow managed to not convey to me the importance of it all. I became more focused on a to-do list of ordinances and meetings.

What harm might come by not including in a statement things like the sustaining of men by women or the temple fund? What harm might come by including those things?

- Noonesignificant March 13, 2018

Are we at this point like King Benjamin's people? The Lord requires a response from us and to set the Light up for the world to look to, The Light IS Jesus Christ and His Commandments.

Read this post and liken it to where we find ourselves at present.

http://denversnuffer.com/2014/04/a-covenant-with-the-king/

When more knowledge on communities or further revelation on tithing, scriptures and ordinances is given, (or taken)...what do we want to bind ourselves to for our while lives?

I choose Christ and His Doctrine as found in the Covenant Book of Mormon and His teachings in His sermons. They are the solid foundation on which we can have standing before Him. His words elevate. Mans words change.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

In as much as the lots statement has been included in another vote, may I ask for some understanding regarding what it contains? I would be quite grateful to have my questions responded to as best as anyone is able. I think if I can be instructed I will better understand the whole document. tia

Why is Christ's Law--Sermons, only given two sentences in the lots statement? Most of the paper real estate appears taken up with other matters. There are things mentioned, like "true religion," but very little offered in how to achieve that, which is what I feel the sermons address.

If we all know how important Christ's teachings and law are from the two sermons, why was it felt to not express that more fully?

Has anyone felt to study intently the sermons as a result of what is in the lots document?

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

I'm not turning off my computer because of you, I meant I'm done with that discussion, I do still work and had things to do. So now I'll repent and say this.
You need to ask the Lord why He said that. But you need to consider that outside of the City's and people of Enoch and Melchizedek we have no record of success in establishing Zion. And even then, it isn't like what is in our day because this time Zion won't be taken into heaven but act as a heavenly beachhead on Earth for those two Cities to return from heaven and join together with the Lord. This is a VERY unique time and opportunity like no other in history.
This is much, much more than a people getting together and fellowshipping. But to go further would be superfluous because Denver has already written a library on the subject.
We should NOT be limiting knowledge but expanding it!!
Perhaps you've seen it maybe not but above is what I put forward as a G&S compromise.
http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/03/another-g-proposal.html?m=1

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

I'm okay with you. :) I just do not understand the helpfulness or benefit in correlating anyone in this group with those who fell from Light into darkness, who did not even gain bodies like we have. I do comprehend that we ourselves can indeed fall further into darkness. But I honestly do not have enough understanding of what happened beyond what is given in current scripture to say that you, John, are akin to those same dark beings in opposing me. Understand? I don't view you or others here as an enemy to all righteousness or my Father of Lights. We simply do not agree on some things. But I don't believe either of us are striving to turn the other away from the Light...Glad we got this all squared up.

- JohnDutson March 13, 2018

Well, I keep asking this an no one seems interested in it.

But here goes another try. When Nephi and Matthew and Paul and Mormon wrote the books they did, were they considered Gods words or men's words? If you will only accept Gods words, where did you get them from? Men! The question is do you believe those men were Gods servants and therefore Gods words? I believe Denver is such a one as those, and when he says God told him to teach us I believe it is as he says and Gods words to this people. Many here do not believe that, this is a good deal of the dilemma of this current discussion

- etluxentenebrislucet March 13, 2018

I would not agree with your assessment of others and say even many do not believe Denver has a connection with Heaven and an authorized message.

I would say, yes, God speaks to men and women today, but do I need to write a document of their words to use as a guide and standard for myself and my family? Or is it MORE important that I simply go and do what the message says, after receiving my own errand from the Lord?

I kind of feel like the focus upon men and their words is a red herring argument. It distracts us. Christ is our Saviour, our Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. Not Denver, or Nephi, or Matthew, or Paul, or Mormon. If reading their words keeps me talking about them, then I'm not looking to Christ, am I? Denver, Denver, Denver.

When does listening to a messenger end and following Christ begin?

And isn't rejecting a messenger signaled by turning away and not doing? From my perspective we are all trying to do, so I am unwilling to consider someone is rejecting the message just because he/she wants a statement of principles with only Christ's words in it. It would take more "fruit" to demonstrate one is rejecting the actual message. Thanks for discussing.

- Noonesignificant March 13, 2018

We do believe the words given today from the Lord through Denver. We also accept all the words of Christ through his ancient servants and servants to come so long as they align with the Book of Mormon. We are talking about the Standard to hold up to the World. That Standard leads to faith, repentance baptism and receiving the Holy Ghost, then living in such a way as to aquire a greater portion of intelligence. All true messengers teach and hold up the same standard, title of Liberty, true message.
How to Repent, take upon you the Name of Christ and KEEPING (living daily) the commandments. If we can just all agree on THAT firm and unshakeable foundation (like King Benjamin's people did) Look at what God gives the people AFTER they agree on the absolute thing we are to have unity in.

We can write, explain, detail other procedures for fellowships later when we have further experience. Heck, most of our fellowships are struggling with community and just loving eachother.

- Jay March 13, 2018

Anonymus at 3:37

When the Lord said that "Even a single soul who stirs up the hearts of others to anger can destroy the peace of all my people" He was not talking about Log (Jared). He was refering to me. When I judge Log. When I accuse him I become Satan.

I'm not convinced Jared intends offense. Whether or not he does is not for me to judge.

"You cannot be at peace with one another if you take offense when none is intended. But again I say, Judge not others except by the rule you want used to weigh yourself." (A&C)

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

Question: Did the Lord inspire the teachings given through Denver in the 10 Lectures?

If so, what was the purpose of the Lord giving those teachings?

If we can't receive those teachings with joy and gratitude and utilize them as He intended, did we receive those teachings in vain?

What if the followers of Christ in the days after He gave his "lectures" on holy living refused to include those new teachings in their new scripture because they already had the earlier teachings and commandments from other prophets?

So, are the most recent teachings about how to form fellowships and to successfully run them any less important than His teachings in the Sermon on the Mount? Are they the words of Christ or not?

Do we receive them as such?

Do the teachings in the 10 Lectures (from which the LOT G&S are mostly taken from, as well as the Lord's Answer and Covenant) help people to understand more fully how they - in our modern day - can better live the teachings in the Sermon on the Mount as a Community?

Do the teachings listed in the LOT G&S help us to keep the Lord's ordinances as given?

Do they point to the Sermon on the Mount as THE LAW that we are to keep?

Why the resistance to this document which "blesses, benefits and informs" those who know nothing of this work now underway?

DEAR EVERYONE

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Dear Everyone:

We are fast approaching the end of our goal to publish a new set of scriptures. At this point it seems very likely that the scriptures will be published before we are all in agreement regarding the assignment given to the assembly to produce and agree on a Guide and Standard. For a year or so the scriptures committee has had the view that a single document would need to be mutually agreed upon and then published in the scriptures. With each rendition of the G&S, the lack of mutual agreement has kept us from feeling at liberty to publish them in the scriptures. Our initial, direct responsibility for a replacement for D&C Section 20 shaped our perspective and it has taken us this long to relinquish that view. We apologize that it took us so long. Looking back, this should have happened when the assembly determined that any G&S had to be put through a

submissions process and approved by them. Though belatedly, we wish to entirely off-load every and all responsibility for the G&S to the assembly - where it rightly belongs. We now have a new view on the Lord's requirements that allows us to finally step aside. The Lord's words are, *When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be* ***added*** *as a guide and standard for my people to follow.* A statement of principles could be added in many ways:

- handwritten in the blank notes section of the forthcoming scriptures.
- typed on a sticky note and added.
- glued in or just stuck in like a bookmark.
- posted as a PDF for download, trimming and inserting in our scriptures.

We also choose to no longer limit our previously myopic view of the Lord's requirement and to include this view of what it might mean to "add." Up to now, the idea of being required to "publish" a G&S has kept this committee bound to the process.

This more expanded view has many practical advantages:

- It eliminates the argument that anyone is writing scripture, since the statement can be added as an insert just like seminary notes.
- It eliminates the tension for those who feel the scripture committee is ignoring the voice of the people and exercising control.
- It does not limit in any way those who seek 100% unanimity around any single document.
- It provides an opportunity for every individual to demonstrate personal accountability for the adoption of a mutually agreed upon G&S when they add it on their own to their scriptures.
- If, as a people, through prayer and humility, we ever arrive at the point where everyone wants to reprint the scriptures with a G&S as a permanent addendum, that could still be done.

With regards to the current discussions of how to resolve the G&S situation, there are several unique proposals currently advanced. The responsibility to execute these proposals can't be transferred to the scriptures committee. Anyone making a proposal must either execute it, getting others involved, or it will fizzle. Nor do we have any reason to choose one over another. We have posted the proposals and let go at that moment of any involvement. If others are advanced, we will simply post them. That's pretty much all we can or will do.

So far, we have only seen one of the proposals to resolve the G&S situation take any steps beyond posting an explanation. It rests with all those proposing different resolutions to coordinate efforts among themselves. This committee has no desire to act as referee, arbiter or event planner.

On February 9th a vote was proposed which showed potential to bring resolution to the G&S dilemma, and on March 3rd the committee agreed to publish whichever statement garnered the most support in that vote. However, we have had second thoughts. We now believe that the best course of action is, as we have said, to divest ourselves entirely of any involvement in the selection or publishing of a G&S. We apologize to any who have been inconvenienced by our ambivalence. We understand that although the vote may not go forward as originally planned, the group making the proposal for that vote will make one more effort in Phoenix to see if the conference can agree upon a G&S.

The scripture committee

Comments

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

I think that interpretation is brilliant. We are always better off paying very close attention to the Lord's words and trying to take Him at His word. He said "add", not "publish" or "print". I think everyone, the SC included will feel better about our assignment if the SC is not required to publish our G&S to which we finally achieve mutual agreement, whenever that should happen, hopefully soon.

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

Theoretically it will be possible to have a conference mutually agree on a single document and then the job is over except for the individuals job to "add" it to their own scriptures. Cool!

- McKay — March 13, 2018

Why didn't I think of this? A new perspective on both the obligation of the Scriptures Committee role as well as the requirement of the Lord to add. What hasn't changed is our obligation to write a statement of principle, mutually agree on it and then add it to our scriptures.

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

I have always seen the Scriptures Committee as the final common pathway to adding the Guide and Standard to the scriptures. I guess the committee has too. Now the people can choose a G&S without any veto authority from the SC or any other body. Thank you gentlemen for figuring this out.

- LynneMcKinley — March 13, 2018

YES!

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

Jared do you support this?

From your view, does this address the fraud and conspiracies you referenced in many of your comments?

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

This is absolutely ridiculous. I have several deep concerns and questions about this.

If the criteria to "add" something to the scriptures does not include printing and publication along with the entirety of the volume, why print and publish anything at all? We could all just print off what portions we like and discard what we don't like and hope that those who know nothing as of yet of the Lord's work now underway are lucky enough to stumble upon some covenant holder's set of scriptures that happened to have the G&S glued into it somewhere….because it won't be found in connection with the online version either.

How can the scripture committee state that they are "off-loading the responsibility for the

G&S to the people where it rightly belongs" while simultaneously deciding for the people what their new RE scriptures will contain? And that too without their consent?

Will the assembly be given the opportunity to accept as binding this new burst of intelligence that has been visited upon the scripture committee? Will they be given the alternative of keeping with the original plan of having the G&S included online and printed somewhere in the RE or is this now just a done deal?

Why does the scripture committee seem to value and accept the will of the people in some cases (such as voting which sections to keep or remove) but not others?

It seems the only thing this will do is absolve the scripture committee of the one responsibility they do have a right to claim and that is to honor the will of the people with respect to the scriptures when we were asked to labor with them as equals.

Am I the only one seeing what is going on here????????? I feel like I'm in the freaking Twilight Zone!!!!

- Anonymous — March 13, 2018

Yeah, it appears the scripture committee is looking for an out.
Very disappointing!

- etluxentenebrislucet — March 14, 2018

Yea! Now this is what I view as the actions of a truly neutral committee. Thank you for all your time, sacrifice, and service in compiling the words of Joseph Smith and restoring more perfectly the Old and New Covenants, plus the Teachings and Commandments. I feel you have done your part, now we must do ours. I am sorry for what we have put you all through. Lori

- JohnDutson — March 14, 2018

"But equality among us is the only way prophesied for us to succeed. That does not mean we won't have "a mess" as we learn how to establish equality." (Opening remarks Boise Cov. Conf. 4th pg.)
This is a bit of a mess, but I think we must go through this to learn how to establish equality and a new way of governing ourselves.

- Anonymous — March 14, 2018

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So, are the most recent teachings about how to form fellowships and to successfully run them any less important than His teachings in the Sermon on the Mount? Are they the words of Christ or not?

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Do the teachings listed in the LOT G&S help us to keep the Lord's ordinances as given?

Do they point to the Sermon on the Mount as THE LAW that we are to keep?

Why the resistance to this document which "blesses, benefits and informs" those who know nothing of this work now underway?

- JimmyTownsend March 14, 2018

The problem is this: the scripture committee decides what is printed in the scriptures. As long as the statement of principles is tied to the scriptures, it is tied to the scripture committee. They have always had the final say. If they had wanted the Aug 5 document published, it would have been published. If they had wanted any other document published, it would be published. And it must be so. Whenever any action is taken, someone always has to do the work. When it comes to publishing, someone submits the manuscript. That manuscript submitter is not a "strongman" just someone doing work. Now they wisely did not want to wield that power arbitrarily. It would have made their decision much easier had a document gained 100% acceptance. But alas that has not happened.
So then they agreed to abide by the decision of the group at large via the online voting and votes at the conference. This was a step in the right direction. By that means they remove themselves from the decision. Yes, they still have to accept the mechanism that the voting takes. Again that does not make them a strongman, it just means they do the work to setup a method for people to voice their opinion. Yes, perhaps the mechanism proposed was not the perfect means of deciding (I don't know what a perfect system would look like), but at least they were no longer the ones anonymously meeting behind closed doors making the final decisions on in or out.
But alas, it is apparently not to be. Some may say this a step towards being neutral, but it has a big flaw:
They have now decided the final interpretation of what the Answer and Covenant means in regards to the Statement of Principles. And they admit that this is an innovation compared to what the text seemed to have said since we received it. Regardless of whether that interpretation is correct or not, that is THE interpretation we must all now accept.
With the discarded voting system, this decision was at least given to the people. If for any reason, you did not want a document published (you want further light and knowledge, you wanted a different document, you like the document chosen, but want to delay because you did not feel that mutual agreement was met), you could meaningfully express that opinion. And people could meaningfully express their opinion that it should be published. Now that option is gone. If this is what the Lord wanted all along, well great. But if it is not, well where do we go? That's right we are right back at appealing to the committee to reverse their interpretation. As long as there are still people who think "add" does indeed mean publish/include in the online version, the scripture committee still retains significant power, no matter how badly they do not want it or how emphatically they say they don't have it.

- McKay March 14, 2018

Jimmie
You must have missed this line

If, as a people, through prayer and humility, we ever arrive at the point where everyone wants to reprint the scriptures with a G&S as a permanent addendum, that could still be done.

Let's focus on mutual agreement first.

McKay

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

So - have we all agreed on what Mutual Agreement really means? "As between one another, you choose not to dispute". Is that really saying there must be 100% unanimity?

Do we really believe that there was 100% unanimity among the people of the City of Enoch?

Is it possible that means that those who choose to dispute are now no longer part of the group deciding on that particular matter?

Why doesn't it matter that Denver has taught the importance of NOT disputing?

If this is indeed the meaning of Mutual Agreement then this does not bode well for our future.

- Cherryann March 14, 2018

How is it kind to those who know nothing of the Lord's work now underway, to NOT publish a guide for them to follow? It's convenient for all of us who DO know what fellowships are and how to function within one, to pick whatever GS fits our fancy and glue it inside our own scriptures. However, how does that help anyone who comes after us? This was the whole purpose for the Lord's GS requirement in the first place!

- JimmyTownsend March 14, 2018

McKay, I did not miss the line.
The scripture committee still retains the final interpretation of what mutual agreement means. They still retain the final interpretation of when what they decide is mutual agreement is reached. If they don't feel that everyone has been reached out to (there could still be people out in Siberia without internet access who have not been polled who could still disagree) boom it does not get it get "added". Who determines that enough has been done? In this model it is still the scripture committee. Just like they decided that enough was not done with the August 5th document and enough was not done with the Lots document (or any other document for that matter).
And to be clear, I do not envy the situation, I would not want to be in charge either. I do not see them as strongmen. I think they are honest. And I think they ultimately want to rid their hands of anything to do with the matter.
All I am saying is they can't. It is literally impossible for them to do so. The best they can do is setup a reasonable system to let the people decide (I thought Gordon and other presented a reasonable solution). If the people choose wrong, well that is on them. But if they really want "the people" to decide everything, they can't hold back and say, well we think this is what "add" and "mutual agreement" mean, so work within that framework.

Yes, I admit it is within their rights to setup whatever framework they want (again they have to pick something or literally nothing happens), I just point out that it is not "the people" that are charge in this current framework.

- JimmyTownsend March 14, 2018

To be extra clear, I stood by and do stand by the committees decision not to publish the Aug 5 and Lots documents. I merely point out that then, as it was now, they held the final decision.

- Cherryann March 14, 2018

Might I also point out, again, that the SC already handed the assignment to the people to complete, as did the Lord, post covenant. The people already voted on the process, were all invited to participate in every aspect of the process, the people wrote the document, and roughly 95% voted to accept the document TO BE PUBLISHED into the scriptures. Not to mention the document being taken to the Lord for approval.

At what point will the SC agree to publish what “everyone” accepts as an addendum to the scriptures? Must there not be ANY dissension? That will be impossible.

This assignment has already been done. The silent vast majority of people in this movement expect that document to be published and have washed their hands of any further involvement. Whether they like it or not, the SC has the final power to fulfill the will of the people or veto it. There is no way around this fact, no matter the interpretation of “add” or “mutual agreement” or how amplified the voices of the few who disagree.

I sincerely pray that the Lord looks upon the hearts of all involved and has mercy on all, especially those who have no power in the decision making in this matter. Though it’s unpleasant to admit, the movement at large is at the mercy of the SC in this matter. The SC can choose to accept the will of the movement or not, but the decision IS theirs.

- Karen March 14, 2018

Amen, Amen, and Amen, Cherryann! To both your comments.

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

If the scripture committee doesn't want to continue, we should not say their hands are tied and force them to continue. Force is the tool of the adversary. Sorry people, but it is their choice to step back, whatever other opinions are of that choice. We need to stop using stop using compulsion and force on all sides.

- TBM March 14, 2018

Man, I am so glad I was too lazy to be on the scripture committee.

You guys are da real heroes.

- Tired March 14, 2018

https://www.dropbox.com/s/s9yrwjq23eyny7y/2018.01.14%20That%20We%20Might%20Become%20One%20Fireside%2C%20Clinton%20UT.mp3?dl=0

This talk above, "That we might be One" is highly significant.

Once again, it is reiterated what the guide should be and how we can be one. I believe Denver used the example of (if it was a true principal) the people taught Polygamy based on the 'Constitution' rather than the spiritual and didn't back it up with volumes of scripture. Are we likewise focusing on the 'constitution' of fellowships and practices within fellowships rather than, once again, Christs own words of salvation. His Doctrine saves and illuminates. His teachings and Law inspire one to rise up becoming into Godhood. These fellowship/communities WILL NOT SAVE. Can we please agree to hold up Christs teachings as the Guide and standard to the World.

- Cherryann March 14, 2018

If this be the case then the SC must allow others who are not on the committee to step up and publish what the people voted to be included in the scriptures. Ultimately the SC HAS control over the final “publish” button. Either they keep that control or they relinquish it. But either way, the final call IS theirs.

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

Anyone can publish the lots document and distribute it. We are each free to act. Someone took the liberty of publishing a very good brochure to be helpful to beginning believers. Please someone publish the lots document too, if it fulfils the requirements. Maybe I should or maybe you should.

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

8 Wherefore murmur ye, because that ye shall receive more of my word? (as taught in the 10 Lectures by His servant David).

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

11 For I command all men, both in the east and in the west, and in the north, and in the south, and in the islands of the sea, that they shall write the words which I speak unto them; for out of the books which shall be written I will judge the world...

- HuhWhatda March 14, 2018

Cherryann,

I have a different point of view, but it is not backed by any numbers like you. You want to publish, but I consider this action to not publish, and continue having the conversations, the grace of God.

The effort has spent a total of ten days to create the documents being voted on (collectively), and the rest of the year to promote it, while conversations have gotten rancid. Conversations have not centered on the creation of the product that produces mutual agreement, they have centered on quickly drafting a document and justifying the reasons it should be mutually agreeable. Pushing for mutual agreement has been the focus, when it should be the byproduct.

The byproduct is loving your neighbor as yourself and the product is loving God. But, our LDS traditions have made the practice proving that they love God, because they gave cookies to their neighbors, they went caroling to their neighbors, they did home/visit teaching, they hug and shake hands at church, ...and they use those actions as evidence that they love God. But they only draw near with their lips, but their hearts are far from Him, and He cannot use that institution for His efforts towards Zion. Because

they seek the byproduct to prove they have a product.

Voting, majority, and campaigning is no different than focusing on a byproduct. None of them are concerned about the content of the document, putting the document in question. Instead, you have put people into question, in order to preserve your document.

I'm sorry we don't see things the same. I am grateful that it wasn't published, as it has provided me more time to continue working with you. I find great joy talking with you and your husband, and would still love to continue talking to you further regarding the Governing Principles. However, if you publish this in the scriptures, you will go your way, and I will stay put, unable to say and do as I say and go along with the majority. I hope for more time to work things through.

A quick way for this to end is for jarring, strife, and contention to rule out. However, I honestly think that this movement is going towards Zion, so all contention would do is remove those contending. Help a brutha out. Give the Natives a little more time. I think that there's more to be done that promotes governing ourselves, so that even the Natives can be free, and not be required to assimilate to you.

Seeking Patience,
Rob Adolpho

- NOS March 14, 2018

Please bare with me,

If we can agree that the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermons are the Commandment and the Law or in other words, the Title of Liberty (Guide and Standard) to make all people free.

And now it came to pass in the commencement of the twenty and fifth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, they having established peace between the people of Lehi and the people of Morionton concerning their lands, and having commenced the twenty and fifth year in peace — nevertheless, they did not long maintain an entire peace in the land, for there began to be a contention among the people concerning the chief judge, Parhoron. For behold, there were a part of the people who desired that a few particular points of the law should be altered. But behold, Parhoron would not alter, nor suffer the law to be altered, therefore he did not hearken to those who had sent in their voices with their petitions concerning the altering of the law. Therefore, those who were desirous that the law should be altered were angry with him and desired that he should no longer be chief judge over the land, therefore there arose a warm dispute concerning the matter, but not unto bloodshed.

And it came to pass that those who were desirous that Parhoron should be dethroned from the judgment seat were called Kingmen, for they were desirous that the law should be altered in a manner to overthrow the free government and to establish a king over the land. And those who were desirous that Parhoron should remain chief judge over the land took upon them the name of Freemen; and thus was the division among them, for the Freemen had sworn or covenanted to maintain their rights and the privileges of their religion by a free government.

And it came to pass that this matter of their contention was settled by the voice of the people. And it came to pass that the voice of the people came in favor of the Freemen and Parhoron retained the judgment seat, which caused much rejoicing among the brethren of Parhoron and also among the people of liberty, who also put the Kingmen to

silence that they durst not oppose, but were obliged to maintain the cause of freedom.

- TwoCents March 14, 2018

Part 1 of 3

From each American Indian Tribe, there will be people who desire to once again live the Law that was once lived by their people. There is currently a movement going on right now amongst many Nations, it is not only occurring amongst the Mormons. There will be prophet led “other sheep.” These people will be like this group, a remnant of where they came from searching for those who fellowship with angels and the Son and also God the Father. Those people will naturally be drawn to others who want to live this Law. Many of these Nations already have their Governing Principles. These people will be drawn to those who have a similar or Higher Law than theirs. Here’s an example from the Lakota Nation:

One must question another irony in that the whites came to find religious freedom. They came to escape religious persecution. Yet they did not understand that they should have granted us the same rights. They became free…we became the persecuted and our freedom was taken away. This is not the way of Tunkasila. The Great Spirit knows no single religion as right and true. He sees the different religions as the spokes in a wheel and he is the hub, the Center…all spokes lead to him and are connected to him. He holds the universe together and the world turns on his axis of love, generosity, and equality. Amazingly, what happened then is still happening today as people around the world declare a holy war and they too cry, “God wills it.”

If the old ones shared today the wisdom they garnered in their lifetimes they would likely explain that human history reflects man’s inability to find peace because in peace there is no need for power and man has not learned to live without power. They would remind us of the crisis all mankind faces in the path of destruction of our planet. Greed is killing our Mother. All ancient texts teach of a time of peace after a great travail. The earth is in labor trying to deliver a new and enlightened people that can understand oneness, equality, sharing and generosity. She has labored long. Because we will not be born she is in great travail. We are all children of the Earth, all came from her womb for creation is present in all life if it is as simply defined as the nature that surrounds and sustains us all. Many who are awakened now know…All must learn to walk a Red Road as a way of life.

- TwoCents March 14, 2018

Part 2 of 3
Community is a way of life and it encompasses people from near and far and it also includes those who do not live on our land. We see people, nature, the system of commerce and trade, and even ceremony as our community. We take great care to preserve our way of life which is demonstrated in our communities so whenever we gather for a ceremony, a business meeting, a council meeting or a social event…we are a community. We gather with the purpose of accomplishing our goals of course, but we also remain aware that community is a time of visiting and showing respect to our elders and seeing that they are well. We conduct our community affairs that set an example for any children who may be present.

We behave with respect for all those present and we enjoy ourselves. We socialize, we laugh, we tease one another and we are relaxed in our approach to accomplishing our goals that were set for the occasion. We still get things done, but we have not ignored

the community of all gathered there. In our own way, we keep negative aspects such as complaining and gossip out our circles. We present all things in light of possibility and options…versus finger pointing and criticism. Thus we build community and make it stronger…we do not destroy the bonds of our oneness.

We strive to remember that what is business related is community related because business choices affect the community and the community affects business because all are intertwined and intermingled in a common web of togetherness. We plan for today, yet do not neglect to acknowledge tomorrow and see the vision of our children in the future. We make our final decisions accordingly. Traditionally, we would consider those of generations far beyond our children, our children's children and so forth. We know our future depends on the strength of our community today.

We must live by this Way because the future depends upon our decisions now, the awareness of the people, and the strength of each fiber of the web that is woven. We look to our ancestors for guidance and to those we trust to make every attempt to secure our people's future. Community is our focus and our way of life. Community is our culture just as it has always been.

We are all one.

- TwoCents March 14, 2018

Part 3 of 3
Our way of life is simple. All decisions were based with the best interest of the entire Lakota Nation, and the people had a voice in all decisions. Our leaders were not better than the followers, the leaders understood they did not possess power over the people. It was understood that with the great responsibility to care for the people came many risks and possibility of death. Everyone was equal and none were left hungry, homeless or in need.

Everything that was gathered and stored for survival was shared equally. The leaders did not horde or gather in abundance material things for just a few. Elite society warriors were trained and appointed to maintain order within the camp or during movement of the camp.

We lived in freedom by hunting and gathering from the fruits of Mother Earth. Our time was spent in community, in ceremony, and in sharing our lives with one another, specially with our children. We lived not as a single family but as extended families where in all were our relations. This kept us strong because everyone took care of one another, there were no orphans. the barter system was utilized rather than the monetary system because there was no need to buy what Mother Earth provided for our survival. We stored up provisions for the winter, gathering medicine, berries, fish, and dried buffalo meat, as winters were lone and hard.

Within our culture we shared everything with everyone. If one discovered an abundance of anything…meat, berries, furs for pelts etc. that one took great pleasure in sharing it with everyone else. We gave gifts always, not just on special occasions. We gave away the best of what we had to others knowing they would probably give it away to another who needed it more than they did. It was not ours to keep as a possession but was given to us by the Creator to give to another. So contrary is the 'getting' of the western world to the 'giving' of our world that it cannot be comprehended by those who work to obtain a higher status of having more than their fellow human beings. If we starved, we all starved, if we feasted, we all feasted. We had no social hierarchy of the have's and the have not's. Thus, we were happy and we were free.

Our culture included art, song, and dancing to drumbeats that reverberated to the heartbeat of the Earth. We lived as part of the universe and honored the moon, the stars, the sun and sky and every living thing under the sky. We purified ourselves in ceremonial Sweat Lodges to be clean in heart, body and mind so the spirits of our ancestors could come to teach and heal us. We went on Vision Quests into the wilderness alone to seek oneness with the Creator. We prayed and fasted for visions that would help us grow in our knowledge of the path of Red Road we walked to spirituality. This was a road of peace and spiritual depth that focused upon maintaining our cultural ways and sustaining our community. This was a road of self-sacrifice that insured each one knew the greater whole was our security and maintaining that oneness was integral to our society.

Q

- Dani March 14, 2018

It sounds wonderful.

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

Cherry Ann and Karen,

“This assignment has already been done. The silent vast majority of people in this movement expect that document to be published.”

If you are confident that the “silent vast majority” is in favor of the “lots” document, why not go the extra mile and support the vote that will take place at the conference to confirm your belief? It wouldn’t cost you much, and it would be a generous and patient thing to do. Someone in this process has got to do more than their fair share. Will it be you?

From the Answer: “When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard.”

The Lord did not use the word "publish." He said, "add." I am a big believer that words matter, and that the Lord chooses words carefully. So, if we can achieve a resounding unity at the conference, the first thing I am going to do after the conference is to have the chosen G&S (whichever one it is) printed at my local Kinkos, and then I'm going to add it to my personal set of scriptures. It is wasted energy to insist that others do the work for us when we can do it ourselves.

Coming to unity at the conference would give me confidence that we do indeed have “an agreed set of principles.” And I wouldn’t need to wait for anyone to publish it for me. Whatever others may choose to do at that point, I would know in my heart that I had satisfied the Lord's commandment. If others interpret “agreed” differently, they will get no argument from me. Let them continue to pursue unanimity. I will assist them if I can. Gordon

- Cherryann March 15, 2018

Though I didn’t agree with its necessity, I was willing to support a vote at the conference in an effort to bring a finality to this assignment. However, now it appears that THAT isn’t even going to amount to much since the SC has the ultimate veto power and has decided they won’t publish the agreed document at all.

I have done all in my power to lovingly persuade and not contend in this matter, as have the vast majority of people in this movement. I know the need to “persuade the SC” one way or another has taken a large toll on MANY, too. It is difficult to persuade a nameless, faceless small group of select individuals who hold ultimate control over whether the Lord’s covenant people can complete an assignment from Him, when you don’t know who you are talking to and it feels that you don’t have a voice that they hear. We shouldn’t have to persuade them of anything in the first place, since this isn’t even their assignment!

I am going to bow out of this discussion now as I feel I’ve done all I can to gently persuade those in control and help move this assignment forward. If there is a true way forward, I will do my best to support it. But pasting a version of a GS into my own scriptures after a symbolic vote among a fraction of the movement (those who have the means to attend the conference in person) is not actually moving forward, but a perceived copout to the Lord’s assignment. It does not comply with the command to be kind to those who know nothing of His work now underway. How is adding my own GS to my own scriptures going to help someone else down the road? It baffles me how this can be perceived as unifying at all.

- Cherryann March 15, 2018

Publishing a document independent of the scriptures is not the same as adding it as an appendix TO the published scriptures.

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

I think some are relying on the thought of a seal, or stamp of approval, by it being "officially" put in the scriptures. We should be done with that, shouldn't we? Haven't we had enough of that in the religious institutions? Do we want to make another religious institution? Or do we want to freely allow people to worship how, where, and what they may? I plan on adding several of the proposed documents as an appendix in my scriptures and maybe writing a testimony document of my personal beliefs with it. I don't feel the need for an official printing to tell me what is okay to believe.

- JimORullian March 15, 2018

"Moses was handicapped by centuries of slavery separating him from Abraham. And so Moses re-wrote an account of the creation, Adam, and the first generations. (1 Ne. 5:11) He established a new body of commandments adapted to the capacity of Israel at that time, and then the people voted in order to accept those as their governing principles. (Exo. 24:3)"

Things to keep us awake at night, Denver Snuffer, March 2017

"Voting on the book proceeded by quorums and groups with the leader of each group bearing witness of the truth of the volume before his group voted. And then they proceeded to vote. And they voted by quorums from the least to the greatest. Then after all the quorums of the church had accepted the Doctrine and Covenants, the first 70 some pages of which were The Lectures on Faith, the General Assembly voted, including everyone who was present. Children, women, everyone voted. They all sustained this as the Doctrine of the Church."

Faith talk, Idaho Falls, I'd, 2013

Regardless of what some have said here, voting to obtain the voice of a people (even in

matters of faith and religion) is a mechanism honored by God and His servants. Some of our most valuable pieces of scripture that you all quote daily have come to be scripture as a direct result of voting. Don't all of us in the movement lament the removal of the Lectures on Faith WITHOUT A VOTE as one of the biggest mistakes and acts of abuse ever perpetrated upon the Saints?

However, the one thing I don't see in any historical record of when voting took place regarding scripture is a time when the vote didn't result in items being canonized immediately....else why have the vote at all?

In my view, if we are to have a vote in Phoenix as an assembly, it should begin with just one question and then go from there. Are we or are we not finished discussing what our statement of principles should be? It is disrespectful to both those who feel we have completed the assignment and those who desire further discussion to hold a vote that is only symbolic and offers only pretense for action and not action itself. Let us rise up and be people of conviction and action.

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

If there is a clear majority of the conference in favor of a given G&S. And if the minority can find it in their hearts to not dispute the majority's choice, that is not just symbolic. It's an important step toward unity. It's something to build on.

And it's more. A show of resounding unity by the conference might also be sufficient reason for some to choose to decide that we do indeed have an agreed statement of principles. If some were to make that choice, I would hesitate to call their decision a cop out. That calls into question their honesty. It calls into question their hearts. We should probably give each other the benefit of the doubt. We are, after all, all here because we recognized the words of Christ when they were delivered by Denver.

But, I admire your concern for those who know nothing yet of His work. If we can find unity at the conference, there is a way to take care of them without any help from the scripture committee. They do not have ultimate control. And we don't need their permission to do what the Spirit confirms we should do.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

If we believe Shalyce's prayer, there is mutual agreement among a body. Those who agree should simply put the Lots document in their scriptures and move on.

- HuhWhatda March 15, 2018

Cherryann,

I get that the SC seems to be in your way, and according to what you have written, in the way of what you consider the voice of the people, the voice of the majority, the largest group of people who find themselves agreeing. Your effort to change the minds of the decision makers makes a central institution of the matter. If they comply, then your efforts with their compliance would have successfully united the work of this project into a singular institution.

You have probably the largest family among this movement that I know of, located in Boise, Idaho. Your fellowship, like you admitted, works and you know how to instruct

others to do the same. Other fellowships don't look like yours. They have a different emphasis than you do, and that's not bad, just different. Are we supposed to all look like you and your fellowship? I don't care to have you look like me and my fellowship. Some meet in a Seventh Day Adventist church and operate meetings like LDS meetings. Should we all search those types of buildings out and do the same as they? They're not bad, you're not bad, I'm not bad, but we are all different.

Each fellowship must retain their freedom, allowing conversations with others to illuminate them as they come to an understanding. They must retain their independence from a collective group who decides for us all. If one weird fellowship wants to experiment on their own, "independent fellowships" preserves the rest of us from being associated with that. While the one weird fellowship can be corrupted, the rest of us are left unharmed.

Once you have centralized a decision committee, who represent the voice of the people, who have the power to publish in the scriptures what they decide to publish, …you have centralized the fellowships, which will again result in correlation. When this movement becomes centralized, independent fellowships cannot be preserved, and will instead be cut-off from the whole, because assimilation is the centralized accepted behavior. To make matters worse, all you have to do to corrupt the entire thing is corrupt the central decision makers, and all of the fellowships can never achieve Zion.

Independent fellowships initially represent chaos, …or matter unorganized. If Zion is God's work, then He must give light to the creation of Zion, until they are organized. In our initial state of darkness, tares of foolish traditions of unbelief have been sown by the adversary. Only when the light of the heavens are understood, can we obtain the land, remove the tares, and restore the entire creation. It must come from Him. In our interactions with one another, if we are truly the stone cut without hands (and I believe we are), then independent fellowships can influence one another by the fruits which they bear. The fruits are enticing them to ask, "How did you do that?" And that is when we can find real mutual agreement, without compulsion, contention, and the frustration you are expressing here.

There's tons more to learn in THIS project, that is being tossed to the curb, based on frustration. I'd love to relieve you of your frustration by having a conversation with you, but that would be a lengthy conversation, and you and we are really far apart. If meeting interested you, to understand what I'm saying, I'd make the trip with my family. Or if you're in town, I'd meet with you and feed you, and talk all night. Food and talking story always go well together.

Rob Adolpho

PS Please don't ignore me. I'm really not talking to anyone else but you, but you seem to not want to respond. I'm OK if you just want to vent. I'll not bother you, and leave you alone. I assume that if you are writing here, you want someone to respond to your expression. Although, I have witnessed that some come here to vent and take their frustrations out on those who stop them from getting what they want out of this. I don't believe that you are that type, and assume you are working this all through. So am I. So, please don't ignore me.

- HuhWhatda March 15, 2018

Jim O'Rullian,

Simply because they voted, did that mean they were mutually agreeable, or not? Your expounding doesn't cover the point where a family in the House of Israel disagreed with

the document, and they were required to just agree with a majority. It wouldn't be humility for the minority to submit to the majority. Cliques, bullying, and peer pressure work that way. It would be humility for the majority to submit to the minority. The minority want to keep working together, working through their issues instead of sweeping them under the proverbial rug.

You want a vote to represent you, go for it, vote to your hearts content. Gather stats, campaign to get supporters, and be a beast at the polls. However, that will at least get one opposing vote from me. Your STRONG opinions will have no effect on my disposition regarding this as a form of compulsion, and STRONG arming.

I maintain independence from your efforts. And we will maintain our distances on all the matters that we cannot work through. We currently have more that we agree upon than we disagree, but that is slowly changing, as we face issues that we did not foresee. There are many more issues ahead. So, how we treat our differences establishes patterns and trajectories. Our inability to deal with this as people will continue to produce separation, not unity. Initially, we came together on matters that united us. The more we walk this path, and avoid the work of working through our differences, the bigger the proverbial carpet gets, and separation is the result. It is no different than a marriage. Perhaps we should slow this relationship down before you wind up divorcing me. Let's take it sweet and slow.

Let's get to work,
Rob Adolpho

- Cherryann March 15, 2018

Rob, I'm not trying to ignore you. I apologize if it came off that way. I really do appreciate your comments. I am just very busy, not feeling great at the moment, and don't have the emotional or physical stamina or time to continue this months-long discussion. I have no desire to contend with anyone and do not want to be a source of contention in this matter, so I am trying not to.

I'll just say this: No one has yet been able to explain what it is in the Lot's document that they disagree with. It is NOT about how I function within MY fellowship verses how YOU function in YOUR fellowship. EVERY WORD within that document is from Christ! WE ALL have ALREADY covenanted to accept the doctrines it contains!

What is contained within the Lots document? Has anyone even read it lately? The doctrine of Christ, His law, the ordinances, the simple instructions we have already received regarding fellowships and tithing, and what the Lord has said regarding marriage. That's it! It's the bare bones of the movement!

We ALL agree on the bare bones of what is contained here and with this foundation EVERY FELLOWSHIP IS FREE to build upon it as they see fit! I don't see this as a confining document at all, rather a skeleton of what already unites every one of us, and a place from which we launch our uniqueness as fellowships. You are and will always be free to create the fellowship that suits your needs, as will I. And it should be this way! We have our agency for a reason and it should be celebrated!

Read the document. Every word is from the Lord in scripture or through His servant. I don't wish to make this issue a mountain when it's really a molehill. I believe we agree upon WAY more than it appears. I also believe that MUCH is lost when communicating via a computer screen.

I love you guys and am so grateful for your testimonies, your valiance to the Lord, your

dedication to God and your desire for Zion. We are all on the same team!

I very much look forward to fellowshipping together as one next week. Coming together in person does wonders for the broken-hearted—a healing that cannot come through a computer screen. Somehow, in some way, if we lean upon the Lord, we will all get through this.

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

That is beautiful Q. Thank you for sharing. That seems to illustrate a good example of a Zion society to me. All equal, no power structure - the manner of happiness indeed!

-Sam Vaughn

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

I appreciate what you are saying about those votes, but I would ask, did they achieve Zion? Were they voting for or against opposing documents, as we have been, or were they simply agreeing to the plan given by a higher source, like in the council in heaven?

One definition of the word “dispute” is “to compete.” Our whole paradigm has been disputing, both the “majority” and those with concerns. That’s what keeps me awake at night :)

- Sam Vaughn

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

A further observation on the council in heaven: although there were two competing plans, the King made the choice of which plan would be adopted. If we followed that pattern, or the votes you bring up, we would appeal to Christ for a statement of principles - revelation - and then vote, or give common consent (synonymous with mutual agreement) to the single statement by our Lord.

What we are doing, on the other hand, seems to be taking bits and pieces of previous revelations and voting on how best to correlate them. I know that’s a bad word, but isn’t that the essence of the matter?

- Sam Vaughn

- Anonymous March 15, 2018

Jim,

If the conference can achieve unity, it is a step toward movement-wide unanimity. Movement-wide unanimity would leave no obstacles to publishing. We want a published G&S. It is our goal too. We are trying to build consensus toward that end. We are not home run hitters, are you going to begrudge us our modest little single through the short stop’s legs?

Picture this. There’s a vote at the conference. The majority’s choice is made manifest. The minority is asked to choose not to dispute, and they agree. If the conference attendees can unite around a G&S, it does not bind anyone not in attendance to the attendees’ choice. But, would such an outcome give momentum to the acceptance of the document by the entire body of believers?

The vote that will take place at the conference is not a pretense. That is an unfair characterization. A vote is, as you say, a legitimate and time honored way of determining the will of the people. View this vote as a primary if you choose, or as the first in a series of quorum votes, as in your example. It is not merely symbolic. It will tell us whether or not there is actually a G&S that the majority prefers. And it will tell us whether the minority is willing to choose to not dispute their preference.

Those two bits of information would be valuable to know by themselves. But the proposed vote offers another valuable byproduct. If there is a resounding, emphatic unity around the majority's choice, then many may feel that we have achieved "an agreed statement of principles:" the minority has agreed with the majority. At that point many may also feel justified in "adding" that statement of principles to their own set of scriptures. So, for them, they have complied with the Lord's command.

The "lots" folks should embrace this vote. If they are correct that there is overwhelming support for their document, the vote will make that clear to everyone, in a matter of minutes. How is it disrespectful of the "lots" effort (or any effort) to provide a way to show that they are correct? How is it disrespectful to provide a mechanism that confirms that the body of believers is indeed willing to unite around a single G&S?

We are asking you to walk with us one mile. It will take many 20 minutes.

Gordon

- JimORullian March 15, 2018

Sam,

The foregoing instances regarding voting among a mortal people whom God claims as His are only to demonstrate that the mechanism of voting to assess the voice of the people on matters of written canon does indeed have precedence and is honored by God. This comes in response to the recent change of direction in the position of the scripture committee to not publish what the voice of the people select....be it in agreement or disagreement with your personal views or my own.

- JimORullian March 15, 2018

Gordon,

Just a bit of non-pointed clarification if you would. You said above:

"Movement-wide unanimity would leave no obstacles to publishing."

Does this mean you (and the scripture committee) believe it now requires unanimity to publish whereas non-unanimity will suffice to approve the document in this primary as you say? Or was that just an unintended word choice?

And yes, of course I will walk with you a mile as I stated previously. I'm not opposed to what you are trying to accomplish and understand both your good intent and desire for unification gained by the inch. I'm just of the opinion that at least on this one issue, the people have walked and re-walked the same circular mile so many times that once they adopt a document, there will be so little interest in further discussion about it that it will sit on the shelf of non-publication in perpetuity and only exist in this movement as a glue-in card or slick pamphlet. Which I would have been fine with from the beginning

and even now, but which I'm also of the opinion would not satisfy the Lord nor those who know nothing yet of the Lord's work now underway.

But hey, what do I know. The only thing I'm really positive about is that none of this will likely go the way I think it will because very little has so far. So here's hoping!

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Jim,

Thanks for being my brother. First, let me say that I am not speaking for the scripture committee. The group proposing this vote is separate from the SC. I believe the SC when they say that they aren't going to have anything else to do with the G&S (except as individuals), so it probably doesn't matter a lot what the committee's position on unanimity is.

I used the words I intended, but I do not think that unanimity is needed to add the G&S to our scriptures. As I've said, I think that we can each, individually, choose to add the G&S to our scriptures IF we can agree on a statement of principles. My point was that if we achieve unanimity, there would be NO obstacles left to PUBLISHING it. And I'm with you, I think our long-term goal should be to publish a G&S as part of our scriptures. I hope, and believe, that the vote in Phoenix will build toward that goal.

Gordon

- Janeen March 16, 2018

According to Denver's recent post,the book has been published and can be purchased on Amazon. I am interested to see what is there.

- TwoCents March 16, 2018

Gordon,

What do you mean when you say,

The minority is asked to choose not to dispute, and they agree.

What does choose not to dispute mean to you?

Q

- Karen March 16, 2018

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- Karen March 16, 2018

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- Karen March 16, 2018

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- Karen March 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Denver has stated that once we have an agreed upon Statement of Principles where we have mutual agreement (and people are not choosing to dispute it) - then he will take that statement to the Lord to see if it is acceptable.

If the Lot G&S is crap and not worthy of God's covenant people and would not "bless, benefit and inform" those who know nothing of this work now underway - then won't the Lord inform us of that?

Why don't we try trusting the Lord to rebuke us and tell us to go back to the drawing board if we submit a faulty, lesser statement that doesn't meet His expectations?

Why not try coming together as a people with what the majority has worked to produce - choose not to dispute - so that God's servant has something to take to the Lord then see what happens?

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

I have never heard Denver say he would take it to the Lord. Could you show me that.

- Karen March 16, 2018

(1 of 2)

My first comment was too wordy, so I'm trying again.

I just saw that Denver had included into the brand new "Teachings and Commandments" an Epigraph.

An Epigraph is "a quotation set at the beginning of a literary work or one of its divisions to suggest its THEME."

I found this very interesting. For Teachings and Commandments to have a theme, I would assume it would pertain to "the great work" associated with that volume of scripture. That work and labor is to bring about Zion. Thus, I take this quote to have direct relevance to what we are currently engaged in, and relates directly to instructing us on how WE can best go about working with others within the covenant, as we seek to bring forth Zion; including the assignment pertaining to the GS.

Here's the epigraph: (emphasis added)

“I would rather SUBMIT to the DECISION of THE GROUP than insist that my view be followed. For me HARMONY BETWEEN BRETHREN is MORE IMPORTANT than getting what I THINK BEST to be followed. I believe HARMONY CAN LEAD TO MUCH GREATER THINGS than can merely enforcement of even a CORRECT VIEW. I know how difficult it is to have a correct view, because of how often I have been corrected by the Lord. Sometimes I am humiliated by my foolishness when the Lord reproves me. Humiliation can lead to humility, but my experience is that the humiliation is accompanied by shame, whereas humility can proceed with a clear conscience. My experience with others leads me to conclude that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can likewise come to have one mind. But if we INSIST on having ONE

MIND at the outset, we may never obtain ONE HEART TOGETHER. ” — Denver Snuffer

There's much to ponder here, and I will leave it to the reader to ask the Lord to be personally enlightened. But because this was intentionally placed where it was in our scriptures (as a stand-alone epigraph)...before I would dismiss this as lacking pertinence to our current situation, or finding ways to interpret it to excuse myself, I would want to be absolutely certain the Lord wasn't trying to tell me something. We will be held accountable for the counsel and wisdom that is found in that quote, and I would hate to rationalize away my opportunity to labor in Zion, only to find out, like Denver acknowledged of himself, that what I thought was correct and worthy of argument, was not. I admire Denver's example in teaching us that he would rather "submit" to the larger group, rather than hold firm to his position, even if he thought his view best (right). What an act of humility...the one, or few, submitting to the majority. It is counter-intuitive to the unfairness that we perceive such submission to reflect. Alas, the Law of Christ is full of counter-intuitive requests of us.

- Karen March 16, 2018

(2 of 2)

May I add one more thought. I have come to consider very strongly that in Joseph's last dream it is the church that is first guilty of having neglected the farm that Joseph returns to and finds in dis-repair. But at the end of the dream, it is US, those who are now among the remnant, who come into the barn where Joseph is standing (trying to reclaim the restoration) and we are those who draw the knives and begin fighting with one another over what the church had already messed up and neglected. Joseph walks out and leaves those contending to themselves. An example to us all, and a warning to us all. There's no proof that this interpretation is correct. BUT, if it is...we ought cease our current strife immediately, and heed this epigraph.

We've been bestowed with a great blessing in realizing the restoration was hi-jacked and taken off course. Are we now guilty of drawing our knives upon one another and causing our own spiritual deaths by how we are acting over this matter? I feel God's rebuke. Do you think it possible that God in His mercy, once again, had that little epigraph put in place just in time for this conference for a reason?...For those who have eyes to see?

As I consider this possibility, and do not desire to draw knives with any of my covenant family any more, I am sobered.

The 9th parable reminds us the test entails living in peace. That harmony is preferential to being right when we are dealing with one another as covenant brothers and sisters...and that this leads to the oneness of heart we seek first. It's a thought that is often foreign to us "defenders of the truth." It is our common love of "truth above all else" that got so many of us here in the first place. So we want to defend what we believe to be the truth now...or the best solution in our eyes. Yet, we are being told that in seeking Zion...with our fellow family members...being right, getting the best outcome, etc...is counter productive to the cause of establishing Zion. Harmony with our family is required...even if it means submission.

Just my thoughts today as I came across the epigraph. I believe that a resolution and mutual agreement was already humbly worked through with 500+ covenant holders contacted by the Lots representatives. It included all those of the covenant that CAN, or WANT to be identified and make their will known. With only 30 remaining opposed at that time. A 93% + mutual agreement with a declaration by the Lord that it was

acceptable to Him, and testified to by many. Yes, there were and always will be various documents...but none received this broad a degree of acceptance at the height of discussion, with the highest number participating in any vote (once the follow-up contact was made). I believe the Lord honored their efforts and acknowledged it acceptable; so despite the feeling by some that there is no agreement over a document to which Denver's quote can be applied...there IS an existing document that we can apply a direct connection to in applying the counsel of this epigraph.

I pray that the message of this epigraph will sink into our hearts, despite any past positions taken, that we may seek Zion together and not apart...and that the spirit of harmony would be poured out upon us at this conference, allowing us to rise up, because the Lord witnesses the humility and love of those who would follow the example of Denver in this epigraph.

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Q-

What I mean is that the minority chooses not to dispute the majority's preference. They accept the majority's choice of G&S even though it isn't their first choice. They choose unity rather than choosing to defend their turf.

I believe, and I think a lot of folks believe, that the G&S is not really the most important thing in this process. ALL of the G&Ss are good or very good, but none of them are perfect. They are the product of the efforts of men and women. How could they be perfect? So, it seems to me that the defense of any particular G&S based on the merits of its content misses the point. A defense based on the process that produced the G&S hits nearer the mark, process is very important, but still misses the point. In order to win this "competition" we have to agree not to compete. In order to win this "contest" we have to be wise enough not to contest.

I know that some see a vote as a competition. I think it depends on the vote, and I think it depends on what's in one's heart. if the vote is designed as a mechanism only to show what folks prefer, and if the next step in the pathway is to see whether we will voluntarily lay aside our personal preferences, out of love for each other and a desire for unity, then a vote can be a useful tool.

This vote will be used only to invite with a spirit of love, never to compel. Please participate with us.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

"Denver has stated that once we have an agreed upon Statement of Principles where we have mutual agreement (and people are not choosing to dispute it) - then he will take that statement to the Lord to see if it is acceptable."

Can you tell us where/when Denver said that? I am not disputing your claim, it is a sincere question.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 16, 2018

Hi Karen. I, too, have been moved by that statement by Denver. I first read it on someone's blog, and then saw it again as I opened up the newly released T&C. I am still striving to understand what it means for this task. We have also been counseled not to sacrifice truth, something Denver said in that last fellowship recording.

I wanted to let you know that I have had a similar idea come to me about Joseph's dream of his Kirtland farm. The words and phrases recorded are...interesting. I am surprised to see someone else say they have seen the same thing in Joseph's dream, and wonder. Adding in scriptures I have been studying and asking to understand more fully, I am trembling at the potential implications and meanings. I've had many thoughts coming to me regarding that particular interpretation, and several places in scripture that I have been led to connect together. I am in shock, and truly see how prideful the Gentiles have become, we have become. So many thoughts and ideas I have never considered before...due to pride.

I've also been led to the ninth parable you mention--The Great Competition. Crazy to hear, yet again, another instance of someone else too.

I have been listening to the 10th part of Denver's Forty Years talk the last two days, and find again impressions and ideas coming. I am still working through it all, praying for understanding of what I am hearing and seeing.

At this point, I simply hope we can all respect what each person feels led in his/her heart to do, without rancor or judgment or fear...or pressure. I honestly do not know yet what is what, but I do know I am free to choose and have a responsibility to make a decision. I have never been known as a fence-sitter, and I don't plan on starting to now. I also know I need more light, and feel we as a body need greater light.

I don't want anyone to feel pressured to choose something they don't believe in, in terms of a statement of principles. I encourage people to listen to their hearts, for that is where the Holy Ghost will be, as Denver taught in the 10th part of his talk.

We can choose not to dispute, but let us remember that does not necessarily mean that most have chosen rightly; as is noted in that epigraph you referenced. This means we may still yet be in for a rough ride as we continue to learn how important humility, kindness, and love are to develop as between ourselves. There are so many scriptures to teach us...

Are we truly in this together?
Come what may?
Will we stand with one another, seeking the welfare of each person by serving and sacrificing for each other? Will we listen to one another openly, without judgment?
Are we willing to acknowledge our individual weaknesses and seek to overcome them through Christ's knowledge and wisdom, calling ourselves to repentance?
Will we let love unfeigned guide our interactions?
Will we seek to build one another up?
Will we remember that we are but invited to participate in building Zion?

There is so much in the Book of Mormon for us to comprehend right now...so much.

The posterities of those who lived the accounts in the Book of Mormon do not have the burden of pride we do. Their long oppression and abuse by the Gentiles has produced the required humility, while our wealth and abundance has produced pride. We have enjoyed the brightness and warmth of the sun via our position amidst the lofty branches of the tree. There is much they will and can teach us, if we humble ourselves.

Lori

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Last fall, someone from the scripture committee asked Denver a question about adopting a Statement of Principles and got permission to share the answer - they sent it out via email to a large group:

"Denver, [I] have a touchy question for you. "You (the assembly) are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him."

Forbid him from writing?, to be sure.
Forbid him from participating in the discussion, arguments, proposals?, probably BUT

I wonder if you feel that you are forbidden to help us with two areas.

Once we have a document, would you take it to the Lord and see if He will accept it?

OR my preference

Once we agree on a document will you ask the Lord if a yes/no vote in general conference (like the covenant in Boise) is sufficient for adoption?

The Answer requires mutual agreement at the point of adoption. Not in the writing. So we need to know what it takes "to adopt" a document.

:x::x::x::x::x::x::x::x::x::x:

Denver's response

“I think your preference is something I could take to Him and inquire. At worst I can be told I'm out of line, and may be told we can proceed. Sometimes an inquiry produces unexpected information. But I don't think it can be hypothetical--meaning we'll have to have a document to inquire about.”

-Denver"

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Karen,

I believe that you are right. Denver's epigraph is meant to be applied to us and our current difficulty. You may also be right in implying that the few should submit to the desires of the "lots" group. I for one would do so readily, if I could be certain that there really is 93% acceptance, and only 7% opposing.

On the other hand, there is another saying we also need to consider.

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?”

If we will leave the 99 in search of the one, should we also be willing to go in search of the seven?

A pathway has been suggested that can confirm that there is the support for the “lots” document that you and others claim exists. This pathway also provides a way to reach out to minority to make us all one fold.

1-Saturday morning at the conference there will be a voice vote between G&Ss to determine the majority’s preference.

2-After we determine the majority’s preference, we will reach out to the minority and invite them to join with the majority in unity.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

That doesn’t sound definitive to me. Just a “maybe I could do that.” But even then not until the document exists — mutually agreed upon. So ... we aren’t there anywhoo —

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Thank you very much. Turns out I know who wrote this.

- Taggart March 16, 2018

I hope we haven't lost sight of what I believe to be one of the Lord's purposes here. If we can say that we love those involved (this includes everyone) more today than we did a month ago, then I think we are succeeding. If we don't love them more and are harboring resentment, frustration, or other negative feelings toward any involved, then perhaps we are failing. What good is a final product if no one can stand in a prayer circle together at the end of this because we all harbor ill feelings toward each other?

- Karen March 16, 2018

Your point is well taken, Taggart. For me, the reality is that sometimes in order to have such feelings of love and harmony exist, we must be willing to submit our will, or opinions, to that expressed by others; especially when either opinion is acceptable to the Lord and no clear measure is given whereby to determine if there is an absolute right or wrong. I think that's what Denver was trying to say. What good is being right, and getting the best option that could ever be written, if in the process relationships are destroyed because we are unbending, and/or dogmatic? If I entertain departing from people because they will not adopt my perspective, can I say that I truly love those people? Actions always speak louder than words. Thus, to me, Denver is saying that the "action" of being willing to submit to a larger group of his brothers (or sisters) in order to remain in harmony with them, is an act of true love and humility. Such an act would endear both the one who submitted and the ones who experienced the act of such love to each other. It would cause great strides in uniting hearts. Such people would have no problem standing in a prayer circle together.

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

Assumptions, assumptions, assumptions, opinions, opinions, opinions, perceptions, perceptions, perceptions, and to add to it all, we'll include a "Denver said..." That sounds like the recipe preferred.

What about actually doing the work of talking to one another? Spending time to understand what is being introduced by people who are able to participate in this

project? What about actually doing more work on the content, rather than just getting it passed off? That would be a change. Anyone ever involved in any of this cannot escape the fact that the content of the document was done really quick, and then the rest of the time pitching like pitches.

Does that make me a disputer because the truth hurts the feelings of those who would prefer someone like Karen suggesting we sing and act like the primary song, "Do as I'm doing, follow, follow me?" I never got here following anyone. Even while I am here, I won't follow Denver. The only relationship that matters to me is my relationship with God. And because I have a relationship with God, I care to talk with you guys. The idea of follow the new leader is idle worship, and nothing but idle worship.

Regurgitating other people's words, often times gets mixed up with the previous meal, a little stomach acid, and often times corn. The people of Moses regurgitated Moses' words with a little Egyptian corn. The Christians regurgitated Christ's words with a little Jewish corn. The early saints regurgitated Joseph's words with a little Protestant/Methodist corn, and the documents being produced are regurgitating Denver's words with LDS corn. When initially consumed, Moses, Christ, Joseph, and Denver's words were pure. But you can't blame me for not wanting your regurgitations.

According to Taggart and Karen, oooooh I am evil, I am dark, I am contentious. But, according to the reactions given to Christ's words, there's a possibility that Taggart's and Karen's reaction is only an indicator of them, and not what I have written. Everyone must judge and be judged as they judge. You have a choice, and a majority cannot answer for you in the presence of Christ. You must man up and decide for yourself.

I prefer reversing the condemnation of the early saints. Rather than conversations that are too low, too mean, too vulgar, ...I prefer conversations that are too high, too kind, and too pure. So rather than settling for the minimum. I'd prefer something more reflective of the reason I came to be involved in all of this, something that stretches my mind high into the heavens, and contemplates the darkest abyss, making it necessary for all of us to commune with God.

You are gonna judge. Best you judge me by what I say, rather than your perceptions of what I say. I am more than willing to work out the details for any who really want to know what I am saying, so that they can make a good assessment, rather than taking someone else's word for it.

Love,
Rob Adolpho

- Karen March 16, 2018

Gordon,

Although you know that I feel going after the "one" has already been faithfully attempted, I'm good with that your plan to try again and exert another honest expression of love. As I mentioned in a previous thread, I was even willing to go along with the proposal that you had originally presented, even though I was initially opposed because I felt the work had already been done. But I changed my mind to lend support to your efforts, pretty much as an expression of being willing to submit to all of those who felt another vote was necessary and to strengthen bonds of love, rather than weaken them through opposition. I have remained at great peace in the decision I made to change my heart to one of support for you, rather than continued disagreement.

If I may be honest, the only thing that I am sad about in this upcoming voice vote is that

it is being used to determine how much support ACTUALLY exists for certain documents. As for the lots document, I am sad that literally 60+ covenant holders that I personally know, who feel as I do and participated in previous voting, will NOT be in attendance. Thus, I don't think the reality of the support will even be close to being represented. Alas, nothing can be done about that and my disappointment that the reality of the numbers will not truly be manifest, is being set aside by me in order to be one who is cooperative rather than uncooperative.

In any case, my hope is that even without many individuals present who support the lots, that those who have felt inclined to reject and counter all of this, will reconsider their intent based upon the concepts of the epigraph. If none dissent because they catch the spirit of what Denver was saying, then numbers would not even be part of the equation. Wouldn't that be a beautiful thing!

Much gratitude to you again, Gordon, for your kind heart and desires.

Karen

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

It's only a regurgitation of words. General conference was full of regurgitations. The principles, taken out of context, aren't wrong or inherently bad, but the composition is too low, too mean, too vulgar. And that has left us in jarring, strife, and contention. Truth is, what has been put forward doesn't even represent the energy that excited us when we first began our journey. The words may have been consumed by the study of scripture, Christ's words, or Denver's words, ...but they are not their words, as the Lots committee have regurgitated them, using their name in vain.

The work has gone undone. The work I'm referring to is the people work, not the document work. The people are independent, but what you recommend is a vote that makes the people dependent upon decision makers. Take away the independence of fellowships, and you will simply begin another reformation, like Brigham Young.

I suppose this is where people read what I write, and don't respond, thinking that not responding is not contending. And that's the problem, all the conversations that go undone. Talk to me about this. I can handle talking about the concern, rather than shutting down, using the silent treatment, and being frustrated.

Against popular belief, I am not angry or frustrated with the process, like many of you. I believe I know where this is headed, and it is nothing short of Zion. But it will not happen by short-order.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

Taggart,

I understand your idea of frustration and grudges, but It's part of the growing process. We are all independent fellowships, and that must remain true. The work necessary for independent fellowships must naturally go through a growth process, where we learn of our differences, seek more light to lead us our of our darkness, and act according to the greater light. The physical properties of growing muscle necessitates tearing and repairing. Anyone who has gained muscle would be a fool to wish that the muscle pain

of consistent working out was regretted. Likewise, we are fools to try to make things appear smooth, and resistance-less. Too little resistance offers zero progression. Too much resistance causes injury. Our mission, if we choose to accept it, is to stretch our minds high into the heavens, contemplate the darkest abyss, and commune with God.

Too little resistance, removes the necessary working conversations to uncover the greatest truth, in fear of reactions, rather than doing what's necessary to speak truth, like Nephi, who declared God's word with unwearyingness, not fearing what man would do to him. We must balance ourselves out, not injuring, removing all hopes of beneficial recovery.

What I hear you saying is too soft, making progression impossible. Some may think that I would be the opposite end of the spectrum, leaving too much injury in my wake. I would disagree, but I'm open to being corrected.

We have worked together before Taggart. I know your heart, and you know mine. I recognize you as good, I hope you recognize me good too. The July 10th meeting was a long time ago, but I remember our prayers there, and I pray we can once again see eye to eye, and be better for it.

Mahalo,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

Gordon,

This is Rob. I choose to not compete. I have offered no document to compete, but have worked throughout the entire time the project has been assigned my wife and I. Your idea is flawed, using the same argument. To not compete/dispute (as you are using these words synonymously), you have defined it as the minority go with the vote of the majority. Well, if all things are held equal, why don't the majority not compete and go with the minority, and keep working towards a document representing mutual agreement. What's good for the goose is good for the gander (I really don't know what a gander is, but I think I'm using the idiom correctly).

Your argument is one sided. You are creating a competition, when I would prefer we keep working. You have lumped me into a lot of folks who believe that this project isn't the most important thing. I don't fit that description. I think it's the most important thing right now, both the people and the document. You think that this is a product of men and women. I disagree. I believe it is the work between men and Gods, to restore the primordial unity between men and Gods. You ask, How can they be perfect? I respond, by Christ! You say questioning the content misses the point. I obviously don't agree with your assumption, and it is your assumption, even if it is shared by many people. It is not a fact, but you are requiring me to just do me, like you do you. That is a colonization mentality, and will never appeal to me.

You have justified how your vote idea is not a competition, when by definition that's exactly what it is. You may use the results differently, but that does not remove the fact that it's a competition. And it does not invite a spirit of love. It magnifies the contention already upon us, the same as it has done multiple times before, as this would not be the first. Why do the same thing, expecting a different result?

You say that this vote is never going to be used to compel? Let me ask a question of reality, How are you going to stop people from not using this vote as another club to justify compelling? Are you going to enforce that? Are you going to referee the Jims,

Steves, and Karens who have swung that club around here on this blog? The minute the vote reflects another majority, it will once again justify the pushing effort for the minority to fall in line.

I'll be honest with you right now. According to your definition of your expectation for at least my minority family voting for an existing document, accepting the majorities choice of GS, ...that's a big NO WAY JOSE! I don't believe that this vote is not a competition either, despite your good intentions for how you hope to use the data.

You have labeled it disputing. I'm fine with your choice to define your words however makes you feel good. I disagree with your label, recognizing the responsibility for any governing principles to be open to stringent questioning, and it's author/s to respond until people are satisfied. Otherwise, you have simply promoted another reformation institution!

I disagree with your proposal for a vote,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

Karen,

You have missed the point in the third sentence. Denver compared HARMONY with ENFORCEMENT OF A CORRECT VIEW. I believe that the vote concept is enforcing a correct view. After all, what is it that the minority is enforcing? According to my family, all we want to do is to have harmony with you folks, by continuing to work with you. I have invited you to work with us, but you have rejected the offer, choosing instead to enforce a majority vote upon me. NOT COOL!

Nowhere will you find Denver recommending an assimilation, a blending to loose individuality, a follow the enforcing crowd mentality. If he did, I would not reject all of this, as it would be contradictory. The individuality of each fellowship must be preserved. Your idea of enforcing a correct view is your stance.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 16, 2018

Thank you Karen!

I think this is going to work, and folks of good will like you are the reason we will come together.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 16, 2018

In all instances, the Denver quote, the barn, and the competition, your call to conform to the majority represents respectively: the enforcer of a correct view, one fighting for control of the scenario, and the competition. I've been waving my arms around, saying lets not vote, but instead keep working.

The idea to keep working is a choice to engage in the work until we are all, those who remain, are happy. How do we know that it's mutually agreeable? The same way the Lord became known as The Word, because He proved all of God's words. Likewise, the

mutual agreement document will become mutually agreeable, not because a vote, but because we all have independently adopted it, proving it works.

My recommendation to keep working cannot be enforced, so it provides the only option for HARMONY, according to your Denver quote. It also offers the only option to cease our current strife. So if the majority are so humble, why don't they set the example, set aside their vote, and continue recovering those of the minority who need help? And lastly the idea to continue working is the only NON-COMPETITION, despite your justification for why your vote is not a competition, in this scenario (and yet all political officers use the same method to take-office).

You say you are humble and I am not, because I choose not to support the vote. Do as you recommend for us to do, and reconsider continuing to work, ...prove your humility, and lets get back to work, ...stop talking, and lets go to work again!

You speak for Denver, but you do it in vain, saying that if we minority catch the spirit of Denvers words, ...and then you restate your own words. You are the ones who have made this a numbers game, and now you're blaming the rest of us for your using numbers? That's no different than Brigham Young blaming the saints for the plagues, frost, starvation, etc. You are the source of these issues you so slickly put blame on us. It would be a beautiful thing if you would not make it a numbers game, and stop the voting process. It would be a beautiful thing if you would stop misrepresenting Denver's words. It would be a beautiful thing if you could catch the spirit of Denver's words.

Your push for a vote is turning to LDS vomit, and will result in another Reformation Institution.

Rob Adolpho

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 17, 2018

I'm not requiring you to do anything Rob. If you think the vote is a bad idea, don't vote. If you want to continue working, go for it. If you want to try to build consensus through dialogue, you have my blessing — for what it's worth. I think your goals are admirable, and I respect your agency to do as you see fit. But I don't think your current approach is working, and I believe there is a better pathway.

God bless you in your efforts.
Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

Thanks for adding your voice here, Rob. Always good, sound thoughts.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

Do we lack confidence in our own ability to hear Christ?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

Thank you for expressing these thoughts, Taggart. I have thought similarly. I only have direct influence over my own heart.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

You're good in my book, Rob. I don't even have the words to describe what I see here, and I don't quite grasp how it works in Heaven beyond knowing there is no compulsion, no forced competition. I wish the vote wasn't happening. I don't see what good will result when the numbers will be skewed. But people have a hard time standing still.

I read and try to listen to what folks be saying here, and wonder how Nephi or Moroni would fit in. Their fruits were good, yes? But their words caused contention, yes? Your mention of building muscle through resistance is appropriate.

I wonder about that Denver quote a lot too. I like it, but am not sure how he walked it out exactly. To which relationships and situations does he apply it? He's a friggin lawyer! He argues for a living. Ha! Why was the quote included where and as it was? What I am to do with it? Do I agree with everyone by choosing not to dispute ever? Even when something looks, sounds, feels off? Is there never to be discussion? Who gets to decide when there's been enough? Who decides when someone is being a disputer versus just wanting to patiently continue discussing?

So many questions. You keep talking, ya hear?

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

1 of 2

Gordo

I never said you were requiring me to do anything, as I don't subscribe to your vote-off, in the name of data collection. How much data do you need to collect to recognize that there's a separation on the subject of the documents? I can tell you that there's separation without agitating the circumstances further with a vote of pretenses. But, do what you gotta do to suit you.

I will continue to do precisely as I am impressed to do, and not participate with the vote, but participate and remain in opposition, both here on this blog, and at the conference. Those who want to respond according to their hearts need to know that there are others who are responding with their hearts as well. I am willing to take the proverbial hits from your Karen's applying things one sided, so that others can know that there's really nothing behind the proverbial punches of numbers, numbers, numbers, percentages, percentages, percentages, and vote after vote, after vote. To those who are abused, your vote and claim of a majority is scary, as they have been abused by the LDS, ousted by their judgment of pretenses, and finally excommunicated. You do not scare me Gordo. I want there to be no need for fear tactics among this people, so I will not act afraid, despite the crushing NUMBERS and the odds against me.

Consensus through dialogue is exhaustive, it takes time, it requires knowing one another, considering them equals, facing the deadlocks and working through them, rather than side-skirting them with a process to get things done. You say, "...for what that's worth." To me it's well worth it all. It's certainly not comfortable, if that's what you're looking for. It's definitely not a convenient process, if that's what you're looking for. Relationships are hard work! If you are looking for comfort and convenience, brutha, you best not look for a relationship because that is all but comfortable and convenient initially.

The comfort and convenience of relationship comes after the discomfort and

inconveniences. I still remember my fifteenth anniversary telling my wife, this has been the best three years of my life. And she responded, that makes the best two years of mine. The comfort and convenience comes after the work dawg!

You say my current approach is not working, and you'd prefer a better way. While the results of my efforts don't appear on the surface, there's a rumble, a vibration, a "movement" happening right now among us. That rumble is the rumble of truth growing. It's a good vibration of growth, as the weakness is agitating out, making room for strength. This IS the movement of to be the stone cut without hands. You are looking on the surface, while missing the rumble, the vibes, and the moving of the movement. Granted, it is slow at first. As the massive rumble/vibrations/movement increases it's momentum, however, I would not stand in it's path, because it will go forth, grind to dust, all of the kingdoms of the earth, ...whether external kingdoms or internal kingdoms.

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

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People looking for quick fixes, hoping for results on the external to indicate the deep vibrations of the internal, where costly apparel, they feign relationships, and take steroids and fat burners to speed up the slimming and muscle growth process. I do not prefer those options. I prefer the inside to be reflected on the outside, and my efforts among you here on this blog are all requests to work on the inside, the relationships, the heart. And that can only happen with a dialogue approach, according to persuasion that leads to pure knowledge. A vote is bitter fruit in comparison.

I do not wish for God to bless your efforts. But I wish for God to bless your eyes that you might see the truth of your erroneous proposal, and use your agency to continue working with a brutha. I know you. I really really love being around you and your bro. But, your push here does not represent a beacon of truth, rather it represents a colonization tactic. I have witnessed your heart, though, and I sense no ill intent, as it is absolutely pure.

God bless you! And that might not mean what you want that to mean,

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 17, 2018

Rob,

Here’s what I think you’re missing. The second step in this vote asks the minority to voluntarily lay their own preferences aside for the sake of unity. They are not required to do so. I would never force them, even if I could. That is why it is unfair to characterize this as a “colonization tactic” or “colonization mentality.” The colonial powers didn’t ask the indigenous peoples if they could take their land and resources and culture, they just took them by force and murder. It is a powerful charge to liken this vote to those terrible sins. But is it fair?

No one is being forced here. We are going to make a humble request, in pursuit of the goal of unity, that some in the body make a voluntary sacrifice. If they chose not to do so, the vote comes to an end. No one will be dispossessed, or excommunicated. I will acknowledge that the vote was a bad idea and I will sit down and be quiet. The effort to come to unity will go on.

But consider this. What if those who prefer a statement of principles other than the majority's preference say in their hearts. "It's true, I don't think the best document was selected. But I am willing to embrace their document anyway, because I care more about them than I do about the document. Out of love for them, I will go along with what they have chosen."

In an act of humility and self-sacrifice, they will have obeyed the two great commandments of the law.

Matthew 22:36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?
37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
38 This is the first and great commandment.
39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

They will show their love for God by obeying His commandment to come to mutual agreement — to choose to not dispute. And they will show love for their neighbor by graciously agreeing to give their neighbor their preference.

You want to build relationships. So do I. The strongest relationships are built on voluntary sacrifice. Kids love their mothers because mothers sacrifice endlessly. We are all drawn to Christ because of His eternal sacrifice for us.

Rob, there is no need to fear this vote. It is not a tool of oppression. It is a way to build relationships by love and sacrifice.

Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

1 of 2

Gordo,

If fear were my motivating factor, then I would have been with you at the August 5th meeting, and voted with that group who were unanimous. That was a fear-vote! If I was afraid of what the movement would do, prior to the September 3rd meeting in Boise, ID, afraid to loose the covenant, I would have joined the Aug 5th and people close to me, who tried to use fear tactics to tell me that I would be left behind. I refuse to be threatened by a take-away tactic, and so I made peace with being left behind by those who chose to not continue working on this project any longer. However, they were extremely ticked off when the document was not included in the printing of the scriptures. Those who voted on Aug 5th, who threatened to leave me behind on Sept 3rd, …they are the main drivers for the Lots document now in question. They have spoken the same threats, that I'll be left behind by this lots program, accusing me of injuring others, because I choose to exercise my agency to keep working. Now the vote of the March conference is being manipulated by you, to sway my perception into thinking that I must give in to the majority or else I am not humble. Although you claim not to leave me behind, you continue to push for the Lots document to exercise majority above my head, as if to say I am the problem with "unity." Gordo, if I were so afraid, as

you have accused me of being, I'm wondering how you have managed to paint that image of me? I am not afraid of walking through the shadow of death, concerning the covenant and this movement, because I have chosen to take my instruction from God alone. I am stretching into the highest heaven, and willing to comprehend the dark abyss, and commune with God. Fear? Negative! More like FAITH.

You have a faint view of the colonist movement. "Treaty" is the tool they used to take control of the land. Guns and murder came much later. At the time of the treaty of Treaty 7, it was promoted much like your request to vote is, …as a peace treaty. But it was in the hearts of the whites to have power, to rule over the land, and to reign with blood and horror, …but they thought that they had good intentions. It is not an unfair characterization at all.

How can you make a humble request, in pursuit of unity, …and then tell me I have to sacrifice? You are the humble one, but I have to sacrifice? Oh, ok, I will do all the weight lifting, feeling the burn, and the achy growing pains, …while you get the muscles. That makes just as much sense as your application of you being humble, requiring me to sacrifice. If you're so humble with the majority, then be the one to sacrifice, and let's keep working.

You say no one will be dispossessed or excommunicated, as if that hasn't already been done. From those claiming the majority, including you, I have had nothing but the silent treatment, regarding any discussion about King Follet Discourse applications in the Governing Principles. It can be likened to being dis-fellowshipped from the LDS, as speaking privileges are taken in silent treatment, sweeping our differences under the rug, and ignoring the concerns about the content of the document being weak. Maybe excommunication may be too final, but I had to look up the word dispossess, and I have learned that deprivation of conversation is a beginning form of dispossessing. Excommunication is just an end result.

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

2 of 2

Here, I'll give you a taste of your own medicine. You say, "It's true, I don't think the best document was selected. But I am willing to work towards a document because I care more about the minority than I do about the crappy documents being produced. Out of love, I will keep working." Or does it not work both ways for you, only your way?

The thing that hilarious to me is your idea to recommend to me, what you consider self-sacrifice, but you aren't willing to flip it around and do it yourself. You recommend self-sacrifice for me, but you claim humility for you. One day, you're going to re-read this and pound your head in wonder and amazement to how you could think to recommend someone else sacrifice, because you are too humble.

No Fear,
Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett March 17, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

Devin,

You just dropped a two degree demand on me, to first TELL you and answer many questions asked of you about the Lots document is acceptable, and second ANSWER for you what I'd input differently than what has already been written. Is that how you start a conversation, by two degree DEMANDS? Is that how you treat those who you love unconditionally, as a brother?

First, the conversation between your sister and I was a private conversation that has remained private, until now. You have painted a picture of our conversation, using your perspective of that conversation, to create an image of me, out of context, and one sided. That is precisely one of the reasons why the Lots document is unacceptable. It is out of context.

I could share the other side of that conversation I had with your sister, but that would give a picture within context, and given the way you tried to put my character on blast with a partial story, I'm assuming that's not something you're interested in. Context is what I would write. The Lots document has no context, and represents your sister's regurgitation, void of any context.

I have made multiple lengthy comments that give a better description. But, you're not looking for more light. You're looking to pick an online fight. It's obvious that you have set up stakes on the Lots document, claimed God's acceptance, and the majority vote. What more do you honestly want from me, but a fight? You have clothed it in words that sound peaceful, taken out of context, as you prefer. But, in context, you have turned unconditional brotherly love into a pretense, to justify your mischaracterization of my request to continue the effort of working towards something suitable to more than your majority.

Let's call a spade a spade, and quit playing passive aggressive charades. If you're upset with me, then lets meet face to face and work this out, so that you can hear the part of the story where I barely said a word and your sister was bawling. There's much more to context both to your sisters conversation, and to the Governing Principles document, if you're interested. I'm open to a person to person conversation, but dealing with this online, ...bro who you foolin? You ain't foolin me!

Content and Context matters,
Rob Adolpho

- TwoCents March 17, 2018

Devin,

Maybe before you judge someone, you should get both sides of the story. If Shalyce or anyone else had an issue with Rob, because of their conversation, they should have confronted the issue and worked it out. If you had, maybe you might have had a better understanding of the situation. I could understand confronting the issue on here, had the exchange been on here for all to see, but it wasn't.

You are about the billionth person asking us what problem we have with the document. Have you not read any of our posts? Do you really want to know our answers or are you going to be like everyone else and tell us, “these are Denver’s words!” “These are Joseph’s words!” and then continue to tell us how dark we must be for not accepting them. Look, if you and anyone else in the so called silent majority want to place it in the scriptures, go for it. I’m not damning your progression making my voice heard.

Throw our hat in the ring? This is God's work and He should be leading it. Instead someone pushed the lots idea, because he thought it was a good idea, not because he received revelation. And then we rely on man to throw our hats into the ring instead of letting the Voice of the Lord choose. You can give me all the stats you like; this process doesn't match up with the Book of Mormon. But you guys want to call this truth. I was called by the Lord, I know what He said to me and I will do as He asks. I didn't agree to havie our names thrown into the hats, because I didn't want to offend the Lord. Should I have told Him, "Oh sorry Lord, instead of listening to you, I will put my faith in the lots process." I don't think so.

Did the Lord reject D&C 20? I wonder if the early saints also thought they could go back to the drawing board when and if the Lord rejected their work.

Q

- Taggart March 17, 2018

Hey Rob. I certainly wasn't directing my comments to you or anyone else specifically. They were meant for all of us; as equals. As for your last sentence, I couldn't even tell you where we don't see eye to eye right now. I left the July meeting with nothing but mad love for you, man, and it hasn't changed. My regret is that I haven't had the chance to meet up with and get to know you better.

I actually don't mind all the discussion, even passionate discussion, though I admit I have kind of tuned out. I have a ton of my own rough edges to chip at and there's only so much time in the day. Mostly, my comment was just a call to remember to love each other through this process, however long it takes us to figure it out. That's a guiding principle we can all hopefully agree on. Seriously though. Nothing but love, Rob.

- Taggart March 17, 2018

Man, Rob. Rereading your comment again, I feel like I need to further clarify. I absolutely don't consider you evil or dark or contentious. Don't really know where that came from, but it's just not the case. Please believe me and perhaps think better of me in the future. Love you, brother.

- HuhWhatda March 17, 2018

Tag,

I think great of you. I reflect upon the prayer we had together, with Jeff Savage, Keltroy, the Carters, and Whitney Horning. What you wrote, I believe was genuinely seeking peace. But, where do we ever allow questions to work through to greater light among us, if we are being governed by the emotions that look like peace, without grinding out the work of creating real peace?

You're good to me, but we gotta keep going with the work we had going on on July 2nd. I believe that peace isn't something that we allow to happen, it's what we do that makes peace happen.

Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett March 17, 2018

Rob and Q,

I have tried to delete my comment so that I wouldn't be misconstrued as disputing you. (Since I cannot figure out how to do so, I'll just respond to you) I don't wish to dispute, I only wanted to know what you would've done different in the G&S document. I do love you no matter what you say or do to me or my family, and I think you read something into what I said that I didn't mean. Either way, I'm sorry if you feel I've judged you, called you out, or injured you in any way.

I want the assignment done, and I don't want to belabor it any longer. I'm sure I'm not the only one who feels like we have strung this out and it's gotten way more complicated than it was meant to be. I'm open to suggestion, if you'd like to share what you think should be done differently in the lots document. I think that if we were to discuss the document on here that it should be done with love and gentle persuasion, as the lord asked us to measure our words carefully before giving voice to them. I'm trying to do that myself, and I know that I sometimes come across as too blunt, so if my words have conveyed anything except love, I'm sincerely sorry for that. I'll try to do better.

So, Rob and Q, what would you like to see included in the G&S that isn't currently in the lots document? I feel the lots has everything that we need, but if it could be changed or improved to be acceptable to you, in what ways would you add to or delete from it to make it acceptable that you could agree with it?

Sincerely,
Love, Devin

- DevinFausett March 17, 2018

Oops, I did figure out how to delete the comment, so I did.

- Taggart March 17, 2018

Thanks, and I agree Rob. I don't feel the time constraint here that some do. If we try to force something through, it will be less, I feel, than what the Lord intends. The process feels more important than the end result, at least to me. The prayer we had together that day is precious to me. I think of it often as a time where we approached the greatness of God together.

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Devin,

Don't worry about the technology issue. I've learned a ton about these environments. I have learned to write things first in word, so that you don't loose it. I also figured out why there have been lots of people's comments deleted. So, I have patience for low-tech issues, having been one who suffers in a similar way.

I can see how your words could be genuine, but you couch your words in loaded statements, so it's hard to read NEUTRALITY in your comments. You came off as defending your sister's honor, when you had nothing to defend against with me. And then you demanded I give you a response, so that made it hard. But I trust your follow up comment, and would like to continue to engage concerning the problems regarding the Lots document.

My response was still accurate, but I used the scenario concerning your defending your sister's honor to convey it. Your portrayal of your sister bawling was a one sided picture,

taken out of context. She was bawling before I ever got on the phone. Likewise, the Governing Principles document regurgitates Denver/Joseph/Christ's words, but they provide no context of the big picture. The King Follet Discourse was massive context, but the saints flew to pieces like glass, unable to take any of it in. I have been recommending it since September. It represents the stuff that drew every last one of us to this movement. The Lots document offers none of that.

If Denver used the true concepts that the Lots are promoting, as his founding principles, what he shared would not have been sufficient context to justify being willing to sacrifice my good standing in the LDS church, let alone sacrificing all things.

The content that the Lots chose was based upon assumptions. The assumption has oversimplified the assignment, to be a pamphlet, or a guide to operate fellowships, and nothing else. To most of the Lots supporters, it will be placed in the book to never refer to it again. But, to my wife and I the content matters.

You have expressed the desire to just be done already. Your attitude leaks through your words, feeling strung out, others (like me) have overly complexified this assignment, yet you say you're open to suggestions. Although it is a mixed message, I am very familiar with that mixed message, as many have expressed the same confusing expression. And then, you add a few recommendations for me to put into place.

Gordon Platt does something similar, sending mixed signals, claiming humility, while expecting me to sacrifice. You are saying you are open to suggestions, while telling me how I must say and do as you recommend, so as not to be so offensive to you. Either you'd prefer being done with the Lots document, or not be done and continue working.

I'd love to further express what I'm thinking, but not sure if that's feasible.

Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Rob,

Although the hour is late, since we are a few days from the conference, let’s see if we can reach agreement on this. You think the King Follett discourse is needed to be included in the G&S? Can you clarify which version of it you’d like inserted? I wasn’t extremely familiar with the content of it so I had to look it up. When I did I found 4 different (but similar) versions of it. 3 of the 4 authors were people who later betrayed Joseph (I don’t know what became of Thomas Bullock) so right off the bat I have my hesitations to trust their words, but nevertheless it’s the content that’s important.

Are you saying that the portions of it that include the nature of God are what you’d like to see represented in the G&S? Or are you wanting all of it included? I was under the impression that we wanted the lowest common denominator represented in the G&S. And if you consider the King Follett sermon to be foundational, I don’t disagree. Maybe if you could succinctly spell out the portions of the sermon that you feel are important to be included in it, we could see if that will be acceptable to everyone.

Will that satisfy you and your wife? Did you have other important information that you feel is as foundational as that sermon that you’d like added to it? I so badly want you and your family to be included in Zion and if it means we add in some portion of that important sermon, I would be willing to allow it, and support that if it will allow us to get to mutual agreement. I’m only one man, and cannot speak for the whole, but since it’s unity that I want to see happen, and many others do as well, it’s worth considering. If it’s more

than a portion of the sermon you want added in, (for example you want the whole sermon) would you settle for a mention or reference to it in the G&S and then adding that sermon into the Pearls of Great Price? I have no authority to make these things happen. I'm merely trying to reach mutual agreement with you and respect your input and find a way that we can become one. If there is anything else you'd like included, let me know and let's get this figured out hopefully before the conference so we may have a mutually acceptable document we can agree upon.

Last question, if this addition were added to the Lots document, assuming that this sermon addition was all that you wanted represented in the G&S, would you be in agreement with us?

Love you brother,
Devin

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

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Devin,

Thank you for the genuine offer to add the stuff that would be more likely to keep us together. I recognize the effort, and through it, I recognize your heart's desire as good.

It's clear that you haven't been around the project as much, by the questions you ask. The project seems to repeat itself. If you have been, and forgot, then let me refresh your memory. Jeff Savage generated a document and a vote, and it was full of errors, yet he tried to get it printed. There were two more of his iterations, prior to the Aug 5th meeting, where it was considered unanimous by those who voted. Jeff demanded that it was his assignment, and that everyone else was only there to assist him, but it wasn't mutually agreeable. People asked me for suggestions on what needed adding, taking out, editing, and formatting, to make it mutually agreeable to me. I refused to edit it. He claimed it was all his assignment, he did it, it wasn't mutually agreeable, it is his responsibility to fix it until it was mutually agreeable. I would talk to him as he asked, but he never cared to ask, and simply continued to promote his work as the winning document, refusing to fix the issues. Before the September 3rd conference where everyone was offered the covenant, if the Aug 5th was included and published, I came to Boise knowing I would not be able to continue in this movement, as it was not mutually agreeable to me. I was grateful that I was allowed to continue, as the assignment remained incomplete, and not yet included as published in the scriptures. I was able to agree to accept the covenant offered. But those who set up stakes were angry that the results of the Aug 5th weren't published, and the Lots proposal was a result of those who were part of the 100% at Aug 5th.

Those who were a part of the Lots have claimed an assignment, just like Jeff Savage. They have written, but what they wrote was not mutually agreeable to me, and I have been trying to talk them out of voting and to continue working towards something mutually agreeable. But, online and in person, those involved in the Lots document have totally flipped out, angry because I exercise my agency, and I have good reasons too. Now you are asking me to edit your document, to include an addendum, adding King Follet concepts, as a side thought, when it ought to be the main thought, and the Lots document be used as a side thought, or not at all. This is the same play from the playbook of Jeff Savage, as he tried to justify his original document, by getting my wife and I to write the preface.

I couldn't agree to write the preface of a document I didn't mutually agree with. I couldn't

edit the Aug 5th when it was never my assignment, according Jeff Savage. I will not recommend edits to the Lots document, as a side thought, claiming it to be revelatory. I have shared my thoughts freely throughout the process, not holding anything back. But, it's not until the conferences result in yet another failed attempt to finish the project, then people begin to make last ditch efforts to quickly and temporarily hear what is being said, suggesting edits, addendums, and after thoughts.

I have constantly recommended that we start over, given the experience we have accumulated, and begin a new. It would have been easier if Jeff would have allowed his document to be put aside to begin afresh. Likewise, I have recommended to the Lots people to do the same, and they have summarily done the same as Jeff. I recommend again to start afresh, allowing king Follet to lead out, and for the voice of the Lord to direct people to write, putting the accountability upon

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

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the only one who is able to bear it, to put it on Christ. If He directed it, then He owns the accountability when those He directs do as they are directed.

Those who are tired of the project should just be quiet and stop. Those who don't care what is written, who seek unity, should remain silent, and wait to be united. Those who are impressed upon by the voice of the Lord to write, should write, and be accountable for what we write, by fielding questions, and holding ourselves accountable for mutual agreement, …rather than blaming everyone else.

The problem we have now is that those who are tired, they project their frustration with the project on those who are still trying to work. They are a source of contention, that could be remedied by their silence. Those who don't care, they act like they care and contribute to the contention, wishing it were done. Those who are impressed to write have to negotiate through the muck of people who should have remained silent, as they were not moved upon to speak up in the first place.

Your intent to try to recover your sister's work in the Lots document cannot represent mutual agreement. If you would add King Follet stuff to that document, it would be an after thought, and an abomination of the restoration from Joseph Smith. The King Follet stuff was so high that Denver uses its contents as the main source for Denver's talk on Christ in Ephraim, UT. It was so significant that its contents were used by Denver in his book called three degrees, where he addressed celestial, terrestrial, and telestial, and used King Follet as his main source for the portion on the celestial. It was so significant that it is also the doctrine that President Hinkley denied in his interview with Mike Wallace of 20/20, and the church avoids that topic altogether. Joseph delivered the talk in his last general conference address in April 1844, and again just ten days before being killed, called the Sermon in the Grove, that ended too early because of rain. To add it as an after thought as you are suggesting would not be something I would recommend.

But you can do as you feel to do. It won't change the fact that the Lots document is way skewed to generalizations, and that kind of doctrine wouldn't excite anything sufficient to sacrifice and make a transition with this movement, let alone excite our dead ancestors.

Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Rob,

I appreciate your engagement in this and your candor. If you could have elements of the King Follett sermon added to the lots document, (and I refer to the lots document because It was agreeable to a vast majority and we may be closer to mutual agreement if we can add to an already agreeable document) which elements of that sermon would you insist are important enough to incorporate into it? Not as an after thought but as equally important into the whole. Please share what you'd like to see included and let's see if we can get to mutual agreement. As a matter of compromise, would you agree to allow the lots document remain intact as it stands and just add to it those elements of King Follett that you find necessary and vital for the completion of this G&S document? If so, will you become an advocate of this modified lots document and help us to gain mutual agreement of it?

Love,
Devin

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Rob,

I went to the Wikipedia page to see what they say about the King Follett sermon. I know better than to trust Wikipedia, but I was looking for a summary of what it is promoting. The problems I have with what I gathered from the wiki page are these:
1. Those whom we rely on for the content of the sermon were disloyal to Joseph.
2. At best we only have 30% of the content according to one who has studied the 4 differing versions of it.
3. The most complete version we have was approved by Brigham Young, who admitted to never hearing the Lord's voice, and considered himself a "Yankee guesser".
4. The substance of that sermon tends to feel a little more like deep doctrine, and to put it in an introductory document to "bless and inform those who know nothing..." I worry that it may scare away some good honorable inquisitive Christians at the onset.
5. If we had to go through every particular scripture that we each felt was vital for newcomers to understand, we may as well vote for the entire Book of Mormon, revised D&C and New Testament in their entirety to be accepted as the G&S. As I understood the assignment, we were to give a brief introduction to who we are and that something as deep as the King Follett sermon could be cleaned up (maybe if it's important enough for us to have, maybe it will get edited like the Testimony of John got edited)

May I suggest you put yourself into the mind of one who has no idea yet of who this remnant group is? Do you truly feel that including the content of that sermon as part of an introductory statement into this movement will benefit and bless and inform them, and not scare them away? If so, then let's proceed forward. Those are my concerns but if you still feel it transcends my concerns, then please share with me which portions or elements in it you feel are needed to complete the G&S document.

Love,
Devin

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

Is there a reason the "powers that be" aren't willing to table this whole thing for a year or so?

I say "powers that be" not knowing who they might be.

I don’t agree with any of the documents. I choose not to dispute. I don’t believe mutual agreement has been reached on any of them. I choose not to dispute. I don’t see any reason this can’t be dropped, and I do mean dropped for the foreseeable future.

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Anonymous,

Prior to the covenant being offered Denver spoke about the fact that once we have a covenant the clock will start ticking. While that wasn’t clarified, it does make some of us feel that we shouldnt waste time or treat this casually. The saints in Nauvoo treated D&C 124 very casually and look what has become of their failure to build the Nauvoo temple? I feel a sense of importance and urgency about this matter that I don’t want time wasted on this assignment. It’s not mine to dictate, as I am just one participant, but if we aren’t making progress then our chance for Zion is in jeopardy.

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Devin,

It seems like you just ain't tryin' to hear me. I'm being very clear here, the Lots document is not equal to KF. You have taken the WIKI-view, and so has the lots. The word WIKI is a shortened Hawaiian word for wiki wiki, which means quick, fast, shortest duration. That would sum up your Lots document in a WIKI. Your assumption that this is a quick glance view is you projecting your assumptions on God's instructions, and acting as if they were His instruction. That would be speaking the Lord's name in vain, without effect.

Let me be clearer, I would not edit Jeff Savage's document, he claiming it is his assignment and his authority. I will not edit the Lots document, they claiming being called of God by the hand of probability.

Despite what I have written, you seem to not want to hear me, so let me be even clearer. The problem of the Lots document was their leading/guiding question. There was none! It is full of assumptions concerning how it will be used once it's complete. Another assumption is that they know who are those who know nothing yet of what God is doing. The Lots document is based on conclusions that they have made in arrogance, thinking, "I know, I know, I know." How can you be so certain, when everything about you is so uncertain?

I will not unite under the Lots flag. They have taken the assignment, as if from God, by way of casting lots. Why not present it to God, using the same method of casting lots. And see if you get the same names, asking God to reveal His acceptance, using the same method of pulling the same names?

When I was talking to your sister Shalyce, I told her what I will tell you, it's never been a problem for me to accept that someone has the authority to write. The problem has always been what they do with the authority. Jeff had a little authority, as he supposed. The Lots had a little authority, as they supposed. The late-in-the-game WIKI conversation is a last ditch effort to take the victory. It would not represent God's voice, not to me, and certainly not to my people.

Finally, concerning the simplicity of the KF, it is deep doctrine to those raised in and comfortable with religious institutions. To those of the Hawaiian culture, it is easy doctrine. To those of the Blackfoot culture, it is easy doctrine. To those of Eastern

cultures, according to Other Sheep Indeed, it is easy doctrine.

Your assumptions are killing you bro. And it's killing me too.
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Devin,

If you don't want to waste time, come to my house, and lets talk.

That, my friend, has been available all this time, but you have waited late in the game, just days before the conference to hold a conversation, procrastinated while some of us have been working the entire time. Come to my house and lets take the time to talk it through, hours and hours and hours of time, pushing through the night.

You see that is the work that keeps going undone. That is the tall-order. What you are pushing through is the short-order, the quicky, the wiki!

Denver used the KF for the talk he delivered on Christ. He used the KF to describe the Celestial Kingdom in his book called the three degrees. If that doesn't say something to you about the value of the content of the KF, I don't know what else to say further.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

Clock ticking for what? A G&S? A temple? A fellowship? A general conference? Families to be “converted”? Rebaptism? Converting Christians? Finding and bringing along the remnant? Talking to Jews? Depending on how we understand it, that “ticking clock” may just be our undoing.

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Rob,

My schedule does not allow me hours and hours to drive down to your house and discuss this. I wish it did. The Lord said this could have been a light thing if our hearts were right. I’m sincerely trying to have the kind of heart that will help rather than hurt this process.

Do you have a clear version of the King Follett sermon that you could email me? Is it reliable or is it Brigham-approved? Why do you feel that this is so critical to the G&S that you cannot be in support of a simple document that covers the basics?

At the time the Lots got together to compile their document, they did their best to honor whatever had been previously written and submitted to incorporate principles and ordinance protocols into the document to satisfy as many people as possible while trying to be true to the Lords words (including as revealed through Joseph and Denver). I didn’t follow the many submissions so I really don’t know if you did, but did you advocate at that time for the King Follett sermon to be included? If not, why not? It may have been factored in or worked into their document if it had.

With hundreds of people included in the covenant I don’t think it’s fair for any group attempting to write a document to be required to contact every person who took the

covenant to ask what their suggestions or requirements would be in writing a simple G&S document. Yet even after they did, I know they attempted to contact and resolve concerns without whomever voted against the document.

Can we find a solution here that you can agree with? If you have clear principles (I don't think that doctrines were alluded to be included in this document) that you think are important to add into the G&S from the King Follett sermon, can you articulate it here on this forum so we can work toward mutual agreement?

Love,
Devin

P.S. My email is navysky27@hotmail.com for that King Follett document if you have one you could send me.

- Mark March 18, 2018

I feel to repent after reading Denver's 9th parable. I am sorry if I have offended anyone. I desire to live in peace with all of my covenant brothers and sisters. Harmony between brethren is more important than being right. I'm grateful for the efforts of everyone in trying to produce a statement of principles. I believe that parable can be directly applied to this circumstance. The underlying message: can we live in peace together? I know that I have not personally helped to attain to peace and I want to do things differently moving forward. I love being part of this great latter-day movement because it is teaching me about myself and hopefully helping me be a better person for it.

- Jim March 18, 2018

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If I understand Rob correctly, what he wants to see is a document that he can recognize as filled with light (a "light" thing). Something that represents our combined effort to reach into the highest heaven, contemplate the darkest abyss and as a stone cut without hands, fill the Lord's requirement that a statement of principles be adopted by mutual agreement and added as a guide and standard for his people.

If I understand Gordon's position correctly, he represents those who seek to put aside differences and come together in unity over a document that fills the same requirement from the Lord.

"... for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands".

As a replacement for D&C section 20, there appears to be (at least) two views represented.

1) I (speaking for myself, personally) have been of the opinion that the statement of principles, as a replacement for D&C 20's organization of offices, procedures for baptism, duties of members, etc., could be something as simple as the basic list of requirements for fellowships that Denver has received from the Lord and presented in talks and books, etc. Back in October of 2016 (before anything to do with G&S or scripture committee etc.), someone from my fellowship compiled an index for Denver's Preserving the Restoration that included a section of all the things that had been written about the functioning of fellowships. It was (and is) an excellent resource. In my view, the requirement for a statement of principles to replace D&C 20 could be fulfilled by nothing more than such an index that doesn't require revelation from on high, as long as

there was mutual agreement.

- Jim March 18, 2018

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2) Rob has begun to enlighten me to another view that I have not considered. In addition to organizational requirements, D&C 20 also includes revealed light and truth. It is the revealed light and truth that a simple index or "Denver Snuffer Quotation document" (DSQ) lacks. If all we are going to do is quote something, why not quote the doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount and call it good?

What I hear Rob saying is that if we could put as much energy and time into uniting our hearts in prayer and trusting in Christ to tell us His part, as we have in creating committees, campaigning, voting, and trying to push through some version of a DSQ document, we could have a statement of principles that fully fills the Lord's requirement to bless, benefit, and inform, WITH REVEALED LIGHT, others who know nothing, as yet, of His work underway.

Rob, is your desire for a document filled with light of greater importance to you than the unity Gordon seeks?

Gordon, is the unity you seek more important to you than having a document filled with the light that Rob seeks?

If we united in prayer do we have faith that Christ will tell us His part? Is it possible His part can include both a document filled with light as well as the unity we seek?

Jay Ball
(sorry, I forgot I was logged in as a different user named "Jim")

- Jay March 18, 2018

Rob, I have posted a response to your conversation thread with Gordon here:

https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/03/dear-everyone-goodbye.html?showComment=1521427877853#c5740284266465170983

(I accidentally posted under user name "Jim")

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

It is true, the lots did open up their first draft document for everyone to review and contact them by phone or email to address any concerns, including if there were additions that should be added.

I remember, because I made a suggestion and it was added. I was treated with respect and kindness and I appreciated that even though I wasn't one of the seven, I was given ability to share the revelation I had about the content, to be included.

I spoke with two other men, and one married couple who also made recommendations that were incorporated.

Opportunity existed for everyone in the movement to contribute if they felt something important was missing.

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

Jay,

All the G&Ss I have read are filled with light. They could hardly be otherwise since they all rely heavily on scripture. That is not to say that I think they are all equal: I think some are better than others. But I refuse to say which. Because, I'm convinced that the hurdle we are trying to get over is not finding the most perfect G&S, or creating a perfect G&S.

In The Answer the Lord tells us that our scriptures have flaws, but they are good enough for now. He holds out hope, I believe, that one day we will receive more. Similarly I believe that any of the G&Ss are good enough for now, if we will just stop arguing with each other. We can improve our G&S over time.

Part of the problem is that like the father of King Lamoni we suspect each other's motives.

"Lamoni, thou art going to deliver these Nephites, who are sons of a liar. Behold, he robbed our fathers; and now his children are also come amongst us that they may, by their cunning and their lyings, deceive us, that they again may rob us of our property."

But, also as with the father of King Lamoni, I think there is hope for us to come quickly to an epiphany. And to have our hearts changed by the Spirit of the Lord. I hope, and believe, that will happen at this conference.

"And when he saw that Ammon had no desire to destroy him, and when he also saw the great love he had for his son Lamoni, he was astonished exceedingly,"

May God help us to come together in love.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Devin,

Your sister Shalyce called and talked to me on the phone. I offered my input, and I have been inputting here since this site was up and running. If they wanted to hear what I had to say, it was available here. I never supported the Lots effort, that not representing faith to me, allowing those who felt it was to them to act according to the dictates of their own heart.

Yet, only now, less than a week to conference, the frenzy begins again, as people like you who have remained silent until now, choose to press for assimilation. The proposal for KF inclusion, for the third time now, is not justified as simply an addendum, an after thought, a side busting concept. It deserves primacy, especially up against the Lots document.

Your posts seem to repeat itself, even when I have answered you directly. It makes me question your genuineness, and your heart, once again. Especially when you delete your original post, accusing me of making your sister Shalyce bawl on the phone.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Jay Ball,

I have read your response, and I like the summary. I feel much more understood by you in a short response, than all the responses I have gotten from Devin Fausett above. In answer to your question, I do think that when light is the focus, peace and unity is a byproduct. Gordon has used the two great commandments, so I'll refer to that. Love God is the focus on loving light. Love your neighbor is the byproduct, it is the unity Gordon seeks. Put them backwards, and you have focused on loving your neighbor, and loving God as a byproduct. It never works that way.

Heat transfers to cold, and never the other way around. Light travels from a greater to a lesser, not the other way around.

Thanks Jay for the summary,
Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett March 18, 2018

Rob,

I have tried, and I'm exhausted. I guess I will just withdraw from discussing with you as you don't seem to want to compromise on this. I love you and wish you the best. I've tried so hard to not dispute and I would rather pull back and stop contributing if it's going to be misconstrued or seen as disputing.

I'd rather just retreat and adopt Denver's position on the matter (this is copied and pasted from Karen's response earlier, so the bolded words were her emphasis):
I would rather SUBMIT to the DECISION of THE GROUP than insist that my view be followed. For me HARMONY BETWEEN BRETHREN is MORE IMPORTANT than getting what I THINK BEST to be followed. I believe HARMONY CAN LEAD TO MUCH GREATER THINGS than can merely enforcement of even a CORRECT VIEW. I know how difficult it is to have a correct view, because of how often I have been corrected by the Lord. Sometimes I am humiliated by my foolishness when the Lord reproves me. Humiliation can lead to humility, but my experience is that the humiliation is accompanied by shame, whereas humility can proceed with a clear conscience. My experience with others leads me to conclude that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can likewise come to have one mind. But if we INSIST on having ONE MIND at the outset, we may never obtain ONE HEART TOGETHER. ” — Denver Snuffer

I'm out.
Love,
Devin

- HuhWhatda March 18, 2018

Devin,

Easy come easy go. Compromise is unattractive to me. I would prefer that when facing a deadlock, waiting upon the Lord, until more light is given, before moving forward. Compromising upon opinions, I believe is not compromise at all, it's just shifting opinions. Compromising truth is totally unacceptable to me. But to make things worse, compromising my truth, for your opinions is totally not an option for me.

I like the quote you and Karen both mistakenly use from Denver. Harmony is the

combination of simultaneous musical notes that compliment one another, and is pleasing to hear. Denver used that word for a reason, and you and Karen have used it to mean that different notes ought to get in tuned with you. Where is the harmony of different notes? How is your and Karen's silent treatment harmonious? You have not recommended harmony.

Although you have considered your efforts to be associated with harmony, I think that the push, all throughout your comments, your reading past me to push your agenda at an image of peace, and your ignoring what I am saying for your perception of what I am saying, ...they are all a part of what Denver labeled "enforcement of even a CORRECT VIEW."

Here, I have continually requested more work. I still do, but you have expressed not being "able" to spend hours. In the absence of investing the time, enforcement of a vote is the compensation, or the compromise you have chose to support.

You are free to act according to your own conscience. Each of us are judged by the truth being presented, whether by me or the passerby, and that makes for a very appropriate test. You have much to judge my heart by my words, feel free to do just that. I hide no agenda. I've not locked down and finalized what all of this is supposed to look like. Throughout the entire process I have constantly reflected, have been given more instruction, and have continued to work, ...while those who think like you continually want to cut that work short with a short-order vote. I am not persuaded.

Peace OUT!
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 19, 2018

1 of 2

To: The Movement,

The following quote has been tilted in my direction multiple times, but in error:

I would rather SUBMIT to the DECISION of THE GROUP than insist that my view be followed. For me HARMONY BETWEEN BRETHREN is MORE IMPORTANT than getting what I THINK BEST to be followed. I believe HARMONY CAN LEAD TO MUCH GREATER THINGS than can merely enforcement of even a CORRECT VIEW. I know how difficult it is to have a correct view, because of how often I have been corrected by the Lord. Sometimes I am humiliated by my foolishness when the Lord reproves me. Humiliation can lead to humility, but my experience is that the humiliation is accompanied by shame, whereas humility can proceed with a clear conscience. My experience with others leads me to conclude that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can likewise come to have one mind. But if we INSIST on having ONE MIND at the outset, we may never obtain ONE HEART TOGETHER. ” — Denver Snuffer

The idea of GROUP THINK is despised by Denver, and is a representation of institutionalization. Yet, that is how the above quote is pitched, …that some how we should go with the majority. Read the quote carefully, and take notice of the comparison Denver uses. He compares the DECISION OF THE GROUP with FOLLOWING HIS VIEW. He also compares HARMONY with ENFORCING A CORRECT VIEW. All this quote points out to me is the disgust Denver has with people following a man and enforcing a correct view. This correctly compliments D&C 121, regarding the use of priesthood, against idle worship, and using compulsory means to generate an external result. The LDS subscribes to GROUP THINK, FOLLOWING MEN, AND ENFORCING

A CORRECT VIEW. Those misusing this quote to support the Lots document are prescribing an idea in alignment with GROUP THINK, FOLLOWING MEN (the lotsters), and ENFORCING A CORRECT VIEW with a vote/majority/percentages/polls/voice of the people. This is contradictory to how they use this quote to justify their actions.

I have recommended that light is independent of any and all institutions. None of us came here because of borrowed light. We are here because God has condescended to give us more light through a man in the wilderness. We are here in this movement, having been animated by God's word, and not because Denver was a cool guy, or held an office, or controlled a multibillion dollar corporation. He is removed from this project, requiring us to put our ears to the ground, and recognize light among us, allowing the light to lead out, rather than our traditions. The Lots people claim their document full of light, but King Follet offers far more light than that. However, since they claim a majority over Joseph Smith's King Follet, they have chosen to be animated by less light, rather than receiving more. If the assignment is published, having preferred less light over more, we have sealed the fate of this movement as remaining under the condemnation of the early saints who took lightly the words of Christ, instead of receiving and producing fruits with greater light. The Lotsters are flying to pieces like glass, unable to be questioned, unwilling to compare their light to that of King Follet.

- HuhWhatda March 19, 2018

2 of 2

If we claim to be the stone cut out of the mountains without hands, lesser light should give way to greater light, so that we can all be lead by greater light, out of the bondage of our own minds. The light thing is allowing the greater light to give order to the lesser light. And the Gods commanded and waited for those they commanded to obey. Light is being offered. But GROUP THINK rejects further light and knowledge. Men ought to be judged by their choices, and their ability to recognize light and truth, rather than FOLLOWING MEN and ENFORCING A CORRECT VIEW.

I will not enforce my view on another. I have left that crap behind, dusting my feet on the porch of the church, when I was physically thrown out by two Samoans. I have also left behind group think, refusing to simply go with the crowd. I will face the consequences of my choices like a man, being fully held accountable for making a mistake, whether on this blog, in person, or in the actions of my children.

If God condescends to slap me across the face, I will consider it revelation, and be grateful for it. I will not be a coward, hiding my secret combinations, flowering up contention in pretty words, feigning relationships of love, with fake smiles, air kisses, emojis, and glad handing. I have made mistakes, and have eaten crow because of it, claiming the mistake, calling myself Chief Crow-eater. I have done it here too, mistaking James I with "The Real James," James II, or James Fargo. I am not embarrassed by my mistakes, and am ready and willing to learn from them and correct them.

Some have made STRONG comments here, under the title anonymous, refusing to be held accountable for their mistakes. Others have written harsh mischaracterized words, allowing them to be read for a time, and then deleting the comment, as if deleting the comment repairs the damage caused, leaving them to be perceived as "innocent" to those who come late to the conversation. Yet, none of them have been willing to engage in a contemplative conversation, valuing another's point of view. They will only go so far as their ability to get their motion passed, like a governmental delegate in a political legislature. These are all habits of Babylon, the very stuff that the stone cut without hands will grind to pieces. We must allow those habits to be ground to pieces within us first.

I am more than willing to have a conversation with anyone wanting to understand my perspective on King Folett, the big picture, the spark giving life to this movement, greater light leading lesser light, etc. I do not care for this digital venue of conversation, but we have been reduced to this in the absence of relationships. I will be in Phoenix and would be willing to talk then too. If we are truly the House of Israel, then we ought to act like it. Israel was the name given to Jacob, meaning to wrestle God, because Jacob wrestled from God a covenant. Although Boise was an invitation to receive a covenant, and you have all accepted the invitation, it is now time to act like Israel, and wrestle this covenant from God. A quick, short-order vote, silent treatment, passive aggressive attitudes, and side-busting comments, …is far from wrestling from God a covenant. It is Gentile customs, ways, and habits. To be number among the House of Israel is to wrestle from God a covenant, to stretch your minds high into the highest heavens, contemplate the darkest abyss, and commune with God. That's a life worth living, and a life worth giving! It's a good day to die. Hurrah for Israel!

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet March 19, 2018

Those are powerful words you've spoken, Rob. My brain had to do a few flips to see your understanding of the quote from DS, but I totally see what you mean now.

I feel like my brain has been programmed and my heart conditioned to see and think in certain ways, hence the struggle for me to understand correctly at times. All I feel capable of is grounding myself in love for others. It's what I have continuously needed to do throughout this experience. Once there, with my emotions more centered and controlled, I can hear and see better. Most importantly, I can see and hear light when it is taught. I'm a mess otherwise.

What is your understanding about what, if anything, to do with the doctrine of Christ and His law in terms of a statement of light building upon the King Follett sermon? Too soon to know, because we need more light and relationships?

ASIDE: My comment to Karen above was not in agreement with the lots statement or any others at this point. It was about seeing something off-topic yet applicable to us that she has also seen. I will leave it at that.

- HuhWhatda March 19, 2018

Lori,

I see the Doctrine and Law of Christ as the place from which we must launch from, that's for sure. But, before we blast off into outer space, we had better have direction, and that is where King Follett comes into play. King Follett gives us a map of a heavenly system, often called the cosmos, and how that works to console those who have lost loved ones. It's really big picture, and fights against the thinking of the world, to grind that mentality to dust, like the stone cut without hands is prophesied to do.

Thanks for asking Lori,

Rob Adolpho

- McKay March 19, 2018

Assuming complete unanimity is never achieved on a Guide and Standard then publishing that Guide and Standard in the scriptures would FORCE that G&S on those who oppose it. If, however, every individual must ADD the G&S to their own scriptures once they choose to join with those who have mutually agreed on a G&S, then agency and accountability is preserved. This vote in Phoenix may achieve mutual agreement on a G&S among the 300-400 who attend but that would not prevent those not in attendance from agreeing in the privacy of their own home and adding the G&S to their own scriptures.

- HuhWhatda March 19, 2018

That wasn't very clear. Can you try again?

Rob Adolpho

- MichaelBurke March 21, 2018

Yes Jared--Do you support the scripture committee here? And do you have any words of enchoragement, praise, or gratitude you'd like to share here.

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Beloved Enos.... pg 33-34

"His relationship with the Lord resulted from his charity towards others, including his enemies. Doctrine is always less important than a person's character. Although you may have a deep understanding of doctrine, if you lack charity towards others your understanding will be of no benefit."

Process update

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

On Feb 9 th we proposed a vote to the Scriptures Committee (SC) and asked them to publish whichever Guide and Standard (G&S) was chosen using a voting process which we outlined. On March 3 rd the SC agreed to our request. Now, however, the SC has had second thoughts, and has declined any further involvement with the G&S. Because of this our proposal cannot go forward as planned and **no online vote will be carried out as has been announced.**
However, there will still be an effort to achieve mutual agreement among those attending the conference. It will follow this outline.

1. A voice vote choosing between the various G&Ss will take place during the Saturday meeting.
2. If the majority's preference can be clearly determined, the minority will be asked if they will agree to not dispute the majority's choice.
3. If nearly all the minority agrees to not dispute, and only a few remain in opposition, then those who remain opposed will be invited to meet with a delegate of our group who will listen to their concerns and inquire again if they are willing to accept the majority's choice.
4. At the Sunday meeting, the conference will be told the number of those that remain opposed. And another voice vote will occur, in which those at the conference will be asked if they would like to proceed and adopt the chosen guide and standard.
5. If unity is achieved (but not unanimity) a suggestion will be offered as to how we

can each proceed individually to fulfill the Lord's command to add a G&S to our scriptures.

6. No online participation is provided for in his vote. The vote is designed primarily to promote/show unity among those at the conference. But anyone viewing from home can of course choose whether or not to accept the majority's choice. And the suggestion offered in step 5 will be open to everyone.

We believe there is a real opportunity to make progress towards, or to find, mutual agreement at the conference. And we believe that there is a legitimate way for each of us to individually obey the Lord's command regarding a G&S if those at the conference can achieve unity.

Jeanene Custer Donald and Christy Danner Gordon Platt Rebecca Wolford Others

Comments

- etluxentenebrislucet — March 14, 2018

Welp, ya gotta do what ya gotta do. I don't agree that only choosing to vote among those in attendance is the right thing to do, but I understand. I will continue to pray for us all to receive the greater light and knowledge we need to move forward. God bless us all.

- Anonymous — March 14, 2018

Gordon
If a spirit of goodwill possesses the assembly at the conference and you can achieve mutual agreement among the 500 or so at the conference in Phoenix what does that get us? Is it anything more than a gesture? Or is this baby steps to mutual agreement (to quotes Boll Murray)?

- Anonymous — March 14, 2018

This is not a stunt. It is not just a plebiscite. It has the potential to successfully resolve this issue for almost everyone, conference attendees and non attendees both. Look again at step 5.

Gordon

- Anonymous — March 14, 2018

There will be MANY who cannot physically be in attendance at the Phoenix Conference. This doesn't concern anyone?

- Dani — March 14, 2018

When you say "the various G&Ss, do you mean all of them or the three (last I saw) that were submitted specific to this vote?

- TBM — March 14, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous — March 14, 2018

Dani,

The original Feb. 9 vote proposal is kaput! It died when the SC changed their mind about publishing. So the three nominated G&Ss have no special status in the vote which will take place in Phoenix.

We believe however that there is a way to show at the conference that a clear majority preference of G&Ss exists. I don't know how to make you believe this, so I will just say it. We care very much that this process is fair and does not exclude any of the G&Ss from being presented to and considered by the assembly.

Gordon

- Cherryann March 14, 2018

So which GS documents are up for an initial vote Saturday morning? They have to be resubmitted again?

What does a “voice vote” mean?

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

The G&S documents do not have to resubmitted.

The voice vote will go something like this: All those who would like the "lots" document adopted as our Guide and Standard please say "yes." All those who would like the Nonmancaaf Swhafugs document as our guide and Standard, please say "yes." Etc..

We think that the clear preference of the assembly will be manifest by this vote. If we are wrong we'll apologize and shut up. We will have wasted a couple minutes of your time. If the vote demonstrates that there is a clear majority preference, then we can take the next step toward mutual agreement, which is to ask those in the minority if they will agree not to dispute the choice of the majority.

gordon

- McKay March 14, 2018

I received an email from a friend reporting some misconceptions about our current effort to get mutual agreement on a G&S in Phoenix. She reported fears that people were being left out, decisions were being made in Phoenix that would be forced on people without their consent. The people she was hearing from wanted to resurrect the online vote. I wrote this in response.

Our effort to decide once and for all which G&S would be published in the scriptures is dead and a new, less ambitious effort has begun. The effort in Phoenix will have no binding impact on those not attending. People who express that they are being left out imagine that decisions will be made at the conference which will be forced on them if they don’t attend and voice their input. That will not happen. If we can through love and humility come together as a conference and achieve agreement on a G&S, those not attending will miss out on that experience but a G&S that they disagree with will not suddenly appear in their scriptures. That I can promise. No G&S will show up in anyone’s scriptures unless they add it there or unless the publishers of our scriptures can be persuaded to publish it in a later edition. It is too late for this edition.

The new view by everyone on the committee that the G&S can be “added” to the

scriptures in ways other than having the SC publish it, killed our earlier effort. Our effort was a way to satisfy the Scriptures Committee that a fair process had been conducted and a document surfaced as the majorities choice as well as a way to find out if as a people we were largely and substantially in agreement.

We still need to adopt a statement of principles by mutual agreement and then add it as a guide and standard (to the scriptures). That could be done as you and those you are hearing from want to see done with an on,one vote. You said, “I believe we need to add back the online vote so the true majority can be counted in the vote.” I encourage everyone to do what they believe. If that’s what you believe then you and the people that are encouraging you should act according to your belief but I politely decline from organizing or administering such a vote nor do I have the resources to do so.

You are hearing that people want what is no longer being offered. We heard from a great many that they didn’t want an online vote when it was offered. You’re hearing that some want to vote in opposition to the majority. None of that is surprising. If that attitude, to oppose the majority, prevails when we are together sitting side by side as brothers and sisters under covenant, then mutual agreement will not be achieved in Phoenix. If we can’t achieve it among 500 conferees we certainly will not achieve it online with its anonymity and suspicions.

The reasons I gave for not resurrecting a movement-wide online vote may not persuade you but I am not persuaded to get behind an effort I don’t believe in, and technically can’t do just because there are some who are conspiring to sabotage an effort to achieve unity out of their misperceptions and fears.

McKay

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

I totally get what Gordon’s doing in Phoenix. He’s Dr. Dreyfus and we’re Bill Murray like I said earlier. Do yourself a favor and watch it

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=FyIXr0-GHh8

- etluxentenebrislucet March 14, 2018

Is there still a desire to pray together and ask for the Lord's part while at the conference?

- Anonymous March 14, 2018

I'm much better looking than Richard Dreyfus.

Gordon

- JohnDutson March 15, 2018

“There is great reason to rejoice because of the work that has been done. There is little reason for any to be angry or to harshly criticize the labor to recover the scriptures, and so my answer to you concerning the scriptures is to guide you in other work to be done hereafter; for recovering the scriptures does not conclude the work to be accomplished by those who will be my people: it is but a beginning.”
I think we are actually making progress. We are after all just beginning to learn a whole new process of governing. Mistakes have and more will be made as we learn.
So, my thinking is we should all take a deep breath and not get too concerned over the mistakes that may or may not (depending on your personal view) been made and take more reason to rejoice over these beginnings.

- JohnDutson March 15, 2018

If anyone here is part of or knows someone on the Phoenix conference committee, I think we should absolutely have a portion of one of the conference sessions set aside for ALL to kneel in supplication to the Lord, and done in a way that those participating online can join in their homes. I think it would be powerful.

- JohnDutson March 15, 2018

3 Nephi 19:6
“And the twelve did teach the multitude; and behold, they did cause that the multitude should kneel down upon the face of the earth, and should pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus.”
I think we all know what those prayers produced for the group.
Or there’s this.
2 Nephi 32:8
“And now, my beloved brethren, I perceive that ye ponder still in your hearts; and it grieveth me that I must speak concerning this thing. For if ye would hearken unto the Spirit which teacheth a man to pray, ye would know that ye must pray; for the devil spirit teacheth not a man to pray, but teacheth him that he must not pray.”
Perhaps our conferences have been a little too LDS Gentile mode and not enough covenant people mode? You know, maybe a covenant people kneeling together in prayer should at least have equal priority to voting on something?

- Dad March 15, 2018

from Jeff and Janeen Carter #1
Like many of you, we have pondered and prayed over this governing principles/guide and standard/statement of principles issue. One of the lessons we have learned is that if we are not getting a clear response from the Lord it may be because we aren’t asking the right questions. We would like to put forth some ideas in regards to this. Please forgive and excuse our writing as it is not something we do that well. We hope you will look beyond the words and feel what is being said here.
We may be looking at two different issues.
1. The original assignment/approval/consent given to Jeff Savage was to write a replacement for D & C section 20.
2. To create a statement of principles to be added as a guide and standard
The first issue is Jeff Savage and his document. Jeff put in the time and effort to accomplish his task and received an answer. For whatever reason there were those who opposed the work he did. Do we not believe that each of us can receive assignments and answers from the Lord? Why do we doubt and contend so? This was to be a replacement for section 20. Had we accepted the work Jeff did for what it was intended to be, it would have been a light thing.
Then came the request from the Lord to make a statement of principles. Nowhere have

we found where we were asked to create a document telling others how to run a fellowship. We are not sure where that idea came from but feel that is where a lot of this went off the rails. A statement of principles is just that….statements that state what we believe or principles we abide by.
(to be continued)

- Dad March 15, 2018

#2 Jeff and Janeen Carter

"You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands"
" But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by mutual agreement"….
"When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow".
A statement of principles is referred to at least 6 times and maybe more that we missed. It is to be added as a guide and standard, not be the guide and standard. The scriptures are the guide and standard and in the covenant we accept to use the scriptures to correct ourselves and guide our words, thoughts and deeds.
What if a short concise "statement of principles" was just that, a statement of principles. Here is an example:
We as people who have accepted the Covenant from Jesus Christ through God's servant David seek to become Gods family through repentance and coming unto Christ.
We put no man between us and God but seek as individuals to have fellowship with God through the Atonement of Jesus Christ.
We recognize the need for unity in becoming of one heart and mind to prepare ourselves for the Lord to restore Zion again to the Earth.
We recognize the scriptures and not men as our guide and standard and seek to restore the Words of Joseph Smith
We seek for equality that we may all see eye to eye so there are no poor among us no disputations and none will need say know ye the Lord for we will all know Him.
The poor amongst us are liberated through our tithing and support of one another as we act in concert through group fellowship
Through the Covenant we seek to be instruments in restoring the remnant of Jacob to the promises made to their fathers and restoring the lost tribes of Israel.

We assume these are all statements we can agree upon and explain easily what we believe. Are these statements truly where are our hearts are? Are they a light thing?

(continuing...)

- Dad March 15, 2018

#3 Jeff and Janeen Carter

As we think about this ask yourselves the questions, " What was it that brought me and you to this point? What do I believe enough to make such changes in my life, whether it be to go through excommunication as many have, have my name removed from church records, simply "fade away" or whatever else we are choosing to do to be where we are?"

Can we not agree on the above statements or similar ones and move forward? We truly feel the Lord will correct us as He promised in the answer if we are just willing to put down our "stuff" and trust Him.
Now some have said that "Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my

work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them"…. The reasoning is that we need to lay everything out for those who are searching. Our thoughts are, if someone who knows not yet of the Lords work reads a simple statement of principles similar to the ones above, they will have a basic idea of what is happening. It is not overwhelming in length and the scriptures are there to teach them. We all too often discount personal revelation and heavenly messengers to teach as well.
The scriptures already contain the Sermon on the Mount and the account in 3Nephi. We don't think we need to repeat those.
As far as mutual agreement, this too should be a light thing. Mutual agreement does not mean 100% of us think the same thing. To us it means that we love and respect each other enough to not dispute. We may not see eye to eye or we may have differing opinions, however we can choose not to contend out of love and respect.
We hope this all makes sense and possibly gives us another idea of how this issue might possibly be resolved.
Jeff and Janeen Carter

- Mark March 15, 2018

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- Mark March 15, 2018

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- Mark March 15, 2018

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- Anonymous March 15, 2018

I wonder if this statement could have applied to this entire question, especially considering one statement had over 93% support of the body.

"I would rather submit to the decision of the
group than insist that my view be followed. For
me harmony between brethren is more important
than getting what I think best to be followed. I
believe harmony can lead to much greater things
than can merely enforcement of even a correct view.
I know how difficult it is to have a correct view,
because of how often I have been corrected by the
Lord. Sometimes I am humiliated by my foolishness
when the Lord reproves me. Humiliation can lead to
humility, but my experience is that the humiliation
is accompanied by shame, whereas humility can
proceed with a clear conscience.
My experience with others leads me to conclude
that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can
likewise come to have one mind. But if we insist on

having one mind at the outset, we may never obtain
one heart together."
— Denver Snuffer

- ShaneGuymon March 15, 2018

That's a great quote.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 16, 2018

I wanted to invite others to read something insightful written by Hugh Nibley. I was pointed to it by another here. I feel it provides good things to ponder about the Book of Mormon remnant to whom the Gospel of Christ will be taken to. They are going to bring some wonderful lessons and understandings in the future. Perhaps we can consider what Brother Nibley recorded as we find a way to move forward.

Promised Lands by Hugh Nibley
https://publications.mi.byu.edu/fullscreen/?pub=1094&index=6

- McKay March 16, 2018

Et Lux suggested a prayer at the conference. John Dutson suggested kneeling. Paul Durham likes the idea as do I and Gordon. Would anyone like to carry this out, decide on a gathering place, a time and lead us in prayer? The conference per se begins at 11:00, singing at 10:30, the doors open at 10:00 and the conference organizers have a tight schedule so this should be before 10:30 so as not to interrupt the planned program.

- JohnDutson March 16, 2018

I envisioned 500 plus covenant people of the Lord in a room and 100's more around the world, all kneeling in supplication to the Lord, in their own hearts, no public prayer, they tend to be a sermon or an attempt at impressing others.
To have all those attempting to abide the covenant crying for further light and knowledge at the same time brings a powerful image to me, it seems almost as though if we don't we demonstrate our unwillingness to kneel and receive from the Lord, so that He can ask to awake and arise to receive further. To move closer, together, in becoming one in Christ.
I feel embarrassed that we aren't even far enough along to have that been on any conference agenda to date.
To me it's a very powerful image that could, with real intent, in faith believing produce powerful fruit.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 17, 2018

My family and I will not be in attendance, but will watch whatever sessions are broadcasted.

What John is suggesting is also what I had in mind; that way no single person is expected to be voice and interpreter for everyone. Each person gets to kneel and ask Father in Christ's name for himself/herself.

I have always been impressed at the oneness of those in Book of Mormon accounts. Their experiences with unified prayer seemed the result of Spirit and happened rather

spontaneously.

I do hope conference goers will be open to the Spirit. Part of why I would prefer not to discuss or have a vote at a "general conference" over the GS is because any rancor, anger, or judgment will shut down the flow of the Spirit; less Light will be shared.

- Jay March 17, 2018

As a point of possible interest to this group, I just finished reading the "Guide and Standard" for the community at Qumran from Dead Sea Scrolls (Translation by Florentino Garcia Martinez Second Edition). The section is titled "The Rule of the Community" (or in a diffrent translation by Wise, Abegg, & Cook it is called "Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association").

Entry to the group was by conversion, decisions were made by majority rule. Local chapters (quorums?) comprised at least ten men who met for meals and bible study and each year conducted a full review of the membership. At that time a man's rank could change.

A committee of men in authority "rule for the men of the community who freely volunteer to convert... acquiesce to the authority of the sons of Zadok, the priests who safeguard the covenant and to the authority of the multitude of the men of the community... By it's authority, decision by lot shall be made in every affair" (1 QS V:1-3)

Rules for discipline and disfellowship or excommunication from the community are spelled out (to me it reads like an ancient bishop's handbook)

Blessing of bread and wine discussed - 1 QS V:2-6
Rules of conduct for speaking in turn - 1 QS V:9-13

I noticed there was a lot of Levite cursings throughout:
"May God's anger and the wrath of his verdicts consume him for everlasting destruction" (1 QS II:15)

These rules appear to have been established before sermon on mount and includes a lot of good wisdom to live by:
"For the truth of God is the rock of my steps,
and his might the support of my right hand.
From the spring of his justice is my judgement
and from the wonderful mystery is the light of my heart" (1 QS XI:4-5)

I also noticed similarities to the Answer and Covenant:

"And all those who enter the Rule of the community shall establish a covenant before God in order to carry out all that he commands and in order not to stray from following him" (1 QS I:16-17)

"And all those who enter the covenant shall confess after them and they shall say: We have acted sinfully,... we and our fathers before us... but he has showered on us his merciful favor" (1 QS I:24-26)

Though their rules are clearly not applicable to our current situation, I found it an interesting study.

Jay Ball

- TwoCents March 17, 2018

I realize that this process put forth is revelation to you, and your intentions are good. I understand your belief about voting, and I can respect that too.

I also realize that what I say and do may be seen as “a pain in the neck,” that’s how my Samoan bishop saw me. He didn’t like that I asked questions or spoke up. He too wanted me to join the “majority.” He too, used a similar argument that the “majority” has put forth, only he used quotes from the LDS leaders. I realize that this groups proposal to vote, is separate from the “majority Lots” proposal, but in many ways they are similar: vote, majority rules, most of the minority are sought out and listened to, but majority rules in the end. This to me sounds like democracy; albeit the majority will listen to the minority and then ask them if they will accept the majority’s will (which provides the minority with a choice that the majority are offering).

With that being said, I have a couple of questions for you:) Are you saying that if I stand in “opposition” to the majority, that I am choosing to defend my turf? What’s my turf? Several times, it has been mentioned that the minority will be given a chance to show their love for the majority; show that they are a team player; show that they want unity; and show that they are humble. By stating these things, you are also stating if I continue to oppose the majority then I: don’t love the individuals who make up the majority; I’m not a team player; I don’t want unity; and that I am not humble.

When my husband came to me talking to me about Denver Snuffer, I was skeptical; in fact, it was a while before I even considered what he was saying. When I first started to consider the things he was saying, I compared what he was saying to the Book of Mormon. The more I studied what he was saying I realized that his message was consistent with the Book of Mormon, which helped me to know that what he was saying was true. I will continue to use this method when I am trying to decipher whether or not somebody is speaking truth. I don’t hear truth in the idea of just submitting to the majority. This to me sounds like you are wanting me to submit to a system that has been proven to be problematic- democracy.

I don’t see anywhere in the last day prophecies it will be “group think” or “majority rule” that will save. Scriptures always talk about a “few”. In 2 Nephi 28, we are warned 10 times of how we will fail, be misled, and accept as true things which are false.

I know what the Lord told me, I know what I’ve been commanded to do. I will choose to submit to Him and not the “majority” When I stand before the Lord, I can say I did as I was instructed, and I was true to the knowledge He gave me and what was in my heart. Where in the scriptures does it tell me to forget what the Lord has commanded me to do and go along with the majority for the sake of peace?

Q

- EdwinWilde March 18, 2018

Q,
You have made reference to the statement that you know what the Lord commanded you to do and what He told you.
I know these matters can be personal but personally I would be interested to rally behind a position of revelation.
Therefore could you share with us -either in reply in these comments or perhaps it would be better in a new post- what the Lord told you and what He commanded you?

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

Q,

I think you are talking to me (Gordon). Forgive me if you are not.

I did not favor the "lots" document. I didn't vote for it. Never, ever supported it. Instead, I like what I wrote. It's good, well written, doctrinally sound, the writing flows, etc. But it's pointless to defend it. the document is not what is being tested here. If you doubt I'm right, look at The Answer and see how much time the Lord spends talking about our hearts versus how much time he spends talking about the content of the guide and standard. It's 20 to one. If I spend my time focused on defending my turf - my own preference for G&S - I have missed the point. Whatever G&S is produced by us (let's face it, we're kind of a mess) is going to be flawed. Why not focus on what the Lord is focused on? That's why my efforts are going to be dedicated to finding agreement rather than pursuing a perfect document. And we've been condemned already for delaying, so I think there's some urgency.

I do believe that it is an act of generosity, and love, and patience to voluntarily lay aside one's own preference to give to others what they desire. The reciprocal is not necessarily true however. If you are doing what you feel is right, even if it's to stick to your guns (metaphorical guns) and oppose the majority, then God bless you. I will not condemn you. In fact you have my respect. I would never tell you to disobey the Spirit. And you are correct of course, the scriptures do not tell us to forget what the Lord commands. I have not criticized you, and i will not criticize you. I don't know what's in your heart, I can't judge you. So I had better give you the benefit of the doubt.

That's good advice for everyone I think. Assuming that we know what's in someone else's heart, and ascribing to them the worst kind of motives is counterproductive. If relationships are going to be strengthened by dialogue, it had better be loving dialogue, patient dialogue, wise words rather than angry words.

I commit to do that. I hope others will too.

Gordon

- Mark March 18, 2018

Gordon, great sentiments for all of us because when I read the 9th parable - that is the presiding message: can we live in peace together?

- Donald March 18, 2018

This evening I went to an Interfaith Musical Tribute in the SLC Tabernacle. It was wonderful to see unity and cooperation among so many different religious traditions. My daughter was one of the presenters. She recited a verse from the Sacred Writings of the Baha'i faith..."The Hidden Words of Bahau'llah." It was meaningful to me and I wanted to share it here, especially as we struggle to unite our hearts:

"O children of Men! Know ye not why we created you all from the same dust?
That no one should exalt himself over the other.
Ponder at all times in your hearts how ye were created.
Since We have created you all from one same substance it is incumbent upon you to be even as one soul,

to walk with the same feet,
eat with the same mouth,
and dwell in the same land,
that your inmost deeds and actions,
the signs of oneness,
and the essence of detachment may be made manifest.
  Such is My counsel to you,
O concourse of light! Heed ye this counsel that ye may obtain the fruit of holiness from the tree of wonderous glory.

-Bahau'llah

- TwoCents March 18, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TwoCents March 18, 2018

Gordon, from what I gather from what you are saying, you are wanting agreement rather than finding a perfect document. I too agree that we will most likely never get a perfect document. You have received revelation that it is important to obtain agreement with one another; you believe the focus of the Lord is on agreement with one another; and you have determined how we can move towards agreement.

You read the A&C and you see what you see about agreement. I see the Lord's focus to be on telling each one of us to repent and focus on having an individual connection to God. By doing that we have peace within ourselves first and then peace with others next. All too often we look for answers outside of us versus within us.

Have you ever thought that your definitions of all these terms have been influenced by Mormon culture? The Babylonian culture influenced the Bible, and has influenced the western culture, which has impacted religion, even our way of thinking. Fortunately, we have the Book of Mormon which hasn't been influenced by the Babylonian culture and can free us from an institutional mindset.

Now, we have Mormon culture influencing us, which means we define things through a Mormon lens, whether we like it or not. Peace, Unity, Equality, Dispute, etc. are words that have been defined by each one of us, utilizing different lexicons that have been influenced by varying institutions, in particular, the Mormon institution.

When the A&C talks about the "heart being right," to me that means that I must have a broken heart and contrite spirit, freeing myself from an institutional mindset that influences my understanding; becoming like a little child, freeing myself from my current understanding to allow room for Him to provide me with His understanding (a light thing).

Gordon, I appreciate you engaging in a conversation with me, since progress can only be made by open communication and not silence. Gordon, I haven't ever thought you have criticized me, I have thought you have given definitions to certain concepts that are different than mine. I have thought those pushing the "majority" have labeled me, ignored me and talked past me, all the while feigning love towards me, which to me is Mormon culture. But I don't believe that's who they really are, I do believe we all have to overcome our institutional mindsets that have us in bondage.

Q

- Anonymous March 18, 2018

Q,

Certainly my understanding has been influenced by my culture. And as my culture is corrupt, no doubt some of my ideas have been corrupted. But all cultures are corrupt. None of us can escape that entirely. Yet all of us have functioning truth detectors, since we all recognized Christ's words when Denver delivered them. So maybe it's not hopeless.

I don't speak for the majority. But I am sorry if they have labeled you, looked down on you, ignored you, or talked past you. If they did that they were wrong to do it.

We need to mirror heaven's culture, the only one that will endure, and treat each other with love.

Gordon

- TwoCents March 18, 2018

Gordon, I agree with you that all institutions have influenced our cultures, and all cultures are corrupt. I don't see this as hopeless, as we are allowed to repent, turn to Him, Come Unto Him and learn from Him. In fact, this brings me a lot of hope. I am very grateful to the SC for blessing us with the restored Book of Mormon, as it is the standard by which I judge the words of man. I have read many of the ancient texts (Egyptian, Apocryphal, Nag Hammadi, etc) and I use the Book of Mormon to judge those things from. Our truth detector, as you call it, ought to be the Book of Mormon. But we see it differently, and thats the work we must engage in now.

Uniting our hearts and working towards the minds is the work that continues to go missing, in this process. Simply agreeing does nothing to unite the heart, as we have witnessed with the LDS culture. They agree with their leaders, and it doesn't produce a united heart at all. In fact, it isolates their hearts, making uniting hearts impossible because it is not genuine. And therefore, their minds will never be united. The Book of Mormon ought to be the source of hearts being united.

You don't need to worry about how people have treated me in this movement. I grew up on the Rez. I can handle myself. I only mentioned that to show how mormon culture appears among the movement, without it being identified.

I can agree with you 100% when you say that we must mirror heaven's culture. Melchizedek was a great example of this, as he established an individual connection with heaven by seeking great and greater knowledge. He established a fellowship with those in the Heavens. Then he taught others on earth to obtain the same unity with the Heavens. And they became a people of Heaven, on earth. If we can accomplish becoming a people of Heaven on earth, that is when Heaven and earth will reunite.

Q

- Anonymous March 19, 2018

Q,

I'm with you, simply agreeing does nothing to unite hearts IF our motivation is just to fall in line, comply, or obey like sheep. But what if my motivation is to obey God's command

to come to mutual agreement, and my agreeing is done to show respect and love for God and for my fellow believers?

It's like the difference between Communism and Zion. There is a kind of equality in each. But one is forced, one is done voluntarily. One is done out of fear, one is done out of love.

If at the conference the minority can agree, voluntarily and out of love, to support the majority's choice. THEY, the minority, are the ones which will benefit most from the engagement. The majority only gets the G&S they prefer; the minority gets the increased love and expanded heart that come when one sacrifices for another.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 19, 2018

Gordo,

That's a nice way of putting it, those who are of the minority will benefit from the heart expansion. It is also very general, even too general. "Blessings" has been over used. I can tell that you are trying to mitigate the mess through a vote, based on the instructions to you. We will not stand in your way of following through with your instructions. We simply don't agree with the general idea that the minority voluntarily agreeing with the majority produces increased love and expanded heart that comes when one sacrifices for another.

I will let the Lord dictate my sacrifice, rather than your precept, which I think is contradictory. Like you, I too have instructions, that I too will not disobey. You may follow your instructions, and thank you for allowing me to follow my instructions. Sacrifice, if directed by anyone but the Lord, results in disaster.

Rob Adolpho

- McKay March 19, 2018

Assuming complete unanimity is never achieved on a Guide and Standard then publishing that Guide and Standard in the scriptures would FORCE that G&S on those who oppose it. If, however, every individual must ADD the G&S to their own scriptures once they choose to join with those who have mutually agreed on a G&S, then agency and accountability is preserved. This vote in Phoenix may achieve mutual agreement on a G&S among the 300-400 who attend but that would not prevent those not in attendance from agreeing in the privacy of their own home and adding the G&S to their own scriptures.

- HuhWhatda March 20, 2018

Mc Kay,

I'm not quite understanding what you are suggesting here. It could be me, but when I read it, I'm left asking the question, "Huh? What'da?"

Rob Adolpho

March 20, 2018

- HuhWhatda

To: The Movement,

The covenant to be numbered among the House of Israel, is to become Israel. Jacob was named Israel because he wrestled from God a covenant. The name Israel literally means to wrestle God. Last Boise conference was an invitation offered, by way of a covenant, made available to all who desired and who would receive it. It is still offered through us. However, receiving the covenant requires action on our part; it requires that we turn our hearts to the fathers; it requires those who would be numbered among Israel to wrestle from God the covenant.

In the process of the Governing Principles, I am doing my best to wrestle the realization of the covenant to me, and in the process, have bumped, injured, and bruised some of you. E kala mai ia'u (please forgive). I take into deep consideration the things presented before us by you. I spend a lot of time pondering these things, and because of the different opinions, I have made discoveries along the way that have provided me greater light.

Jim O'Rullian, a person I not only consider a friend, but a brother in this faith, has once told me I have changed. He said, I'm used to the Hawaiian who would greet with a smile, a hug, and a joke. But lately you have been dark Rob, mean, and blunt. I appreciate his direct approach, and have taken his words into long consideration, observing my own actions, being clear to not change my behavior, but still observing my choices in Jim's light.

When I first became strictly obedient to follow the prophet, long before 2006, my wife asked me a similar question. She said, "Rob, you're getting so rigid. Where's my Hawaiian? I was certain I married a Hawaiian, not a rigid son of a..."

Again, when I began to study the things of ancient religion, and the things Denver wrote, I sensed a new rigidity, calmed myself down, and rather than taking a direct approach to discuss things with my wife, I studied all day, and then wrote a short blog, to maintain communication; and she read it when she felt inclined to do so. The conversations came naturally. Having tasted the light in small increments, my wife caught fire, and as soon as she could, she began to tear open the scriptures like never before.

Because of my experience with my wife, I have changed my approach toward my Mom. And I am recognizing that I need to change my approach towards Jim O'Rullian, and the rest of you. But I find it difficult to wrestle with God, given the concepts you have presented in all your different documents, and not bump my words with you. I take you seriously, and value my engagement with you, although I come off offensive, rigid, and stiff at times. Like a little baby learning to walk, instead of efficiently recruiting only the muscles necessary, in my early stages I use every muscle I can think of using, not knowing before hand how any of it is done.

To say the least, I am fully committed to this movement, knowing that this is it. It's all or nothing. And for that, many of you have been beaten up by my wide eyed, intense, Haka-like approach. I'm trying to change from a war approach to something more along the lines of surfing, and being one with this wave. Again, e kala mai ia'u (please forgive). I want to wrestle God, and not you. I want to make myself known as Israel and nothing less. I want to win the victory in me, to win a crown, and ascend to the north, ...and that is the desire of my heart. I'll do my best to be more the Happy Hawaiian, because rigidity seems to make me unattractive to my wife.

Rob Adolpho

Chief Crow-tastes-like-chicken

- Anonymous March 20, 2018

Thank you Rob.

A fellow member of the crow-tastes-like-chicken clan, Gordon

- etluxentenebrislucet March 20, 2018

Rob, I don't know you or your wife beyond what you have shared on this blog. Maybe you have changed, but for me I have appreciated the bluntness. At least y'all haven't done like some of us and posted every 30 seconds to say something. It has always appeared to me that y'all have tried to study what is and respond to ideas and thinking rather than making something personal.

Denver had a recent blog post about fruits. In it he quoted Christ teaching how we will be judged by the words we speak, but not just words; we are accountable for all our "idle words."

Sadly, most of my words here have been idle. But you, my friend, your words I would not judge as idle ever. Maybe sometimes we gotta appreciate the passion of a strong heart?

Plus, if some feel you have been "dark, mean, and blunt" others here have also been "dark, mean, and blunt." Why else would we say others are rejecting Christ and His words simply because they disagree with a statement?

We've all been running our mouths. We need to work on our hearts and not be hurt, offended, or frustrated by how another expresses himself/herself or believes.

Mahalo and namaste,
Lori

- LynneMcKinley March 20, 2018

Oh Lord my God, how I love you Rob, and all of you. My heart is just brimming with joy. We are all a work in progress, but we are making progress. No words for all that I am feeling just now reading Rob's post....

- Jay March 20, 2018

Rob,

God bless you my brother.

As it relates to the quote from Denver (Epigraph in T&C), can I ask you a question?

In an effort to see "harmony between brethren" would you be willing to "submit to the decision of the group" if you felt it was not being "enforced" through voting etc.?

I sense that the argument you have is twofold. 1) You refuse to be governed or enforced through a committee of men (a repeat of traditional LDS thinking), and 2) you are seeking for a document filled with light - something that takes off where Joseph Smith left off with the King Follet sermon.

You are, however, willing to contritely "pray together in humility" with others to allow Christ to tell you His part.

For the sake of the "harmony between brethren", where is the common ground where we can unite in mutual agreement with each other?

Personally, I have a tough time trying to envision a document, which purpose is to be a statement of principles on how we conduct fellowships (replacing the organizational elements outlined in D&C 20), being filled with the same intensity of light that I read in other places like D&C 76 (vision of degrees of glory), D&C 88 (Olive Leaf), or the King Follet sermon. Perhaps the document you are looking for is something much greater in scope than a simple outline of how to govern ourselves in fellowship bodies. No matter how inspirationally written, it's difficult for me to see how the basic things like how to conduct baptism, sacrament, fellowship gatherings, etc. can be written with a higher frequency of light than we have already been given in simplicity through Denver. Perhaps I mistake the scope of what the guide and standard is supposed to be?

In love,

Jay

- Jay March 20, 2018

I'm reminded of this favorite quote from Rumi:
"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing
and rightdoing there is a field.
I'll meet you there.
When the soul lies down in that grass
the world is too full to talk about."

- JimORullian March 20, 2018

Rob,

Those are solid words bro….said with humility and grace.
But you're still ugly and your mama dresses you funny!!!! :))

Listen, we have spent years together now studying, discussing and considering. We have shared many a sacred moment on more than one mountain-top. I've known all along where your heart is and it would be neigh impossible for me to lose love and respect for you over this assignment or any other. Really, this ain't no thang…..

It is easy to mistake intensity for anger, but they are two very different things. I appreciate your intensity and desire to please God and have never thought of you as offensive or distasteful. You just want to get it right. I feel that and I respect it. But we will get there bro, just not all at once. As the saying goes, the war to win comes a little at a time through a series of battles. Remember the diagram you drew for me on your whiteboard in your living room? We have to align the hearts first and then the minds second. You and Quintina's comments this year have brought me a long way on that spectrum….you have done enormous good, even if you think this white guy doesn't get it. Take a deep breath now knowing you have done all that you could in peace to persuade and let's see what the next phase has in store for us……we have a long journey ahead yet.

P.S. I can still take you. :)

Jim

- DevinFausett March 20, 2018

Rob,

I love you man, and I hope you can forgive me as well. I can be bold and blunt and use fewer words than necessary to convey my point which may come across as rude, and if you felt that I was disrespecting you I'm so sorry. Btw, the harmony I was referring to had nothing to do with music...it was the other definition which meant "agreement". I listened to the whole King Follett sermon after our conversations ended. I agree that there is a lot of information being conveyed there, and that information (whether the doctrines or the principles presented) are important for us to learn and teach among us. I'm not entirely sure that it's quite guide and standard document material though. I see the g&s as simple "welcome to new Jerusalem/Zion" and the King Follett as quite a bit more advanced, at least for those coming into the group/movement who don't have much foundation. But I appreciate you so much for bringing that sermon back to my awareness so I could listen, ponder and learn some things from it. I have you to thank for that!!

Once again, if I have offended you, or any one else here, I'm truly sorry!!!

Love you all,
Devin

- McKay March 20, 2018

Rob:

Trying to be brief I have not been clear.

Those who oppose voting seem unaware of the alternatives or unwilling to acknowledge the alternatives.

1-Someone or group decide for us.
2-we persist indefinitely until we all agree.

However, having a vote that forces an outcome on everyone (like a presidential election) is quite different what what is now planned in Phoenix. If we were to force a vote, that G&S would be printed in your scriptures whether you support it or not. However, a vote will be carried out in Phoenix which at best MIGHT result in a supermajority agreeing to proceed without opposition, some submitting to the others in the conference. If that were to happen, those present who chose not to dispute the majority's choice of G&S could add that G&S to their own scriptures & move on having complied with the Lord's command, "When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow". Their choice would NOT be imposed on anyone else since NO ONE WILL FIND A G&S MAGICALLY APPEAR IN THEIR SCRIPTURES. This approach preserves agency and accountability.

There is meekness and wisdom in this statement of Denver's, "I would rather submit to the decision of the group than insist that my view be followed. For me, harmony between brethren is more important than getting what I think best to be followed. I believe harmony can lead to much greater things than can merely enforcement of even a correct

view. “

Rob, if I ever try to enforce my view on you, do me a favor and tell me, “Bro, I go bust yo face”.

McKay

- HuhWhatda March 20, 2018

Devin,

I never claimed any disrespect, nor do I deserve any respect, for that matter. But I appreciate the gesture. You may have meant that harmony, but you weren't the author. Too often we find people using the "Reader's Response" method to Denver's words, instead of the "Author's Intent" method. Your claiming harmony as "agreement" might fit a "Reader's Response," but it jumps to conclusions regarding the "Author's Intent."

I'm glad you have been able to revisit the KF. But, in this point we have different views. You have made the assumption that KF is not quite guide and standard document material. From what experience are you making this assumption? Which guide and standard project have you gotten under your belt to state emphatically that KF isn't guide and standard document worthy?
The same questions apply to your assumption that the guide and standard are a simple welcome mat for Zion. Who said?

Your idea that KF is too advanced another "Reader Response" approach, rather than an "Author's Intent" approach. This was the document that Joseph said was the first principles of the gospel! Besides, you have assumed that other cultures don't already have those principles within their cultures. Hawaiians do, and Natives too. According to Other Sheep Indeed, so do the Eastern cultures.

You have not disrespected me, nor have you offended me. I have had the opposite reaction, being accused of hurting and offending myself. I do not intend to injure or embarrass. I'm wrestling this stuff out, because although in the long run, this is not a big assignment, right now, it's all or nothing.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

Mc Kay,

I would choose the second option, to persist, trusting that the gathering is the work of light, from the Lord, ...being willing to wait upon the Lord before climbing the mountain.

The non-vote vote that you and your brother Gordon are proposing feels like you're waving your hand in my face, saying, "These are not the droids you're looking for... carry on!" However, Jedi mind tricks don't cut it with me. I ain't no storm trooper, subjected to a GROUP THINK model (herd mentality).

A vote is a vote, is a vote. You are relying on a guilt trip, claiming that the minority make a "sacrifice, and humbly submit to the majority." That guilt trip makes the minority fear not being humble, not standing on their understanding, unable to sacrifice, when it simply isn't true at all. It's a fear tactic, and Gordo has already tried that on me an failed. If the minority can submit, you claim, then perhaps we can find unity, as if the contents

of the document don't matter much at all towards our unity. Most of us were the most active among the LDS, but there never was unity, because the content didn't allow unity. They preferred a minimalist approach to doctrine, like the vote you are recommending.

No, a G&S may not magically end up in my scriptures, but soon after the vote, and a majority decision, those who place the majority winning document in their scriptures, have just created an unavoidable scenario of "US & THEM." The US's all have the same G&S, while the THEM's have something else, anything else. No matter how you flip it the vote is a vote, is a vote, and it WILL inevitably produce a man-made separation. When the time comes for the document to be tested, because this is not just a practice, you will be held to what you accept, it will be fruitless because of it's lackluster. I will continue working with the Sam Vaughn's who want to produce something that reflects it's content, offered and received by agency, without a vote.

BTW: You have misused Denver's quote, just as Karen has, and just as Devin has in past blogs. The comparison is: submit to a group decision, instead of follow me (Denver). The other comparison is: harmony, instead of enforcing a correct view. The key words are "FOLLOW ME," and "ENFORCING." But, the way you three have used the quote to support your "group think" has skewed the quote to make it sound as if it's a good thing to SUBMIT TO THE GROUP, and HARMONIZE WITH THE GROUP. I believe you have placed the wrong em-PHA-sis on the wrong sy-LLA-ble.

You ARE enforcing your view, albeit very subtly and passively, but enforcement nonetheless. I'm trying to leave my more physical nature behind, so I will not threaten to "bus-yo-face!" However, I will not submit to a proposal of submitting my will to GROUP THINK. It repeats Reformation Institutionalization, like Denvers new video addresses. What you are suggesting to me has the effect of changing this from being a restoration, to being a reformation institution, repeating the same mistakes of the past with a vote.

Let's not substitute the necessary time to build relationships, with an institutional vote. In the absence of relationships, trust runs thin, and you have recommended the minority trust the majority, when our relationships really suck. A shortcut vote won't repair that. Fellowships will, and must. The document must be of a much higher level, sufficient to do what Denver's words have done to us all.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

Jim,

You can take me alright, to dinner! Bah!

Rob
The Happy Hawaiian

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Beloved Enos.... pg 33-34

"His relationship with the Lord resulted from his charity towards others, including his enemies. Doctrine is always less important than a person's character. Although you may have a deep understanding of doctrine, if you lack charity towards others your understanding will be of no benefit."

Things That Keep Me Awake at Night

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Things That Keep Me Awake at Night Forcing Mutual Agreement 3/20/2018

The day after I was excommunicated for " apostasy " from the church I had belonged to my entire life, I attended my son's arrow of light ceremony for cub scouts, hosted by the same organization that had just severed me from it. In the course of the ceremony, the seven rays of the sun depicted on the arrow of light symbol were explained. The second represented " courage ". The scout master gave this as the explanation: "to stand for what is right, even when no one else will." Seemed ironic just then.

For many months I was in the same place as many of the majority in this G&S process. I was fine with the first document, the 2 or 3 revisions of the first document, and even the lots document, and didn't see anything materially wrong with many of the other proposals. I was asleep, just wanting to be done, wondering why people didn't just go with the majority and complete the assignment. (I am NOT implying anyone else is asleep :))

I was ready to move on to "seeking to recover the lost sheep." So, I prayed about how to do that. I was directed to speak with a few individuals that had direct connections to those other sheep.

In the process of seeking to understand someone else's point of view (see *Other Sheep Indeed*) I was awakened to some issues regarding our principles and the precedent we are setting for "other works" the Lord will require of us, that we won't be able to do if we can't adopt a statement of principles by mutual agreement.

Since awaking, there have indeed been things that keep me awake at night. May I share some of the more " poignant " ones with you?

I believe that regardless of the statement we adopt, the first principle advanced is "how" we came to adopt that set of principles.

The meaning given by the Lord for "Mutual Agreement" is "as between one another, you choose not to dispute." What exactly are we not to dispute? Does this mean we should not have concerns? Does this mean if we do have concerns we should not air them?

The upcoming vote reminds me of the process in one of the institutions many of us have fled, where to show "Common Consent" the people are expected to not raise a hand in opposition. If they do, they are taken aside and counseled until they either give their consent, or they are seen as "apostatizing" from the group.

What if "Mutual Agreement" was the same thing as "Common Consent"? The words used are synonymous, after all. We are told that the inhabitants of Zion will have "all things in common." Does this included their consent as well?

In the blog post series entitled "All or Nothing", Denver explains that "having all things in common" cannot be forced:

"Zion will have 'all things in common' but only as a by-product of a larger construct. Without the rest of the social structure, implementing 'all things in common' is only a curse, not a blessing."

And:

"When a society acts on the notion of having 'all things in common' as an end, rather than a by-product of a new society, then any project, just like the Nauvoo Temple, becomes almost impossible to complete successfully. This principle cannot be separated from a reordered society. This is why the Lord must bring Zion, because mankind cannot."

So, if having "all things in common" cannot be the goal, could it be that having "mutual agreement" cannot be the goal? Could it be that having "mutual agreement" is "only a by-product of a larger construct"? Has this " project " not been "almost impossible to complete successfully"?

Many have pointed out that the Lord said, “This was a light thing.” I have heard many of us ask why people cannot “just not dispute” so we can “just be done.” In the A&C, the “ larger construct ” of this “light thing” is “if your hearts were right.” Is it possible that our hearts are still not right?

Many look at those they believe are “ disputing ” and say “their hearts are not right.” What if the majority also doesn’t have their hearts right? Are our hearts right if we wish those who have concerns would just go away - self select?

What if the majority were also “ disputing ”, not just the minority? One of the definitions of the word “ dispute ” is:

verb “compete for; strive to win”

“Zion, however, is without ambition, competition and aggression.” (DS blog, *Pax Americana* , 19 April 2010 , my emphasis)

What if to “choose not to dispute” meant “choose to work together”, to “not compete” instead of working on competing documents that have to be voted on, or “disputed”? Read the Lord’s definition again, “As between one another, you choose to not dispute.” Can this be put in other words - “You choose not to dispute between one another”, or further “you choose not to compete against each other”?

As I have discussed these ideas with some fellow covenant brothers and sisters, some have said “we already tried that, and at the end of the night we had ‘mutual agreement’, only to have someone come up with a dispute the next day.’” What if “mutual agreement” can’t be reached in a night? Or a week? If you look at the time we’ve spent laboring together to come up with a set of principles, and compare it to the time we’ve all disputed amongst ourselves, campaigning and voting, what kind of a picture does that present? We’ve probably spent a month total working on the documents, and about 10 more disputing, making up acceptance criteria, and trying to force mutual agreement. What if, instead, we were to meet in council with each other (all who have desires to serve, or feel “called” to this work, in person or via teleconference), and labored on a single document until we had mutual agreement?

My wife grew up in Phoenix, outside what some of the older generation of “Utah Mormons” calls “Zion.” She has always had to stand against the majority - stand up for her beliefs in front of her classes at school - stand alone - even in her own church trial. Now, with this “ vote ” in Phoenix (actually Gilbert, which does fit in the Mormon “ Zion ”) she feels sympathy for those who will stand in opposition to a perceived “mutual agreement”, and has considered standing with them in solidarity, regardless of whether she agrees with the content of a particular document.

Joseph Smith said in a letter, “It mattereth not whether the principle is popular or unpopular, I will always maintain a true principle, even if I stand alone in it.”

What if Adrian Larson was right in his comment last Fall? What if “majority rules” is not the way Zion conducts business? What if the example in the Book of Mormon IS illustrating how “majority rules” falls short of Zion? Mosiah said it would be “ expedient ” to have a king, rather than majority rule, if you could always have a just man to be your king. What if we chose Christ to be our king, and sought His part, His word?

About three and half years ago while at an incipient fellowship gathering, I heard a number floated by someone who would know, as to how many had been baptized into this movement within the first couple of months. It was around 2,000. It was just an estimate, and certainly there have been more added, and some have left the movement. What if that were an accurate number? In the initial votes regarding the G&S there were roughly 400 participants, and approximately 500 for the Lots vote. How many of those took the covenant? God knows. What if there isn’t truly a majority participating?

I have heard some say that those who voted in the Lots process represent “those who care enough” to vote. What if the other 1500 do care, a lot, but are demure because they were turned off by the boisterousness and the arguing of those who care enough to

dispute on the websites? What if there are also those who may not be “internet savvy”, who rely on those who are more savvy to get information about the process and votes? What if we haven’t cared enough about them to find ways to involve them and get their input?

The examples given by those advocating a “majority rules” paradigm are the “Council in Heaven”, the children of Israel “voting” to accept Moses’ law, and the 1835 adoption of the D&C. However, each of these instances demonstrates an entirely different paradigm. In each case the decision was made by a higher source, and the people were just giving their “common consent”, or mutual agreement. No “ vote ” like we are proposing was taken.

Are we more willing to be “done” with this than to seriously consider what may be legitimate concerns by some of our brothers and sisters? Are we more afraid that our Lord is an austere and hard man that we want to hide our talent and be done with it, than to take it to the exchangers, and take time to work it out until we all reach mutual agreement? We’ve disputed, or competed, for nearly a year and are we any nearer to adding a statement of principles?

What if, instead of a vote at the conference we sat down together and began a new process - a new cooperative way of writing a statement of principles - and what if we labored on it, together, until we came to mutual agreement, even if it took a little time? What if, instead of forcing the minority to stand in front of the perceived majority we used the time to adopt a new plan to work on one united document and invite anyone to participate who felt called to participate, until completion?

That would be my vote.

What if a spirit of love and cooperation is what the Lord meant by having our hearts right? “And what is my spirit? It is to love one another.”

If we have a vote in Phoenix, should I vote with the majority in hopes of being “done with the assignment”? Or should I stand with the “minority” - not because I necessarily dispute the content of any document, but because I am not sure of setting a precedent of competition, the process of “ dispute ” that such a vote represents. I am not yet persuaded that “majority rules” in a society of equals like we are hoping to be. Nor do I dispute other’s revelations, but I have already posted my view on competing revelations. Just before my wife’s and my church trials, the stake president met with us to give us one last chance to change our position. He went so far as to say we were right, but that we needed to stay with the “main stream”, with the “majority.” We needed to submit to the power structure and go along. He used some of the exact same arguments as I receive from friends in this movement as to why I should “ vote ” for this.

These are truly questions that keep me awake at night. I feel in large measure like Joseph Smith in 1820. How to act I do not know, and unless I get more knowledge than I now have I will never know. Are these valid questions, or am I just “up in the night”?

- Sam Vaughn, Sr

Comments

- Janeen — March 20, 2018

Thank you for these thoughts.

- etluxentenebrislucet — March 20, 2018

"How to act I do not know, and unless I get more knowledge than I now have I will never know." Exactly. Thank you. I sincerely hope those in positions to alter what is going to

happen at the conference are willing to hearken. I feel we are capable of so much more. Perhaps we all need a new vision? I'm still grateful to be here and wish to uplift, support, and participate.

- Jay March 20, 2018

Sam, Amen and Amen.
You have expressed my sentiments exactly.

- Anonymous March 20, 2018

Jay, just what is it you are saying Amen to? Sam ask a long list of questions, and made very few statement. Seriously what is it you are agreeing to?

- McKay March 20, 2018

Sam

If a single Guide and Standard is agreed upon by all of us, I see three and only three possibilities to mutual agree on a guide and Standard.
1- Someone, some group or Committee, Denver or some angel decide the matter for you and I whether they impose their document on a willing flock or impose their will by compulsion. Nobody wants that nor is that the assignment from God.
2-Some group submit willingly to the view of others in the group, whether the minority's submit to the majority or vice verse.
3-We can continue the process indefinitely until we all agree on a single document-100%, because if it's only 99%, well that's option #2.

Your view appears to be that agreeing with the majority's opinion is weak, or wrong-headed, better to stand and oppose the majority's view rather than submit to the group. If I have correctly summarized your viewpoint I would ask you to consider this statement from Denver.

"I would rather submit to the decision of the group than insist that my view be followed. For me, harmony between brethren is more important than getting what I think best to be followed. I believe harmony can lead to much greater things than can merely enforcement of even a correct view.....My experience with others leads me to conclude that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can likewise come to have one mind. But if we insist on having one mind at the outset, we may never obtain one heart together."

McKay

- Anonymous March 20, 2018

Unfortunately the Lord has not seen fit that I attend the Conference. I really wanted to be there to participate in this wonderful moment. However, it is not to be. Whatever you decide to do, my prayers are with you. Whatever you choose, I will support wholeheartedly. I pray you can come to a unity with each other. That is the most important thing. Please remember your love for each other while working together in the process. Try to be flexible, and don't draw a line in the sand, no matter which G&S you suppport. Be open to each other. But remember, there is a job at hand. What did Spock say, something like the needs of many out-weigh the needs of the one. It's been a while since I saw that movie. I think Spock died, he sacrificed himself, but somehow he came back to life in the next movie. The principle is the same. We have to look after the many.

We have much to do, if we take this long on everything, we will need an eternity to finish the rest. Just some thoughts to leave with you since I can't be there in person to participate.
God be with you! Zion is achieveable. Love, Lisa

- Anonymous March 20, 2018

Sam,

I've felt the sting of a church court too. And I want no part in any system that uses authority to compel obedience, or that uses the power of the majority to shame. Those things are not being proposed in this vote.

It is unfair to suggest that this vote is organized in a way that "expects" (your word) those opposed to the process or outcome to sit on their hands. We fully expect some to disagree and we have provided a way for them to make their opinion known. Beyond that, the wording and the tone of the vote will be respectful and inclusive. No one will be asked to, "just go away." Nothing in the proposal or in the responses to questions on this blog about the vote has suggested anything of the kind. In fact those advocating for this vote have expressed the exact opposite of that sentiment, repeatedly.

It is also unfair to suggest that those in opposition will be "counseled" (again, your word) until they get in step with the majority. Counseling forms no part of the plan by those who proposed this vote. The delegates are all in agreement on this specific point: their job is NOT to persuade. It is just to listen to the concerns of those that want to voice them, so that no one will be opposed to the majority's choice simply because nobody was ever willing to hear them out.

This vote does not force an artificial agreement, or focus on agreement for its own sake. After determining the majority's preference, the second step in the vote is to ask (not demand, not compel) if those in the minority can find it in their hearts to accept the majority's choice. Can we, out of love for our fellow believers, give up our own desires and agendas? Can we focus on someone else's priorities? Or do we want what we want, and that's the end of it. It's true that most votes are competitive, but this vote doesn't have to be. It is not designed to be competitive; its design is cooperative. We are asking for folks to voluntarily give up something they want (maybe even a superior G&S!) in order to achieve unity — the opposite of competition.
I agree with your suggestion that most of the body of believers will NOT participate in this vote. It would be good if they could, but for the purposes of this vote, it probably doesn't matter. The vote is largely about trying to build consensus. It is a primary vote, if you will: an attempt to build unity so that we can someday achieve unanimity. It does not force a G&S on anyone.

And here perhaps is an important point. If we can achieve mutual agreement among those at the conference, then some might choose to go ahead and add the "agreed statement of principles" to their own set of scriptures. This would allow those who feel that there is an urgency to fulfill the Lord's commandment to do so. And, it allows those who want to wait to adopt a G&S until we achieve unanimity to also pursue their goal. Does such an approach respect both agency and accountability?

I don't think it is a good idea to assume that the worst tendencies found in the LDS church are being repeated now. Many of us have been hurt by our association with the church. What a pity it would be if because of that hurt we choose not to trust anyone again. We are all in this movement because we have recognized the words of the Lord in the message Denver has delivered. Perhaps we should give each other the benefit of the doubt.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 20, 2018

Thank you for your comments on this Gordon. It brought me peace to read.

For the most part, the phrases I've used are actual phrases I've heard in personal conversations in person, in emails, or on this site, from friends, and acquaintances in the movement, and anonymous strangers. Sometimes it seems impossible to get an accurate barometer of where we're at in this thing. Sometimes it has been shocking to me to see.

Thanks for addressing specific things, and not just asking if I have read the epigraph "Denver put into the scriptures" like so many others have (not my words :)).

I believe I will get some sleep tonight.

Cheers!

Sam

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

Gordon,

Master, I don't think you thought this one through very well. The vote uses preempted guilt and fear to direct the perception of the minority to think that not submitting to the "group think" of the majority is not humble, it's disputing, and separating.

You think that that your vote idea is an exception to voting. However, those who vote and obtain a majority consensus will place their G&S in their books, generating an unavoidable division of the people. The US's have the same G&S, while the THEM's have something else. How is this not a division? How is it not a separation? These are all man-made divisions and separations, and none of us truly has the ability to judge who is or isn't part of this movement. I wouldn't recommend casting judgment.

You say that you're not casting anyone out, or excommunicating. Simply separating the US & THEMS produces the same outcome, without anyone being accountable for casting people out. The Junior high techniques of the silent treatment, avoiding each other in the halls, or grouping into cliques all produce the same result. How do you plan on negotiating that to prevent natural separation?

I'm with Sam Vaughn and continuing to work. I believe that whatever you adopt you must live, and God will test you to see if you are just talking, or if you will live what you say. Those supporting this vote will be required to prove the document, by their fruits. I prefer continue working with Sam, until I am confident that the only thing the document can produce is sweet fruit. When the sweet fruit arrives, the pruning will begin.

I do not support the vote. I will not submit to GROUP THINK. The repeated epigraph is constantly used to justify GROUP THINK and submitting to HARMONIZE WITH THE GROUP, when Denver did not justify it at all, in fact he has written that he despises it as the foundation of institutionalism. His emphasis was following a man and forcing an idea. This is a perfect example of regurgitating Denver's words, mixed up with a little stomach acid, and proverbial LDS corn.

See you in Phoenix,
Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson March 21, 2018

Sam,
As you know I have been re-thinking this whole challenge and asking myself.
Are we so fixated on the G&S that we've failed to live the rest of A&C? As you say, I still don't think this has much to do about the G&S. I think its about how we move forward "together" on this issue, so we're capable to do so on the other challenges that wont be such a light thing.
I'm persuaded now that our current ways and understanding of "group" governance is flawed to say the least. I supported and voted for both the original and then the Lots Group G&S as well as submitted my own version. In sports when you find yourself struggling you go back to the fundamentals.
Peter and Paul had issues with each other, but they both Loved the Lord with all their hearts. The Lord could work with that.
Have we as individuals come unto Christ as required in the A&C? Because if not we "as a people" will be continue to struggle in becoming "one in Him" as required. Are we worshiping Him with our lips only? Are our hearts far from Him as He says in the A&C? Have we obtained a new heart as required? He seems to be making it clear, this isn't happening except by Him!
I don't recall ever seeing the Lord direct so much, so many times, to "HIMSELF", as He does in the A&C.
Carefully review pages 7-8 of the A&C and take note how may times He says ME and I.
"You call me Lord and do well to regard me so, but to know your Lord is to love one another. Flee from the cares and longings that belong to Babylon, obtain a new heart, for you have all been wounded. In me you will find peace and through me will come Zion, a place of peace and safety.
…Those who want to come where I am must be able to abide the conditions established for my Father's Kingdom…Let not your hearts remain divided from one another and divided from me. Be of one heart, and regard one another with charity. Measure your words before giving voice to them, and consider the hearts of others. Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. I can bring him to understanding and knowledge. Therefore if you regard one another with charity then your brother's error in understanding will not divide you. I lead to all truth. I will lead all who come to me to the truth of all things. The fullness is to receive the truth of all things, and this too from me, in power, by my word and in very deed. For I will come to you if you will come unto me." (A-C pg. 7-8)

- JohnDutson March 21, 2018

Also note Denver's words in the opening remarks about the A&C.
"What is to be created is something so foreign to this world, that there is nothing in the world to use to judge how we are doing. Even the scriptures do not give a blueprint to follow. If they contained the necessary information, Zion would've been established long ago. God alone will establish Zion; his instructions are vital and necessary for us. Once he instructs us, the Scriptures can then be used to confirm that his directions to us now is consistent with what he prophesied, covenanted and promised would happen. But the path to Zion is to be found only by following God's immediate commands to us. That is how He will bring it. He will lead us there. There is no magic, there is no sprinkling fairy dust that will take you to where God is. It does not and cannot happen that way. He will

lead us, teach us, command us, guide us, but we have to be the ones who become what He commands. We have to be the ones who do what he bids us do.
The greatest instruction that I know out of, given by God at any time, to any generation, is a rule of community found in the Sermon on the Mount and in the Sermon at Bountiful. Now we have the answer to the prayer for covenant, that not only resonates with the message of those two sermons but applies it directly to us in our peculiar circumstances, to fix our peculiar defects and urges us to more like Him. The Lord revealed His plan for our day approximately 3000 years ago. We now begin fulfilling that ancient prophecy. Our current struggles were foreseen and foretold." (Opening Remarks 2nd pg. Cov. Conf.)
Are we doing this?
"The time is now far spent, therefore labor with me and do not forsake my covenant to perform it; study my words and "let them be the standard for your faith" and I will add thereto many treasures. Love one another and you will be mine, and I will preserve you, and raise you up, and abide with you for ever. AMEN" (A-C pg. 12)
To me this says the Answer and the Covenant is the way for solving our peculiar deficiencies. Maybe we haven't been using it as a "standard" well enough to move much further, as a people?
We're obviously in the process of learning a new way. A new way founded in Christ and His laws of which the A&C is based. Are we as individuals living that law? If not will we be able to as a people? Isn't this whole G&S challenge providing us with the opportunity to work this out now, so the we will be prepared for what is coming next?
In my view until then, we as a "people" are stuck in limited progress. My guess is the Lord has given and is the answer to this dilemma. That begins by doing what He has asked us in our daily walk. And hey, it may not get in the ole Gentile way of hammering it out and DOING IT ASAP!

- LookAround March 21, 2018

Meanwhile, back at the old farm, the barn is burning and our old 'adversaries' are getting pummeled with the news that one of their trusted leaders (an ex MTC President) admits to sexually assaulting sister missionaries while serving in Provo. (Google "Joseph L Bishop")

So go ahead and keep fighting with each other about what Jesus would say and do while your 'adversaries' suffer. (And it will only get worse). THAT right there is the principle you follow and the statement you mutually agree upon.

- Anonymous March 21, 2018

Rob,

Have you noticed that when I talk to you I never question your heart or your brain? But when you talk to me you do it regularly. I am on record as supporting your efforts to achieve unity through dialogue. But is it productive dialogue to question the motives and intellect of the one you are dialoging with?

"The non-vote vote that you and your brother Gordon are proposing feels like you're waving your hand in my face, saying, "These are not the droids you're looking for... carry on!" However, Jedi mind tricks don't cut it with me."

"It's a fear tactic, and Gordo has already tried that on me an failed."

"Gordon Platt does something similar, sending mixed signals, claiming humility, while

expecting me to sacrifice."

"One day, you're going to re-read this and pound your head in wonder and amazement to how you could think to recommend someone else sacrifice, because you are too humble."

"But, your push here does not represent a beacon of truth, rather it represents a colonization tactic."

"You are requiring me to just do me, like you do you. That is a colonization mentality,"

"Master, I don't think you thought this one through very well."

"Your push for a vote is turning to LDS vomit."

The proposed vote is a good faith effort to try to build unity. It is will not use fear, intimidation, or guilt to force agreement. We ask folks to voluntarily lay aside their own preference (even for a superior G&S!) in order that we can come to unity. This will NOT be unity based on groupthink. Everyone should continue to believe as they think best.

All the G&Ss I have read are filled with light. They all lean heavily on scripture. Any of them will serve us in our current need. And yet they are all flawed, like our scriptures themselves, THE SAME SCRIPTURES WE ALL VOTED TO SUSTAIN. If we adopt a G&S now, in fulfillment of the lord's command to quit hindering and delaying, we can over time and with the guidance of the Spirit improve our G&S, just as we will do with the scriptures themselves.

There are some that feel an urgency to fulfill the Lord's commandment. Others think that unanimity is required to act and so we must wait. This vote provides a pathway to give both groups what they want. But if you choose not to support this vote, I will not criticize you or call into question your heart or your brain. I can't judge those things very well, so I won't try.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

John Dutson,

I don't know people by their names, as I typically can't see their faces in my minds eye, so please forgive me if I know you, but not your name. I cannot say that I know the way you think either, as I have had little personal interaction with you. I have seen your comments on posts before, and this one seems different.

I agree with you that this is a test to see how we treat one another. It is probably an unveiling of our hearts, to expose the traditions of institutionalization, deeply rooted in our LDS culture. The stone cut without hands that rolls forth to grind to dust the kingdoms of the earth, ...that stone will not spare the remnants of the Kingdoms of earth within us. Those Kingdoms within us must also be ground to dust, so that it no longer exists in us first. If we will not allow those remnants to be ground out of us, then we will be ground to dust with the statue of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

Currently, the proposal for a non-vote-vote represents the supplementation of a relationship with a vote. If Zion is to be the return of the family of God, then first and foremost our relationship with God should lead out. Fellowships can assist the

development of a personal relationship with God, by talking, preaching, rejoicing, and prophesying of Christ, so that the individual can correct their unbelief, replace it with belief, preparatory to acting in faith. With a personal relationship with God, individuals can be gathered into fellowships by the mind and will of God, promoting opportunities to sacrifice in your unique personal circumstances, just as Denver has instructed. When there is a community of God minded individuals who live in peace and harmony, they will become the family of God on earth. The existence of the family of God on the earth will be a beacon to the family of God in heaven. They will see us, recognize our relationships reflect their own, and find themselves at home on earth with us.

Such a concept cannot be acquired, no matter how many numbers vote. Voting cannot supplement the work of relationships. And relationships aren't easy, initially. Difficulties in marriage seem limitless at times. Voting never resolves and generates greater relationships in a marriage. It only creates a culture of "keeping score." LDS relationships are feigned. Home/visiting teachers confess their love, but as soon as boundaries change, or companionships shift, that relationship is severed permanently. Likewise, among us, some have gotten the silent treatment, simply because they have an opposing point of view. If a relationship were an instant meal, all the work was already done long before, and all we would have to do is order a number one relationship combo. However, it isn't. These relationships require counsel, consideration, and time. It requires engagement at times, and meditation in silence at other times. Sometimes reproof is required to correct a wrong belief. But our bonds must be stronger than the chords of death. That's the relationship I'm looking for.

Thanks for your input on this matter,
Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson March 21, 2018

The way to fix problems starts with recognizing there is one. I think we're just getting there.
Filling ourselves with Charity goes hand in hand with Light and Truth.However Wisdom requires more that just a raw devotion to obtaining knowledge. Me thinks we're in need of much more Wisdom and Charity filling our hearts demonstrated though our actions and words.

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

1 of 2

Gordo,

I have written and stand behind all of the things I have written, willing to be fully accountable to all I have said. I'll add more by identifying this as nothing more than smoke and mirrors, to push a result, by a movement of a herd.

I have never judged your heart, except to call it pure. However, I don't see you quoting that. I truly believe it too, despite your opinion of what I think. Although, I have no idea what's going on in your head, as it represents total confusion to me, as you recommend a "no-vote-vote." You have provided more than enough words for me to address your words, or in other words, your fruits. And they are bitter to me. The heart of desiring peace and unity is pure just like your heart, but your heart seems to be filtered in an institutionalization mindset, relying upon your background in LDS. If you have escaped the physical institution, your words convey that they are still trapped within it. This idea to me IS just as bitter as regurgitated vomit, mixed with stomach acid, and LDS corn. I

do not retract my sentiments. The colonizers initially started out making "Peace Treaties," before they broke them, using redefined words, and relabeling concepts, to justify taking our lands, and abolishing our language and culture. They didn't start by asking us to sign a treaty to take our land, abolish our language and culture, as you have made the assumption in the same post you quoted me. These are our experiences in the past with people who may have had good initial intentions, but were also trapped within an institutional mentality. You have asked the minority to sacrifice, and who ever does that? I will not sacrifice because you said to. I will sacrifice because I was instructed of God. I do not question your heart. I question the institutional filer you have used to produce your proposal.

You have once again tried to embarrass me, which is a fear tactic, by quoting me, totally out of context, to support an argument of my misjudging your heart and mind. As I wrote before, I expect to wrestle this from God, I make no apologies for standing, starring into and contemplating the dark abyss of the things you are proposing. I do, however recognize that you are feeling bumped, bruised, injured, tread down, and torn to pieces by the quotes you have chosen to regurgitate. I do not wish to speak so boldly AT YOU. I would have preferred it be someone else that I didn't like, because I really think you are fantastic. However, the concepts you are forwarding cannot withstand and answer the questions tilted at it, and your fruits represent frustration, because you really, really, really want this non-vote-vote, predicting a positive outcome. You are unable to hear the truth in the words I have used, that you have quoted, and are left to indicate your position by your response. Feel free to do so.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

Uno

Gordon,

I appreciate all the time you have taken to respond and answer questions. I do see a bit more clearly what you are hoping to accomplish. If I may, I have some questions and thoughts further.

"The delegates are all in agreement on this specific point: their job is NOT to persuade. It is just to listen to the concerns of those that want to voice them, so that no one will be opposed to the majority’s choice simply because nobody was ever willing to hear them out."

Who are these delegates? Who decided?

The only point for having delegates is so everyone can feel heard? There will not be discussion or "persuasion?" How will this be handled? Openly with all listening or watching? Why the need for delegates then? Wouldn't it be best for all "voters" to hear what is said by those who disagree, then no one has to become a “delegate” to the G&S Convention? Treat it like an open mike?

When will the persuasion--the asking an individual to acquiesce, happen then? Is that embodied in the question, "Will you agree to accept the majority's decision regarding which G&S to sustain and publish in our scriptures?" And when will that be asked? I am attempting to picture what is going to happen.

How are you planning to tally votes?

"I agree with your suggestion that most of the body of believers will NOT participate in

this vote. It would be good if they could, but for the purposes of this vote, it probably doesn't matter."

Why does it not matter if all are able to participate? I get that fewer voters means it is more likely there will be fewer "disputers," but it causes me to feel like there is a group who have appointed themselves (you guys, attendees, both?) to decide a G&S FINALLY. At least previous attempts seemed to try to include as many as possible. This time, however, lots of folks are being left out. Are you saying that there is already a plan to administer a body-wide vote to accept the conference majority's choice? I assume so that a FINAL G&S will get published in the T&C?

- HuhWhatda March 21, 2018

2 of 2

I do not feel guilty for what I have said in the things you have quoted. I have noticed a few of my typing errors, so I know that you're cutting and pasting directly from my comments. I am grateful that you read my comments. But, I think that you have used your fears to judge me. I am not opposed for no reason. I have stated my reasons, and am more than willing to talk it through. And that should be easy for us to do in person, as we are near one another, but that hasn't happened, not on my part, and not on your part.

So, if I know that you are misunderstanding me, by the way you have used my quotes out of context, and regurgitated it as an evil shadow cast over my heart towards you, ...and you know that that is the truth, and that your vote can produce peace, but I simply don't understand what I am doing because of my darkened state, ...then perhaps our digital communications have failed, and a face to face is necessary. I'm all for it. I don't mind my motives being questioned at all. I value being questioned because questioning has always produced more light to me. If I can't answer a question I typically study it out, search, ponder, and wait for the answers. And they seem to always come.

How else do you think I am able to stand here, while you try to accuse me of being motivated by fear, quote me AT ME, out of context, and accuse me of thinking bad of you, when I think the best of you? I don't stand upon my own strength. I stand with the strength of God, knowing who's voice it is that I hear. I realize, you must do the same. That is fair. You do as God instructs you, and I will do as God instructs me. If that puts us on a collision course towards one another, then, ...it's a good day to die!

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

Dos

"The vote is largely about trying to build consensus. It is a primary vote, if you will: an attempt to build unity so that we can someday achieve unanimity. It does not force a G&S on anyone."

Okay, I can understand this statement. You are hoping to narrow down the long list of potential G&S's to just one. Then what? Will the same forms of persuasion be used to get everyone else on board? What has been planned next after this vote? Who is determining that right now?

I thought most believed unanimity is not going to happen? I thought it is felt we don't really need that since there is "opposition in all things?"

Also, given that recently there was a body-wide vote to list all the G&S's in order of preference, why not invite the ones who did all that work to help out here and offer it again?

It appears like there are all these individual teams of people who know each other, but no one is attempting to come together in a single, united team to make something happen. But I don't have an all-seeing eye, so I could be mistaken and everyone is very cooperative behind the blog. I don't know if one person/group has been responsible for all the voting that has happened previously.

After your plan is finished, then what? Is that the point when you are okay with the body asking the Lord for His part? Or more discussion? Again, only those in attendance can participate?

Maybe I am misunderstanding you, but it looks to me like anytime someone asks to either alter a step in this process or stop it entirely, the answer is always a no.

"Can we, out of love for our fellow believers, give up our own desires and agendas? Can we focus on someone else's priorities? Or do we want what we want, and that's the end of it."

Are we guilty of playing tug-o-war?

If one or more folks are asking for a step change or just to take the opportunity to discuss face-to-face, would it not feel to them that they are being forced/required/mandated to participate in a vote they really do not want to have happen yet? Seems like there have always been some who have sacrificed at every point over the last several months.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

Tres

"And here perhaps is an important point. If we can achieve mutual agreement among those at the conference, then some might choose to go ahead and add the "agreed statement of principles" to their own set of scriptures. This would allow those who feel that there is an urgency to fulfill the Lord's commandment to do so. And, it allows those who want to wait to adopt a G&S until we achieve unanimity to also pursue their goal. Does such an approach respect both agency and accountability?"

I agree that voting is a way to ensure agency and accountability are honoured. I'm just left scratching my head because I don't see how it fulfills the task given to us. Are we or are we not to craft a single statement of principles and add it to our scriptures where everyone who accepts the scriptures then uses it as an additional guide and standard? Are we divided if we do anything more or less? Or take this step and then we have circled back to where we were before?

It just seems to me each person will have grief at this point. Whose will is going to be strongest? Who is easily beaten down into submission? What is truly important here? How do we go about ensuring we are not continuing to rely upon incorrect traditions of our fathers, especially if we need greater light to guide us?

Lastly, are you prepared to post here the questions you will use to administer the votes to allow people to prepare as they will? If I were going to be there, I would feel like I don't know what to expect. One thing I really love about the Covenant, Christ laid it all

out, every step. I knew the exact language and questions, and had sufficient time to ponder, study, and pray in preparation. There were no curve balls thrown at me, even though I had zero involvement in the conference itself.

And the “vote” was a straight up yes, or don’t stand up at all. Which causes me to wonder why He did not plan to ask for any to oppose? Maybe that didn’t matter in that the Covenant is open to all who will receive it when they will receive it?

I now wonder if we couldn’t/shouldn’t have accepted a G&S prior to the Covenant conference? I always feel like there are details of everything that has gone on I am not seeing or understanding, and it isn’t because Christ has not told me. It seems decisions get made by unseen hands.

I wonder if He was trying to help us understand something in how He administered the Covenant. Sure wish I were a titch faster in seeing and understanding stuff. I must have a turtle as a spirit animal guide. hehe

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

Just a thought to add to Rob's point of view. There is a good reason why voting, as used in the USA, is privately handled. No one "sees" what I vote and I don't see the votes of others, not even once the votes are tallied.

No one is required to say why they voted for who or what either. Otherwise, wouldn't there be a great risk to unduly pressure or influence the outcome?

Whoever will be at the conference this weekend, I wish you each whatever courage you require to vote your heart and conscience. But maybe it is all easy-peasy, nice n' cheesey. :)

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

I have been wondering who the rabble are in the barn, wanting to argue with Joseph. The LDS church leaders, or us?

For those who care, I encourage looking over the work of a former LDS bishop still faithful member Sam Young. You can learn more through the link below. Warning: It is not for the faint of heart or those who could care less what is going on in the LDS church.

http://protectldschildren.org/

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

I like what you've said. I am honestly unsure what to do. It seems to not matter if I agree or not agree with anything. If I do agree, then I can be happy things are going my way, so to speak. If I disagree, then I best just be quiet and let people make the decisions of what to do and when. It seems tasks will be accomplished by those who naturally lead out and have connections? Or if I ever feel called to do something? Confusing. I think I'm better suited to life on a deserted island. Ha.

- Dani March 21, 2018

Lori, follow the voice of the Lord alone, and there will be no confusion.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 21, 2018

Thank you, Dani. You are absolutely correct.

- Anonymous March 21, 2018

Lux,

Q-Who are these delegates? Who decided?
A-The delegates are folks that volunteered to help with the vote.

Q-How will this be handled? Openly with all listening or watching?
A-We're not going to exclude anyone, unless those voicing their opposition want some privacy. Then we should respect that.

Q- When will the persuasion--the asking an individual to acquiesce, happen then?
A- During the meeting on Saturday we will ask those who find themselves in the minority whether or not they can support the majority's choice. Those who are opposed will be invited to meet together with a delegate of the group after the main meeting.

A- How are you planning to tally votes?
B- Two witnesses (as in Pauls' injunction) have been asked to determine if there is a clear majority chosen by the assembly.

A- Why does it not matter if all are able to participate?
B- It would be nice if we could get everyone to vote. We don't have a way to make that happen, however. Even if we could do real-time, on-line voting it would still be the case that not everyone would vote, and someone would complain that some don't have access to a computer, so it isn't fair. So, we are going to do what is possible and ask those at the conference to vote. We will use that vote as an effort to build toward consensus. The vote is not binding for anyone for anyone who doesn't want it to be.

A- What has been planned next after this vote?
B- I don't know. What are you planning? We're not in charge of anything other than the vote we proposed.

A- Given that recently there was a body-wide vote to list all the G&S's in order of preference, why not invite the ones who did all that work to help out here and offer it again?
B- I believe they had about 80 people total vote (forgive me if I have that number wrong). We think that at the conference we can get around 400-500 involved in the vote. If the Nonmaancafs folks want to be involved, they are welcome. We accepted help from everyone that volunteered.

A- It appears like there are all these individual teams of people who know each other, but no one is attempting to come together in a single, united team to make something happen.
B-Coming together in a single, united group is precisely what we are trying to achieve with this vote.

A- After your plan is finished, then what? Is that the point when you are okay with the body asking the Lord for His part?
B- If we can achieve a resounding agreement on Saturday, then on Sunday the conference will be asked if they would like to go ahead and adopt the chosen G&S. We should all be asking the Lord for His direction right now.

A- It looks to me like anytime someone asks to either alter a step in this process or stop it entirely, the answer is always a no.
B-You are free to pursue any pathway you choose to try to help the body of believers come to unity. You can decide how best to do that. It isn't my place to tell you how to organize that plan. Similarly, after we have carefully considered the pathway we think is the best way to proceed, why do you think it's appropriate to alter our plan or to tell us to stop our plan? Nothing in our plan dictates to anyone, if you don't what to participate you don't have to. No one will force you to vote, and nothing we do is binding if you don't want it to be.

A- Are we or are we not to craft a single statement of principles and add it to our scriptures?
B- Yes. The Lord told us to come to an agreed statement of principles and then to add it to our scriptures. This vote attempts to accomplish those two things.

A- How do we go about ensuring we are not continuing to rely upon incorrect traditions of our fathers?
B- Listen to the Spirit.

A- Lastly, are you prepared to post here the questions you will use to administer the votes to allow people to prepare as they will?
B- I think it's a fair request. We will try to make that happen by tomorrow

Gordon

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

McKay,

Yes, I have read it and sincerely considered it. It has also been used a couple of times as a sort of test oath by friends in this movement to try to get me to simply "relinquish and submit" to the whole process.

I think it is good council. I also think what Denver said in Clinton in the "That We Might become One" fireside is good council:

"But peace should not be made at the cost of truth. Truth must be the only goal. Truth, however, belongs to God. Our desires, appetites, and passions are prone to make us stray well beyond the bounds set by God.

"- Therefore, when our pride is gratified, we should question if what we are advancing is truth.

"- When our ambition is served, we should question if we are in the Lord's employ or our own.

"- When we insist upon control we should question if we are like our Lord or instead His adversary.

"- When we use any means for compelling others, we should wonder if we are mocking God who makes the sun to shine and rain to fall on all His fallen children without compulsion.

"- When we display unrighteous dominion, we should question whether we are worthy of any dominion at all." -page 6

(Continued below)

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

What I propose above is written out of concern for the contention I see manifest by the process we've adopted. Who of us knows the truth of the matter, truly? I leave it to God, and propose approaching him as a people, without Moses, to try to find out the truth. I have faith enough to consider that if we were truly humble enough, He would manifest Himself to us, probably in a way we never expected. It would take true unity and sincere humility to do, which perhaps we are not capable of right now. But it would require everyone to "relinquish and submit" to the Lord, rather than only those with concerns submitting to the will of a majority. Those are not my words, but words that are being used at the grassroots level of the movement. I realize they don't represent the sentiments of those organizing this vote, thanks to Gordon, but my concern is not unfounded.

Since we are unlikely to come to the Lord to seek His part, at least at this conference, I don't really have a choice but to submit to the voice of the majority, as my attempts to persuade have proven weak. My weakness is exposed, I am not an organizer, an advertiser, or campaigner, and as such, under the current system I must acquiesce. People who know me know I don't have a lot of ambition and do not like the spot light to be on me at all. So, if I have spoken up in public, it must have something to do with "wild horses dragging ..." :)

So, yes, I have read it, but I believe there are things that Denver has said that fit our situation better. :)

My only ambition is to try and find an equitable way to settle the disputes I see with my good friends standing against my good friends. How can I choose between them?

-Sam

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Beloved Enos.... pg 33-34

"His relationship with the Lord resulted from his charity towards others, including his enemies. Doctrine is always less important than a person's character. Although you may have a deep understanding of doctrine, if you lack charity towards others your understanding will be of no benefit."

- Jay March 22, 2018

McKay,

Are these really the only options?

Why set a limit on the options of what God can achieve with a people who choose to have faith in Him?

What if "to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands" requires us to exercise faith?

Do we have faith that Christ can tell us His part without resorting to another vote?

It sounds like what Sam suggests involves a new cooperative way of writing a statement of principals that those who feel called to participate work on together as moved by the Holy Ghost without employing a process of voting.

Some may argue that we've already tried that, why try again? Others may argue that we've already tried voting. I would argue that until we hear God's voice in it we should keep trying. I may be wrong, but I don't have faith in hearing God's voice in the voting process.

Do we have faith in the gift of revelation? If we don't have the gift what does that say about our faith?

“Because faith is wanting, the fruits are. No man since the world was had faith without having something along with it. The ancients quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, women received their dead, etc. By faith the worlds were made. A man who has none of the gifts has no faith; and he deceives himself, if he supposes he has. Faith has been wanting, not only among the heathen, but in professed Christendom also, so that tongues, healings, prophecy, and prophets and apostles, and all the gifts and blessings have been wanting” (Teaching of Prophet Joseph Smith, 270).

"I will try the faith of my people" (3 Ne 12:1 RE)

That we pose and entertain the type of questions from this following thread, to me gives evidence of the distrustful nature of the voting process that I feel is unbecoming a Zion people:

https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/03/proposed-voting-timetable.html?showComment=1520478261161#c1858231929246567941

My question to God is, "how can we resolve what you have required without us resorting to a vote that tends to divide us into groups of 'us' vs 'them'"?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 22, 2018

Thank you for the thorough response, Gordon. I appreciate you taking the time to answer my questions as best you could. I know my writing can be trying at times, and I expect you all are feeling rather beat up by it all. I hope I have not pushed buttons or caused indigestion.

“What are you planning?”

Me: To be still. Psalm 46:10 It’s what I feel led to do at this point, and unfortunately it is not a popular idea right now.

“Coming together in a single, united group is precisely what we are trying to achieve with this vote.”
Me: I am wondering if oneness is a by-product of our hearts being right. As someone who expends too much energy trying to do things myself and/or the hard way, I am learning that if I will seek Christ’s input first, waiting for Him to say when to move life flows a lot more smoothly. I have less struggle, less suffering. It just seems like we are struggling, struggling, struggling here.

Also, what I meant by teamwork was I hope everyone putting forward these various proposals are trying to pool together everyone else to use various resources, gifts, and experience. It just feels like one group proposes this and does it, then another group

does something different, and so forth. Instead of smaller, we-know-each-other-and-agree committees of people, why not everyone join together to brainstorm and make a thing happen, like this vote? It seems there are some in the body who do know how to create and administer an online vote to add to what will happen at the conference, but I just wonder why it is not happening? I won't keep beating a dead bush, however. It appears to be a reflection of our lack of unity.

"If we can achieve a resounding agreement on Saturday, then on Sunday the conference will be asked if they would like to go ahead and adopt the chosen G&S. We should all be asking the Lord for His direction right now."

Me: Okay, so this vote is not about publishing anything beyond what each person/family/fellowship wants to "add" to their personal copies of the T&C? Then maybe it can be 'Okay, we now have this number of a majority. Let's see if we can achieve oneness in agreement based upon that?' But there is currently no plan on how to move after the vote? And yeah, I believe we are each praying hard to understand what Christ wants us to do, individually and collectively. I think some, including myself, had been hoping for a group prayer at the conference. Perhaps it will spontaneously happen. That would be wonderful. I will be praying for all.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 22, 2018

"You are free to pursue any pathway you choose to try to help the body of believers come to unity. You can decide how best to do that. It isn't my place to tell you how to organize that plan."

Me: I appreciate you saying that. One of the more difficult aspects of this whole blog process for me has been that I feel like one or more individuals post a proposal but take action on it before seeking for input or help or 'approval' from the group. Maybe those things happened off-blog and I am just unaware of it. Or maybe anytime someone gets an idea they believe is inspired of God they should just ask who wants to join in and then go and do. I just feel like I am being told regularly this is what is happening, this is how we are doing it, this is when to show up, and this is what you are to do. That's just how I am experiencing all this.

"Similarly, after we have carefully considered the pathway we think is the best way to proceed, why do you think it's appropriate to alter our plan or to tell us to stop our plan?"

Me: It's not about telling you what to do, saying an idea has not been well-thought out, or trying to stop anything. It is about offering suggestions and giving feedback on how to perhaps improve upon an idea. I don't think you believe your plan is perfect, but maybe someone in the group is also inspired with a way to improve on something, or that it should not happen just yet? If we are all in this together, why is it felt the few who got "inspired" are the only ones who know how best to implement the idea? Maybe we can all learn to phrase things within a context of 'Hey guys, I feel led to _____, and would like to know your thoughts, perspectives, and ideas? This is how I/we are thinking it best to do this thing. We would like to hear what you think?'

Or maybe I just have no clue how to function as part of a family or group, much less how anyone accomplishes anything in Heaven without everyone being told what to do by God. I wonder if the Gods listened to ideas or opinions or concerns, and adjusted accordingly. Or if an Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnipresent God just knew what's what and guided us to follow His Design. Interesting thoughts for me to ponder. But we tend to rebel down here when someone tells us what to do.

“Nothing in our plan dictates to anyone, if you don’t what to participate you don’t have to. No one will force you to vote, and nothing we do is binding if you don’t want it to be.”

Me: Thank you for stating that, again. It is obvious we cannot force each other to do something, and it is hoped that all present will choose to support your effort to find a common document. It is sad to see we are not united in this, however.

I thank you for posting, for the benefit of those who will be in attendance, the plan for administering the vote. I think it is well-thought out, and would only suggest that perhaps people be invited to simply stand and say yes when voting for a particular statement of principles. I think that will help the witnesses perform their duty best. Otherwise, it might be like rallying people at a live event where one side of the room shouts, then the other side, to see who is the most excited. This makes it seem like there are more responding on one side than the other. It could be confusing for the witnesses to discern. But I also expect all would be handling themselves with appropriate decorum.

I wish you all well this weekend.

- TwoCents March 23, 2018

After reading Sam’s and Edwin’s posts I feel peace, because if I am reading it right it seems they are saying let’s unite in being one heart by individually having a broken heart and contrite spirit making room for Him to lead. I can rally around that, because this is what I believe the Lord means when he says, “if your hearts were right.”

I believe we all too often look to external results versus the internal preparation (that comes from allowing Him to lead you), thus creating well-behaved and virtuous people imprisoned with fixed external norms. The Lord said, “if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves you could have finished this work long ago.” How do you prepare yourselves? To me, this means to have a broken heart and contrite sprit which prepares you to learn from Him, and be guided by Him, allowing Him to go before us (3 Nephi 21)

Wait, listen and rely on Him. Once you do you begin to grow, you gain knowledge and understanding. The answer is within you, once you make a connection to the Power of Heaven. Go inward and upwards not outward than upward. Smudging in the American Indian culture represents taking in the Powers of Heaven, allowing the Powers to cleanse the spirit, making room for His teachings to guide our daily walk, our actions, without knowing the “why.” It is an outward symbolic expression of the inward individual letting go of oneself to take in the Creators power, signally to the Heavens the individuals desire to be connected to them.

I appreciate Sam’s and Edwin’s suggestion as they align with my belief of seeking to cleanse the inner self to make room for the Lord to lead out.

Q

- JohnDutson March 23, 2018

Rob,
I agree. In a way it’s like a the parable of the sower. We came here pure however since our birth the evil one has sown seeds of Babylon’s falsehoods into our souls. Now as we allow the spirit to awaken us we find many of those seeds have taken root, some with very deep and complex root systems. It seems eradicating them is done one at a time and its taking longer I think than we anticipated. Patience and mercy with ourselves and

others is required with some of those Babylonian tares more difficult to rid ourselves than others.
I'm pretty sure that's why it will be so difficult for the Western, LDS Gentiles; we've been exposed to and had a great deal of Babylon promoted as THE way, even Gods way since our youth. And the men with the pressure to cultivate those falsehoods in our lives to prove we are a REAL man, worthy of wife, family and success. Not to mention higher status callings, "from god"…
Taking Christ as our Guide and Master is our only hope for success as individuals and a people..

- Anonymous March 24, 2018

Sorry Gordon. I was one who disagreed. Because I think the majority rule concept is flawed. Because the majority choice is in my opinion a document I could not support. Because I believe not everyone had read the proposals or even knew there was to be a vote. Because there are many (a large majority) who were not in the meeting. It was very unpleasant to stand in front of some 400 people and be one of a very few who were in disagreement, especially when someone in the back of the room made a loud statement to the effect that those who disagree should "just leave".
As for having my concerns heard, I do not think meeting with McKay in the back of the room for 2 minutes was an adequate opportunity to air my concerns. I am not a good speaker, I do much better expressing my thoughts in writing. I have not been a party to the g&s.blogspot web site for a long time because quite frankly, the contention and the politicking and the incredible amount of needless arguing wore me out and I stopped reading, just as I long ago stopped reading the Snuffer Readers' Group for the same reasons.
I submitted a proposal in Sep 2017, just after the Boise conf. which was given to me by the Spirit. I argued with the Lord that I was not worthy to make a proposal and I was told to submit the proposal, which I did. My proposal was very similar to Jared Livesey's proposal, which is the only one I could vote for.
All the other proposals, in my view, include many words generated by men which are needless and distracting from the simple task of creating a Guide & Standard.
When I sent in my follow up message to my proposal, one of the things I noted was that the Lord offered His covenant ONLY to those who have repented and received the Holy Ghost. If those were the only people voting and trying to create the G&S I do believe there would be much less arguing and contention and hard words. This is supposed to be a document to guide people in how to come to Christ! Why not use His words as found in Jared Livesey's proposal and dispense with all the other (needless in my view) verbiage?
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- Anonymous March 25, 2018

James,

I think majority rule is flawed too. I don't like it. I don't think Zion is run that way. I think though that it would be fairer to say that this vote was "majority ask," not "majority rule." We asked folks to voluntarily give up their preferred document. No one was forced to do so. In fact just the opposite. If you feel that an "agreed statement" has been reached you can add the lots document to your scriptures. And if you don't, as McKay says, "no one is going to sneak into your home and paste a copy in your scriptures." And not only is there no mechanism to force a document on you, there is no desire to do so by anyone I talked to. I meant it sincerely when I said that I would support those who wanted to continue to talk, and continue to work toward unanimity/understanding.

The fact that you felt uncomfortable is regrettable. I'm sorry that happened. I didn't hear anyone say anything like what you heard. But I don't doubt you, and I don't share any part of that sentiment. There are so few of us, I don't want any to leave.

Let me suggest one hopeful thing. Denver commented on how he hoped that the fellowships in Uganda, the Philippines, and Spain would be diverse, and he said that during the part of his talk about the G&S. There is a clear implication. But even if he hadn't said it I already thought it was a good idea. And there are fellowships that are in fact adding their own choice of G&S to their scriptures.

Don't like the "lots" document, no problem. Get your fellowship to adopt a document all of you prefer. The language in The Answer appears to allow it. And I don't see a dozen different G&Ss in the hands of an investigator as a problem. They will learn that folks that don't understand the doctrine exactly the same way nevertheless get along and even love each other.

I personally find two minutes with McKay too much, but if you want to get together and talk about this let's do it.

Gordon

- Anonymous March 26, 2018

Gordon,
Is that to be the outcome? Each person free to adopt their own G&S?
Does that meet the Lord's requirements? That must be the primary consideration.
I started my previous message with an apology. I interrupted you while you were at the microphone starting the process of voting on Saturday. I did not mean to be rude to you, nor to derail the meeting, but I was surprised that there was to be a vote with no discussion of the proposals to be voted on.
I am used to having discussion before voting on important matters. Perhaps the discussion has been ongoing on the blog, but, as I mentioned, I for one had not tuned in because of prior bad experiences with LDS blogs.
If each is to be free to adopt their own G&S, there is no point in further discussion.
If there is to be an ongoing effort to come to a G&S which can be mutually agreed upon, perhaps the first matter to decide is, what is a G&S guiding and what is being standardized?
As I mentioned, I submitted a proposal in Sept 2017, shortly after the Boise conference. I am not sure where that proposal ended up or who read it. It contained a detailed explanation of why I chose to submit the proposal.
Since Jared Livesey's proposal is essentially the same in content, I have stated publicly that I support his Rock of Jesus Christ proposal.
In my opinion, it is the only one of the proposals which seems to meet the Lord's requirements without adding words of men which detract from the purity of the Lord's commandments in the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount (Bountiful).
Please understand that there is no rancor or desire to be stubborn or "froward" in my proposal or in my choice to support the Rock of Jesus Christ or in my interruption of the voting on Saturday. However, I cannot support a standard which mingles scripture with the words of men, leaves out vital standards given by the Lord, and in some cases are long-winded documents not germane to a "simple" Guide and Standard at all.
My original proposal contains very personal information. If you want a copy I will forward that to you personally rather that on this public forum. My reasoning for wishing to adopt the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon are from Denver's own writings and were given to me by the Spirit before I discovered his writing on the topic. I did not want to submit a proposal. I was directed to do so on multiple occasions.

Thank you for taking time to respond to my message.
James Russell Uhl

- Anonymous March 27, 2018

James,

I would like a copy. Please send it my way. gordoplat@gmail.com. I did not think you were being rude. I thought you were surprised at being confronted with a vote that you didn't know about. Absolutely no apology necessary. We did our best to spread the word about the vote, but unfortunately there is no central remnant site where everybody goes for news except Denver's blog, and for obvious reasons that was not available.

I do NOT think it is O.K. for everyone to adopt their own G&S. I believe the requirement is to first agree upon a G&S and then to adopt it. The question is at what level must we agree? The fellowship? The entire body of believers? We make choices about how to allocate tithing funds at the fellowship level, and that's cool with everybody. No one suggests they have a right to dictate to other fellowships in this regard. So is it at least possible that this is what the Lord requires?

I had reached the conclusion that it was acceptable to the Lord to agree at the fellowship level before Denver's comments on Sunday. I know he wasn't explicit, but sandwiched as they were between comments on a guide and standard, his desire to see diversity in fellowships in Uganda, the Philippines, and Spain, is convincing to me that he implying that agreement at the fellowship level is O.K.

It's not ideal; movement-wide agreement would be better, but one step at a time.

if your fellowship adopts Jared's G&S, you will have my support.

Gordon

Explaining Upcoming Voting

Thursday, March 22, 2018

Folks,
We were asked for the wording of the vote that will take place at the Phoenix conference so that people can know what to expect and how to prepare. This is how we plan to proceed on Saturday .
SATURDAY VOTING
Jeanene Custer and John Pratt will stand as our two witnesses today, so that we may follow Paul’s injunction regarding witnesses, and they will confirm, if they are able, which Guide and Standard is preferred by conference attendees as determined by a voice vote. If our witnesses cannot agree on which Guide and Standard is preferred by the assembly, then the vote comes to an end and the matter will be tabled until the next conference. If they are able to determine a clear majority preference, then in the second half of the vote today the witnesses will also tell us if they believe the conference has produced a large majority that are agreed on a statement of principles.
Several of the Guides and Standards that have received the most support, as determined by earlier online votes & efforts, have been selected randomly by the witnesses so that the order of the voting is impartial. These Guides and Standards will be presented individually for votes by the conference. In the interest of time all other Guides and

Standards that have received less support over the last year will initially be voted on as a group. If the “”all others “group receives the most votes then the group will be divided into its constituent Guides and Standards, and they will be voted on individually

We ask everyone to please vote for only one document. If you do not prefer any of the documents, there is no need to vote for a document. You will still be able to vote to support or oppose the majority’s choice. If you oppose the majority’s choice, or if you oppose the vote itself you will be given an opportunity to register your opposition. We will now proceed with the voting.

All of you who favor the “lots” Guide and Standard, the one produced by the seven individuals chosen by lots, please say “yes.” Thank you.

All of you who favor the August 5 Guide and Standard, the one produced by Jeff Savage and his committee, please say “yes.” Thank you.

All of you who favor the NONMANCAAF SWHAFUGS Guide and Standard, the one produced by Kelly and Troy Erickson, please say “yes.” Thank you.

All of you who favor the Rock of Jesus Christ, the one produced by Jared Livesley, as our Guide and Standard, please say “yes.”

ETC…

All of you who favor a document other than the ones that have been named and voted on so far, please say “other.” Thank you.

If you object to this process, or think that the vote is illegitimate, please say “no.” Thank you.

Let’s ask our witnesses to come up. Was there a clear majority preference for one of the Guides and Standards, and if so which was it?

Witnesses speak.

1-if there is no clear majority, the vote comes to an end. 2-If there is a clear majority, we will proceed with the second half of the vote.

SECOND HALF OF THE SATURDAY VOTE.

We will ask you to stand at one point for this part of the vote in order that the folks viewing on line can get a better sense of what’s happening. Once again, if you object to this vote, or to the outcome of the vote, you will be given a chance to make that known. We will now proceed with the voting.

If you voted for the majority’s choice, or if you preferred a different document but you are willing to accept the majority’s choice. Or, if you had no preference for any of the Guides and Standards, but you are willing to accept the majority’s choice, if you are in any of those three groups, please stand. If you that are standing are agreed on the _____ statement of principles as our Guide and Standard, please say “yes.” Thank you. Please be seated.

If you do not or cannot agree to accept the majority’s choice, or if you are opposed to this vote, if you are in either of those two groups, please stand. If you that are standing do not or cannot accept the majority’s choice, or if you object to this vote, please say “no.” Thank you. Please be seated.

Let’s ask our witnesses to come and tell us if they believe that we as a conference have produced a large majority that have agreed on a statement of principles.

WITNESSES SPEAK

1- If the witness do not believe that the conference has shown that they are in agreement on a statement of principles, then the vote comes to an end. 2- If the witnesses believe that the conference has produced a large majority who agreed on a statement of principles, then we will proceed with the vote on Sunday .

We invite any who may be opposed to the outcome of this vote or who object to the vote itself, who would like to make their concerns known, to meet with us immediately after this meeting.

SUNDAY VOTING

Folks, after meeting with those who were opposed to the majority's preference for Guide and Standard, we can report that there remain (a number) in opposition to the majority's choice, and (a number) who are opposed to the vote itself. We now have a choice. Do you at this conference wish to proceed and adopt the _____ document as our Guide and Standard, knowing that there remain (a number) in opposition, who have made their opposition known? The vote does not of course presume to show the preference of any that are not in attendance here today, or to decide anything for them. But a vote by the conference could be an expression of unity, and hopefully a foundation to build on.

Donald and Christy Danner will act as our witnesses today and will tell us if they believe the conference has produced a large majority that are in favor of adopting the _____ document as our Guide and Standard.

Once again we will ask you to stand at one point so that the folks on line can get a better idea of what is happening. We will now finish the voting.

Will all of you that want to proceed and adopt the _____ document as our Guide and Standard please stand. If you that are standing are in agreement that we should adopt the _____ document as our Guide and Standard, please say "yes." Thank you. Please be seated.

Will all of you that oppose adopting the _____ document as our guide and standard, or oppose the vote itself, please stand. If you that are standing do not or cannot agree to adopt the _____ document as our Guide and Standard, or if you object to the vote, please say "no." Thank you. Please be seated.

We will now ask our witnesses to come up and tell us if in their view the conference has produced a large majority that are agreed to the _____ statement of principles to use as our Guide and Standard.

WITNESSES SPEAK

The scriptures committee has recused itself from further involvement with the Guide and Standard, so there is no avenue currently open for publishing the Guide and Standard as a part of our scriptures. But, here are the Lord's words describing our assignment: "When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow." The Lord does not use the words "print" or "publish," He said add. Depending on what you think about todays vote, you may decide that we do indeed you have "an agreed statement of principles." And, if we do then, after prayerful consideration, you might determine that you can add a copy of the _____ document to your own personal set of scriptures, in compliance with the Lord's command. And if you feel that unanimity is required before we can claim to have an agreed statement of principles, then of course you are free to pursue that goal. It is a worthy goal.

We thank you for participating in this vote.

Jeanene Custer Donald and Christy Danner Gordon Platt Rebecca Wolford Others

Comments

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Beloved Enos.... pg 33-34

"His relationship with the Lord resulted from his charity towards others, including his enemies. Doctrine is always less important than a person's character. Although you may have a deep understanding of doctrine, if you lack charity towards others your

understanding will be of no benefit."

- ChrisChandler March 22, 2018

THIS VOTE WILL DEFINITELY CREATE A DIVISION ("US" vs. "THEM") BETWEEN PEOPLE. I AM THEREFORE SPEAKING OUT AGAINST IT HERE AS I WILL NOT BE IN ARIZONA.

Perhaps the reason that the “vote” idea is being pushed so hard is that there is an element within this movement of people who WANT a “natural separation” or “division”. I would hope not. But I cannot think of any reason to move forward with a “voice vote”...knowing that it would naturally cause an “US” versus “THEM” separation to take place.

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

As one who has been a part of this movement from the beginning I have seen the shift in teaching the Doctrine of Christ and receiving your Second Comforter. Now the Second Comforter is rarely, if ever, mentioned and new agenda's cloaked as unspoken 'doctrine' (new scriptures and covenant required to avoid destruction) are pushed exclusively. We speak of the importance of the "new and improved, more correct and better than any other" scriptures (better quickly forget the fact that the "regular" scriptures did just fine for Denver to access the heavens). We have shifted from getting your covenant straight from the Lord, to the importance of taking a covenant as a group (better ignore that there are no scriptures anywhere which say God requires this group covenant).

This group is struggling because more (or less) than the Doctrine of Christ 3 Nephi 11:40 is being preached. If you don't subscribe to the shift (over 2000 were on record for baptism...with how many actually taking the covenant or even voting on the G&S...?), you are now treated just like you were when you were LDS and getting excommunicated. "If you're not with us - you're against us". If you are a minority and you raise your hand (or type a message) with a dissenting view - you are quickly dismissed as a non-believer, shut down and mocked.

You have become the very thing in the LDS church that you abhorred. You were disgusted at how vague the brethren were about seeing Christ. Well, how clear is Denver? Do you know the last time Denver saw Christ face to face? Has he only seen Him once? Twice - how often...do you know? Or have you stopped caring because it doesn't matter because you know with every fiber of your being that President Nelson is a true prophet...excuse me, Denver is. I mean David. Has Stephanie received Christ? Did you know if you ask Denver he will tell you it's too sacred to talk about and that question should not be asked? I have a copy of an email where he was asked that very question and here is his response:

This is nobody's business. Neither of us has any interest in putting information into public view that is best left as something to be contemplated in the heart.

-Denver & Stephanie Snuffer

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Part 2:

How is this any different than the LDS hierarchy's response?!! How is it abominable for LDS leaders to speak in this way yet perfectly justifiable for Denver to do the same? Will

you continue to be so blind in your hearts and minds? Denver says he is David and when you ask if he's the servant - will he answer you?! You call him David in your gatherings and to his face - he does not stop or correct you! He and you have created a cult around your hopes and desires for a servant and Zion. But you are not Zion. And you have stopped your search for your Second Comforter believing it just happens to people like David and you'd just better hope and pray that Denver/David is receiving a covenant for you so you can get your foot in the door somehow since you were unwilling to go up the Holy Mount yourself.

What did you get with this covenant? Greater blessings or cursings? Greater peace or greater contention? Is your fruit similar to the saints in Nauvoo or like King Benjamin's people? The fruit of this covenant has revealed the source from whence it came. When will you choose to see it? When will you choose to awake and arise and go forth to meet YOUR Bridegroom? He is calling after you. As one who heard the covenant and felt in my heart and soul this direction wasn't right - I walked away. I left all of you whom I knew and loved and felt secure with. I went out on the limb and found the fruit. I sought the Lord for myself and now I can say, I have found HIM. I have touched the nail marks in his hands, and feet, and side. And I come back to say - seek HIM. Seek Him. You have stayed where it is safe. With the majority. Get out of the boat - walk on water. If you seek Him first all things shall be added unto you. I so testify. In the name, of Jesus Christ.

- ChrisChandler March 22, 2018

Anonymous - you should probably put your "Denver and Stephanie" email quote in quotation marks because on first glance, it looks as if you are Denver and Stephanie posting on this forum. I don't think you intended that, but that's what it looks like.

- Anonymous March 22, 2018

Chris,

Absolutely no one in the group that proposed this vote has ANY interest in causing division. Nothing has been said on line or in private by anyone In this group that hopes or agitates for division. Exactly the opposite, we are trying to help the assembly come together in unity. I promise you the suggestion you made in not true. Can you give us the benefit of the doubt?

Now perhaps you do know with certainty that the vote will create an us vs. them situation. But I don't know that. We've thought long and hard about how to find unity among folks that have such strong and varied opinions. We think it is very possible that this vote can work. And we believe that the people in this movement have good hearts and will choose to sacrifice for each other rather than fight each other.

We understand that some believe this vote is not the best way forward. Can you give it a chance? Are you really so certain that it will fail? Your speculation about our motivation was dead wrong. Is it possible that you could be wrong about the vote causing division too?

Gordon

- Sarah March 22, 2018

I support this proposal and vote.

March 22, 2018

- DevinFausett

I support this proposal and vote as well.

To the anonymous stone thrower above, the fruit your words bear leave me doubting your claim of having seen Christ. Every instance (that I've heard or read about) of anyone having seen Christ always leaves that person with more love for humanity, not vitriol and disgust at ones fellow Christ-seekers. You misjudge our hearts and motives and those are not actions or words that the Lord (or one who has truly seen him) would speak to a group of people seeking their Savior. You've already said you felt the covenant was not from the Lord, so why don't you leave us in peace and allow us to seek the Lord our way.

- Jay March 23, 2018

If the spirit tells me that the voting process creates division, and I seek the unity that Christ admonishes us to seek in the A&C, then wouldn't it offend the spirit for me to participate in it?

How will my silence be counted?

- YourFriend March 23, 2018

Voting doesn't create division, light and dark does. Aligning ourselves with light is how we qualify for Zion. Voting is excercizing our free agency to choose between the two. Both light and darkness have been demonstrated in our exchanges. A discerning eye can see and choose light by voice. Our ability to discern and choose light divides us and rightly so.
May we unify with the light.
Love, Lisa
I support the vote and appreciate those willing to help us progress. Wish I could be there to make my voice heard. What time will the voting take place and will it be on live internet? Thank you!

- JohnDutson March 23, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JohnDutson March 23, 2018

Anonymous
"Individuals can and do obtain hope in Christ. Individuals have been "saved" by the Lord on an individual basis from the time of Adam until the present. That will continue till the end of time.
But there is a profound difference between saved individuals and a covenant people. The covenant promises to restore Israel and its remnants contained in the Book of Mormon is not fulfilled merely by individuals, but requires a covenant people who have united to receive the covenant people status.
Zion and the New Jerusalem are a place, occupied by covenant people, and not something an individual can be or become. People who gather there will all need to be individually redeemed, individually penitent, individually connected to God, but will only belong to the community if they belong to the covenant and are of one heart and one mind and have all things in common between and among them.
If you think becoming one with God, whom you have not seen, is challenging, then how much more difficult will it be to become one with your fellow man whom you have seen. (To paraphrase James.)" From Denver's Blog (Covenant April 6 2017)

Read this carefully, it will explain most of your concerns. The INDIVIDUAL work is a personal journey at which at some point TALKING about it is not helpful. The work to be done as a COVENANT PEOPLE, on the other hand requires obvious interaction.

- JohnDutson March 23, 2018

Also, Anonymous
This is the area where discussion concerning the G&S is taking place. You'll find if you read the comments in the papers sports section they're mostly about sports, that rule applies here also. And to pass judgment that no one here has received their own covenant from the Lord regarding their own Salvation is not representative of one of His disciples nor is it true.

- TwoCents March 23, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TwoCents March 23, 2018

The actions of the majority seem to suggest that they are united in the theory of utilitarianism: Giving up some truth for the overall happiness or unity of the group. It seems, unity to you means making the same decision: In this case, saying yes to the Lots document is being pitched as unity. I suppose if I believed that utilitarianism is what the Lord wanted and I suppose if I defined unity the way you do, I would support this vote. I define unity as becoming one with the Lord first and by doing so, naturally I will be united with all of His creations.

As you might have guessed, I don't choose the Lots document for my guide and standard, and Lisa can believe that is me choosing dark, that's ok. I am at peace with the majority moving forward as I stand still waiting to be directed by the Lord. I wish you well. I for one will continue to work towards developing a relationship with the Lord first and then hopefully I will find mutual agreement along my journey. Lori, can I join you on your island? Will you make the island with white sandy beaches and palm trees, if you do, I will bring fry bread, choke cherry soup, and pemmican; Rob is Mr. International so he can bring, Hawaiian, Chinese, Spanish and Swedish food; Shane and Treas can bring Samoan, Hawaiian, Chinese and Fijian food. Chandlers you want to bring some Tongan food? :)
Q

- ChrisChandler March 23, 2018

Absolutely! Beginning to sound like a feast to me! We'll also bring Indian and Persian food with the Takmili's and Singh's :)

- ShaneGuymon March 23, 2018

It seems that now the dispute has evolved to be more about the process of "voting" or rather the process to understand what the beliefs, feelings, or opinions of the group as a whole.

This is confusing to me. There has to be some method of measurement to be able to understand the level of "mutual agreement." Voting seems to be the only realistic method that we have. How we do the vote is another story. Which also seems to be a big part of our disputes. Most of the voting up to this point has been anonymous but done through digital means on the internet, which some seem to have issues with it not

being inclusive enough. Other's want a live vote in person, yet this too is not inclusive.

There are others that are proposing an alternate method, which to me, seems even more unrealistic and FAR less inclusive, and WAY WAY WAY more unreliable of a way to measure the level of "mutual agreement." That method, is to get together in a room and just talk about it. And after we are done reasoning amongst ourselves and given the opportunity to persuade one another that we will some how be able to come to a "mutual agreement." The problem with this, is that it is impossible for such a thing to happen at the size of a group that we have. Also the movement is too spread out for this to even be realistic. Nothing about this idea makes any sense at all. You can use that method in a very small group of people.

This problem is the same problem with "focus groups." There are FAR too many biases introduced. A very small percentage of people, with a specific personality type, will dominate the conversation. The effects that large groups of people have on people vary depending on the type of person. When these people are strangers, the ability to create a safe space for open thoughts is also VERY VERY highly unlikely to be accomplished.

I also agree that comment threads on a blog post are also not the way to go either. It also presents it's own limitations and problems. So this blog, is also not working. The forum that was used before also doesn't work.

We definitely have a communication problem.

- ChrisChandler March 23, 2018

@Gordon – thanks for your thoughtful response and questions.

I am not “certain that [voting] will fail”. In fact, quite the opposite, I believe voting will SUCCEED…SPECTACULARLY. However, it just will NOT produce the desired OUTCOME that you hope.

It will succeed in creating more division, strife, and separation. Voting, by its very nature, is intended to create a winner and a loser.

No, I will not give voting another chance. It is an illegitimate system that imposes the will of a majority upon a minority. It does not create equality. It creates inequality and a power base among people, no matter how good people’s “intentions” are.

I am willing to continue to work with everyone in this movement who is willing to continue to seek God’s part in the matter…FOR HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES until we obtain revelation from God about what He wants in the document – not our assumptions of what should be in it.

Christ says this would be a “light thing” if our “hearts were right”. He says it twice in fact! We have all ASSUMED our hearts have been “right” and that – it’s just those “other guys” whose hearts are not right that are holding us back from getting this done – instead of realizing that He just softly pronounced judgment on us ALL. I am repenting and assume he was talking to me and telling me my heart wasn’t right. I’m working on trying to get my heart right first.

Rob A. is correct in his assessment of our Gentile desire for efficiency – “Get ‘er done” – and unwillingness to work with each other any longer than is necessary to slap together a hodge-podge of great quotes from Denver and say, “It’s done. It’s enough.” Jesus is not a Gentile. He is trying to teach of something of what heaven is and should be like in the A&C – it’s about light and knowledge and our relationships with each other.

For sure, the assignment needs to get done, but I am with Sam Vaughn's suggestion that we take Christ at His word and keep working together and seeking "His part". That, unfortunately, has NOT been tried. Why don't we try that? Christ never said in the A&C to come to mutual agreement by voting, but He did say if we had a dispute to pray to Him in humility together and present our dispute to Him, then IF WE ARE CONTRITE BEFORE HIM He will tell us His part. I know He is telling the truth, because I have tried it with my wife and it works!!!

If it can work for a couple, could it not work for more? Do we actually believe Him? If so, then why can't we try that instead of voting? I realize that it will require more time, effort, and concentration on our part than just voting, but at least WE WILL HAVE KNOWLEDGE FROM GOD. His instruction is clear.

I don't pretend to have all the answers, but one thing I know, we have voted (ad nauseum) since the beginning of this process last year. It has not created anything but irritability, campaigning, and an "us" vs. "them" mentality already. I have seen the ALL the different iterations we've gone through. Everybody's "intentions" and "motivations" have been good. Even I originally thought voting was the way to go. I have changed my mind. Now, with all due respect, you are asking me to "give [voting] a chance". Sorry. No.

- Prophecy March 23, 2018

RE Ezekiel 17:4

- etluxentenebrislucet March 23, 2018

Haha, I would love for you to join me. :) White sand and palm trees all the way! I offer myself and my family up as the clean-up crew cause I am just an okay cook, although the husband is a cookie-making master so I'll volunteer him as cookie tribute. But I know how to clean up afterwards! Mmm, mmm, mmm.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 23, 2018

But I think if we don't have a "heart problem" then communication can be worked out. I agree that blog posts and commenting has not been the best means, but it is what it is. Blogs are great for information dissemination, but figuring out challenges...not so much.

I also wonder if we are just not trusting in Christ to work with, in, and through us. Do we underestimate Him and what He can accomplish when we get our own ideas out of the way? Maybe.

I think the division at this point is not so much about process, though surely it is part, as much as some of us feel to be still and wait on Christ to let us know a way forward over voting again, and again, and again.

But I respect the desire for others to get a more solid consensus through voting. I can offer not to dispute, and let others do as they wish with that, but I think it still does not get us where I believe we all truly desire to be.

As long as we can work to maintain love in our hearts for each other, there is still hope.

March 23, 2018

- Keltroy

To be clear:
1. The Nonmancaaf Swhafugs means - “Non Opposing, No Marketing Added, Non Compulsory, All Are Free. Simply What He Asked From Us G&S.” This is a true statement, not just a funny title.
2. We did not ask to be a part of this vote. We were approached about wether or not we wanted to nominate this document; we did not. Whoever nominated it did that of their own free will. All are free to act with this Guide and Standard according to the dictates of their own conscience. Its only possible compulsion would have to be by oneself upon ones same self. We have accepted it and by that others may know to what standard we hold ourselves.
3. Our names have been associated with this Guide and Standard, we accept that, but it would be a mistake to think we are the only ones who labored over it, which is why it is published by ‘anonymous’ as none of us merit any credit. The attachment of our name is so others may have someone to blame for any mistakes.
4. We reject any notion that would cause even the perception that this Guide and Standard could, should, or is being offered un-equally in comparison to any other. If God is no respector of persons then how could we be. The merit ought to be in the light and truth contained and the process by which it is obtained, nothing else ought compel.

- Taggart March 23, 2018

Good thoughts. I agree with you Chris.

- Anonymous March 23, 2018

Yes Q,
Becoming one with the Lord is the right approach to take. Until we do, there will be division. We may always have a difference of opinion, but if our choices were guided by the Lord’s will, we would necessarily choose the same thing, whether we wanted to or not. I have learned from experience, my will is hardly ever what the Lord’s will is, however I choose His, no matter what I want to do, or what I think is best. I don’t know the future, He does. I yield to Him. I yearn for the day that we can see eye to eye. There is quite a bit of separation in the scriptures. Separation is a necessary part of the process. We cannot prevent it, whether we vote or not, whether we continue to seek the better part or not. We will always find someone who still thinks we need to do something else, approach it differently, wait longer, etc. It will never end, and we won’t complete the work asked of us. The longer we draw out the process, the more different directions we go in. How many versions of the G&S do we have now, wait another 6 months and the versions will double. We all believe we know better, we have a better product, we have more experience, we know how it should be done. We have a small window of opportunity here. I pray we take advantage of it. I don’t even care which G&S you all choose. I will receive it, whatever it is. I prefer one over the others, but I wouldn’t lose my opportunity to participate in this great work over a few petty differences. We should all feel this way. I hope the Spirit is so strong in the meetings that the right choice will be evident, hearts will be softened and love will prevail. I am praying for you guys! Love, Lisa

- ShaneGuymon March 24, 2018

I agree.

- HuhWhatda March 24, 2018

To: The Movement

If we are indeed the stone cut out of the mountains without hands (and I am certain we are), then the influence of the kingdoms of the earth must be ground to dust within us, before it grinds to dust the statue in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Our relationships, if they are to be familiar and desirable to those in the heavens, then our current relationships must reflect the relationships of people in heaven. Although dialogue seems tedious, unproductive, inefficient, and requires too much investment in time, resource, and emotional capital, …it's absence, enduring through issues, and acquiring greater light to resolve issues is the source of our problems.

I am certain that this movement is the stone cut without hands prophesied of over 500 years before Christ's day (2,500 years ago). That stone was prophesied of to grind the spiritual and physical institutional kingdoms of the earth to dust. To understand what that means is beneficial to us as we work through this project. The kingdoms of the earth reside in the desires our hearts. Gold representing Babylon, and silver, brass, iron, and a mixture of iron & clay, representing other influences. The stone cut without hands is Zion, and it is cut by the words of the Lord, as it is His work to gather and build Zion. None of us have ever been there, and for this reason, our efforts to draw up blueprints and break ground on Zion, from our understanding, will be a failed attempt, …unless it is directed by the Lord's voice alone. Nephi's ship was an example of this future effort of the stone cut without hands, as it was the Lord's voice who instructed Nephi to construct it. However, before that stone can be cut out of the mountain to roll forth and grind the kingdoms of the earth to dust, it must first be ground to dust in us!

The current effort to produce a vote is accurately a choice, as Lisa has indicated in her comment above to my wife Q. The best option between light and dark is to align with light, which is another truth Lisa added. What she labels as light and what she labels as dark is how she must be judged. Likewise, what we all label as light and dark will not make it so, it will only identify your ability to discern, and judge you. Therefore, how you judge shall be how you are judged. Those who call light "dark" are simply damned, unable to move forward in progression to more light, because of their error. Those who call dark "light" are not only damned, but cursed for their rebellion, chained to hell.

Given the situation, where the majority have exercised their agency to collectively force a scenario of a vote today, their choice forces the whole to judge between light and dark. But the choice of light verses dark is not limited to a choice between documents. It also includes a choice to vote or oppose, a choice to continue working when not mutually agreeable or to discontinue and move on, a choice to not only say that your love is stronger than the chords of death, but love stronger than the chords of death through your actions. To isolate the choices here to a choice between documents is to be darkened in your minds, not understanding what is before us, produced by our own doing.

- HuhWhatda March 24, 2018

2 of 2

The argument to support the majority no-vote-vote today has used words in Mosiah 29:26-27 as justification to move ahead against the few who desire to continue until peace wins out. Their argument is weak as they have justified "COMMON" as an absolute in this case. Mosiah wrote that it is "COMMON" that the majority chooses right, while the minority chooses not right. However, this is not absolute, it is merely common. However, verse 27 "IS" absolute! It says, when the time comes that the majority chooses iniquity (gross inequality and unfair behavior) the judgments of God will come upon you.

It continues to warn that then is the time where He will visit you with great destruction, as He always has. Interestingly enough, Mosiah never addresses the destruction of the minority. He only describes the destruction of the majority. You are required to choose between light and dark today. The choice of a no-vote-vote is forced upon this movement today, by those who claim the majority. How you, and each of you choose to exercise your agency to align with light or dark is your choice to make, …and it is also how you choose to be judged. I vote in opposition to group think, to continue working, to be the stone cut without hands, having had ground to dust the kingdom of the earth within me, and to go forth to do the same, until that stone fills the entire earth.

Our relationships, if they are to be familiar and desirable to those in the heavens, then our current relationships must reflect the relationships of people in heaven. Nibley, in his book “Enoch the Prophet” (pg 261), describes the relationships of people in heaven vividly. He writes:

“There the saints live without discord or dissension; they are angelic beings, wise and gentle, without malice or deceit, constantly VISITING each other. They are VAST DISTANCES (my comment-no excuse for long distances) removed from each other, but through their common Lord and God they all share a common glorious awareness of each other. All are incorruptible and hence without death; they do not grow old or wear out; their nature is unfading. Their number is fixed it is infinite- beyond counting. Each of these worlds is a Zion, having no law courts, no hunger or thirst, no cold or heat, no hatred or fear, no war, no slavery, no harmful creatures or plants. Magnificent buildings stand beside tranquil seas; flowing springs give life- giving water. Everything vibrates with joy. The wants of the people are few. They move through the air by an effortless power of flight; they are at home in the firmaments and the worlds and among all the dominions and powers. Their beauty is within them and shines out, as if they were of pure crystal. Force also flows through them from the king as they open themselves to it by persevering in prayer and song. They study and meditate constantly; they exhale the fragrance of divine happiness. Each is more remarkable than the other, each more illustrious.”

- HuhWhatda March 24, 2018

Conclusion of 2 of 2

Let’s be THAT! Let’s continue to work through our conversations, and let the love of God gather us, as wrestlers of the covenant, …as Israel! Let’s not use the excuse of long distances, as justification for our failure to be one, since Zion is a family of God, spanning the distances of the heavens, which include worlds without number, worlds without end. God has commanded us, and His commandments are a map to how this can be done, if we submit to Him, and not to other men. Let Him gather us out, instead of voting.

Although dialogue among us seems tedious, unproductive, inefficient, and requires too much investment in time, resource, and emotional capital, …it’s absence, enduring through issues, and acquiring greater light to resolve issues is the source of our problems. We would prefer a quick vote to stop the contention, rather than for us to cast out contention from within us, so we can continue to work until being mutually agreeable and becoming the stone cut without hands. I do not desire to fix Jared Livesay, until he looks like me. Nor do I wish to look like him (I’ve never met him, but I like who I am, so why would I want to be him?). The only person I wish to be is Christ, and that describes a relationship.

Man-up and choose according to your heart, and let that be how you are judged!

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda March 25, 2018

Master,

I don't think you thought this one through very well.

Yesterday was the pre-vote-non-vote-vote. To sum up the cheer fest, I wrestled to continue working, and the majority said, "We got spirit, yes we do! We got spirit, how about you!" I was clumped into a group that was labelled: Requiring Unanimity/ Seeking a Perfect Document/ who had an Unlimited Time Frame. Although that is how we were labeled, I have never claimed any of those things. I never required unanimity, only what the Lord requires of us, which is something I don't know yet. I never thought what would be written would be Perfect, but not being perfect should not be our aim. And, I never thought that there was an Unlimited Amount of Time, as I have been consumed by this since the work began after the last conference. It is a bad idea to pretend say one thing, and do another, so I have voiced my concerns for us to continue working, and not play games with this vote.

People in the room have attributed my wife and my voice to squawking like black crows, injuring them as doves, ...narrating their stories by their emotions, ...when the problem was not "our opinions!" The problem was "our opinions" being put on blast because of the process forced upon everyone, by the man behind the microphone. Prior to entering the meeting, I gladly interacted with those attending, reuniting as friends at conference. What happened after the meeting was totally different.

Immediately following, those who opposed were invited to the "back corner" of the room to talk things through. However, when I got to the back of the room, those who pushed the non-vote-vote had nothing prepared as they had promoted to have. Essentially, it was an unintentional set-up, placing me with a blindfold on, with an anti-Mormon sign, outside of the LDS conference center, during General Conference. I was being pecked by peckers, under the false pretenses that they were expressing "love!" I continuously turned to Gordon Platt to ask him, "Is this what you've planned to kindly hear-out those who opposed?" He stood dumbfounded, not knowing what to do, because just as I told him online here, he ...DID NOT THINK THIS THROUGH VERY WELL! As he was at a loss for words, he permitted those who were angry with my opinion to peck at me, amidst all of the conference people exiting. Even one of the witnesses, John Pratt, felt inclined to force his opinion on the proverbial blindfolded guy outside of the LDS General Conference with an anti-Mormon sign placed in his hand.

When the only thing left for me to do is to shout, "Shut Up!" to the peckers, including John Pratt, Gordon finally asked if we could talk, just the two of us, I gladly accepted. It was in this personal setting, where two men could come to understand clearer. Later, the conversation between two slowly grew, and maxed out to about ten people, and greater understanding was had. Those in that small group were a mixture of those I knew, and strangers. They could feel the love I had. The situation placed in a franchise-vote conference was impossible for personal interaction, because in a franchise, discretion must be removed! However, in an ecclesia claiming to be Zion, individual discretion must be preserved.

How you judge will be how you will be judged.

Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson March 25, 2018

Rob,
Far as I know, we aren't claiming to be Zion..
I'm with your view on the ways of God and Zion are not our ways. What you want will obviously be a part in the ways of Zion…But Rob, we're not Zion, let alone Zion people, yet. We CANNOT have get togethers like you just described on every decision right now. So, what happens now in our present condition and place? Just the people who can afford to get together in back room meetings like you described make the decisions? WHAT ABOUT THOSE "OTHER PEOPLE" ALL OVER THE WORLD?
I think we are at a place where we ABSOLUTLY MUST agree on a "mechanism" for coming to decisions going forward that includes participation from people all over the world. We aren't living together yet for your ideal to be realistic as we are currently situated. Although I'm with you in spirit, it just doesn't seem practical until we are actually in Zion.

- Anonymous March 25, 2018

Folks,

I'm sorry that we were unable to complete the vote for a guide and standard in the conference today. The organizers decided not to risk any more "audience participation," and I get that (that is not meant to be snarky!). It's their conference to organize; it's their decision. But, let me suggest a couple of things that all of us were able to accomplish with our truncated vote.

First, the "lots" guide and standard was pretty clearly the assembly's preferred choice. That's the second time that a fairly large number of people participated in a vote in which it came out on top. That is two "witnesses," if you like, that it is the document that most prefer.

Second, and more importantly, there were a considerable number of folks that preferred a different document but gave up their preference for the sake of unity (and no, I am not suggesting that if you did not support the "lots" document that you don't also desire to be united). Voluntary sacrifice builds love. Thank you.

Third, speaking only for myself, what I saw was a strong desire to come to mutual agreement. After our group talked to those that opposed the outcome/vote, I would estimate that no more than 8-10 people were in opposition to the "lots" G&S. That's less than 5%. Others may have a different estimate, but that is my honest appraisal of the numbers.

Fourth, after talking to the folks who were opposed to the "lots" document, I have more sympathy for their concerns. We have made plans to get together and continue to talk things through to see if we can develop greater love and understanding.

Fifth, again speaking only for myself, at this point I feel at peace with adding the "lots" document to my own personal set of scriptures. I believe I saw the minority agree (out of love) with the majority on a statement of principles. In my estimation, that satisfies the Lord's requirement.

Sixth, perhaps the sacrifice of the minority "provoked" the Lord's merciful implication, given through Denver, that each fellowship could decide for themselves how best to organize a statement of principles. "Do you want the fellowships in Uganda, the Philippines and Spain to all be alike? (rough paraphrase). Perhaps mutual agreement at the level of the fellowships is enough for now. After all, most everything else is

happening at that level.

Thanks to those who participated in the vote, and also to those who voiced alternate opinions. Thank heaven we don't all think alike. Otherwise I'd have to go buy a bunch of white shirts again.

Gordon

- HuhWhatda March 25, 2018

Gordon,

Because of your comment above, after all that has happened today, I have changed my mind about meeting with you. I have no desire to have your sympathy. I have no desire to pretend with you, acting as if you care, when you are set on the results of your failed experiment. We have learned nothing new, the lots have the majority, and are set above all the other documents. They are the ones above the next.

The next time you feel inclined to run another experiment like this one, make it clear that this is an "experiment," ...so I can avoid being the guy being probed!

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet March 26, 2018

Book recommendation, with love for all you guys:

The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict

From chapter four: The Way-of Being Diagram

Behaviors: (Voting)(Discussions)

Way of Being:

Heart at Peace >> Others are PEOPLE: Hopes, needs, cares, and fears as real to me as my own.

Heart at War >> Others are OBJECTS: Obstacles, Vehicles, Irrelevancies

"I'm going to suggest something to you about this...It's an idea you might want to resist at first, especially regarding your children [others]. But here it is: Generally speaking, WE RESPOND TO OTHERS' WAY OF BEING TOWARD US RATHER THAN TO THEIR BEHAVIOR. Which is to say that our children [others] respond more to how we're regarding them than they do to our particular words or actions. WE CAN TREAT OUR CHILDREN [OTHERS] FAIRLY, for example, BUT IF OUR HEARTS ARE WARRING TOWARD THEM WHILE WE'RE DOING IT, THEY WON'T THINK THEY'RE BEING TREATED FAIRLY AT ALL. IN FACT, THEY'LL RESPOND TO US AS IF THEY WEREN'T BEING TREATED FAIRLY."

"As important as behavior is, MOST PROBLEMS AT HOME, AT WORK, AND IN THE WORLD ARE NOT FAILURES OF STRATEGY BUT FAILURES OF WAY OF BEING. ...when our hearts are at war, we can't see situations clearly, we can't consider others' positions seriously enough to solve difficult problems, and we end up provoking hurtful behavior in others.

"IF WE HAVE DEEP PROBLEMS, IT'S BECAUSE WE ARE FAILING AT THE DEEPEST PART OF THE SOLUTION. AND WHEN WE FAIL AT THIS DEEPEST LEVEL, WE INVITE OUR OWN FAILURE." (emphasis added)

- Anonymous March 26, 2018

Considering our current state of affairs, I am having a difficult time figuring out how we will ever agree totally. We were so close, probably as close as we will ever be. With Denver's emphasis on differences in Fellowships, it seems he was saying we can all have our own brand of G&S. I was so pleased to see so many lay their own desires aside and vote to agree on the Lot's G&S. I was so encouraged and optimistic until the fray started. The mood totally changed in the meeting. Gordon tried to maintain decorum without trying to control, but all feelings of love dissipated into strife and contention. I felt there was enough support behind the Lot's verision that I should have no issue with including it in my scriptures. I am going to pray about it, and ensure I have the Lord's blessing before doing so. I only see further disagreement from this point on. And apparently that is fine, disagree if you want, and just add your own G&S into your scriptures and use it in your own Fellowship if you wish. Our hearts will be the final judge, whether we were meek, easy to entreat, loving and supportive of each other. And I am very comfortable with that. This solution ends the disagreement and contention, at least it confines it to a fellowship level where it is more manageable. This seems to be the most viable solution at the moment. You are all free to continue to work however you see fit. If I am prompted to join in any efforts going forward I will. God bless you, until we gather at the river. :) Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet March 26, 2018

I, too, feel a need to prayerfully consider things right now.

In a way, the "solution" of every family or fellowship writing their own G&S and adding it to their scriptures seems good and right. But if that is true, then why did we as a whole struggle to see it that way for so long? Is that the "if your hearts were right" issue? We were unwilling to allow others to determine their version of a personal G&S?

When Christ said He was speaking to us as "one" did He mean each one of us or the whole group together? Depending upon how that is interpreted will impact how we plan to move forward, I think. It probably determined what has happened thus far.

The vote at the end of Saturday's session was hard to witness. I think I was okay with the first part, inviting everyone to choose their preferred statement, but it felt wrong to continue beyond that. So very wrong. There was definitely a spirit of contending felt just in doing a vote. Maybe that was just mine and my husband's perception though.

If we are each able to choose or write our own statement of principles, there is no need to even know what a "majority" of people want, right?

I can understand that it felt like there was contention, but from my perspective, as my husband and I sat watching, it appeared there was a room filled with people who lacked charity and compassion. I saw people standing alone. I was not okay with that, whether or not I agreed with them was irrelevant to me. The majority had many people to support them, but those few...who was willing to strengthen them and walk with them a mile? Who was willing to listen? It was in that moment I would have been willing to "submit" my desires, whatever they were, to help them. It would have been the ideal moment to humble myself, asking if we could all kneel and pray collectively yet individually for His

part. That is how I wish it had gone.

I believe everyone in that room contributed to the energy of the moment, either positively or negatively. That is also true for the entire covenant body and this process; we have all made contributions to the energy, the atmosphere if you will, whether we have commented openly or not. We cannot hide what is in our hearts. It seeps outward to touch the world.

I feel a fierce love in my heart for this group. I want to fight for us, in prayer and supplications. I feel so weak and vulnerable, yet know we each have goodness and gifts to contribute that will benefit the whole.

I don't know what will happen now, but I hope relationships can be healed, fences mended, bridges rebuilt. Hopefully we can leave the drama to Shakespeare now and learn to believe in each other as we seek Christ.

...if we only had the stomach for it

Saturday, March 24, 2018

[This is being posted with no idea whether the group proposing this will carry it out at the Phoenix conference.]

“There is another method that we haven’t tried, so far as I know. That would be to use ‘lots’ to choose from every [proposed G&S Statement/Document] in the [movement, equally]. This method was used to fill Judas’ vacancy in the original Twelve in Jerusalem. (Acts 1: 21-26.) The description there is ambiguous, but was intended to be random, unpredictable and not just a vote. It was a recognized way to choose someone [or something]. (See, e.g., 1 Ne. 3: 11.) It has been used to sort through the entire nation of Israel when all twelve tribes were assembled. Someone had stolen an idol, resulting in the withdrawal of the Lord’s Spirit from them in battle. The result was defeat for Israel and the death of many men. They needed to find the one who committed the offense. So they had to choose from the entire gathering of all twelve tribes. Beginning at the tribe level, they sorted through to find the right tribe (Judah). Then proceeded to sort through the tribe to locate the larger family involved (Zarhites). Then went through the family to find the individual involved (Achan). The whole thing is in the scriptures. (Joshua 7: 13-23.)
Such a system was uncontrolled by man, done by lot, completely random, but produced the right person [or in this case, ‘Statement/Document’]. Left to God, it obtained God’s answer. Did with the sons of Lehi, and with the vacancy in the Twelve in the Book of Acts, too. There is no reason why such a system wouldn’t generate the Lord’s choice today.
If the [body is unable to choose a Statement of Principles’ without disputes], then random choosing using a lot system would put the choice in the Lord’s hands. But I suppose we don’t have the stomach to try it, particularly when we already have a system that seems to work for us.”
Adapted from Denver Snuffer’s post “Prophet, Seer, Revelator” (May 21, 2010), changing only the subject of the discussion from selecting a church President to selecting a Guide and Standard.
—from a couple willing to lay down their own pride

Comments

- Anonymous March 24, 2018

I love that. A couple willing to lay down their own pride. I would lay mine down and accept a G&S chosen by lots, if the voice of the people method is unsuccessful. Thanks for the inspiration.
Love, Lisa

- MichaelBurke March 24, 2018

Interesting.

Is that you Dani?

Are you and Jared the couple willing to lay down your pride if a guide and standard is chosen by lot, and it's not the guide and standard you've been arguing in favor of?

- BrianZangTheZangFamily March 24, 2018

You can include a lot for "none of the above" to allow the Lord to let us know we have to go back to the drawing board.

- Anonymous March 24, 2018

Looks like there was some success today. Hopefully we will be adopting the Lot's G&S tomorrow. Thanks for all of the good work. I look forward to the vote completion tomorrow. Love, Lisa

- Anonymous March 25, 2018

Folks,

I'm sorry that we were unable to complete the vote for a guide and standard in the conference today. The organizers decided not to risk any more "audience participation," and I get that (that is not meant to be snarky!). It's their conference to organize; it's their decision. But, let me suggest a couple of things that all of us were able to accomplish with our truncated vote.

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Gordon

- DiversityBeauty March 25, 2018

"Perhaps mutual agreement at the level of the fellowships is enough for now."

If we're doing it at that "level," then surely we can just go all the way to the individual (even twins have different priorities!). Let us all mutually agree that we are free to create our own statements of principles which guide us, and add them to our scriptures. And if we change our thoughts about a matter (or have added experience or insight), we are free to remove our old statement and make a new one, as many times as we would like.

See, that wasn't so hard.

- Anonymous March 25, 2018

Gordon,

Thank you for filling us in on your perspective of what happened. For those of us who weren't there, and only saw the little bit that was televised, it was good to hear more details of what happened afterward when you met with those who opposed. I am now comfortable printing off the Lots GS and putting it in my scriptures. I hope someday we will be able to do so as a united body of believers, despite our wonderful diversity of personalities. The counsel on not being froward was something that cannot be ignored, despite our need for and always present diversity. The way I see it, the necessity to eliminate frowardness trumped just about everything else that was said. It was compelling, humbling, and worthy of deep and ponderous reflection and personal application by all of us who have the covenant.

Thanks for your efforts to see if there could be a "second witness" of agreement among the people. It was much appreciated.

- Anonymous March 25, 2018

look at Denver's talk today (last 20-25 min.) where he mentions favorably the diversity that will be found in fellowships in uganda, the philippines, and spain. And then look at what is on either side of that comment. diversity does equal beauty.

- HuhWhatda March 25, 2018

Gordon,

Because of your comment above, after all that has happened today, I have changed my mind about meeting with you. I have no desire to have your sympathy. I have no desire to pretend with you, acting as if you care, when you are set on the results of your failed experiment. We have learned nothing new, the lots have the majority, and are set above all the other documents. They are the ones above the next.

The next time you feel inclined to run another experiment like this one, make it clear that this is an "experiment," ...so I can avoid being the guy being probed!

Rob Adolpho

- Log March 26, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log March 26, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log March 26, 2018

Nothing Has Changed

Let us review the Lord's assignment to the people in the A&C pertaining to the G&S.

1. You [the covenant participants] are not excused from writing [without specifying any method] a [single] statement of principles [rules of behavior that you do not ever break] that I have required [commanded] at your hands.

2. I forbade my servant David [Denver Snuffer] from participating, and again forbid him.

3. But I require a [single] statement of principles to be adopted [accepted] by the mutual agreement [universal agreement] of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands.

4. When [at such time as] you have an agreed statement of principles [a single statement of principles which none of the covenant participants choose to dispute] I require it [the single statement of principles no covenant participant chooses to dispute] to also be added [as a replacement for LDS D&C 20] as a guide [that which directs behavior] and standard [that by which behavior is judged] for my people to follow [to conform their behavior to].

5. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless [bring the Holy Ghost to], benefit [do good to] and inform [teach what is required to receive the Holy Ghost to] them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.

At Phoenix, it was demonstrated publicly that the adoption of the majority-preferred statement of principles was disputed. The Lord's requirement is not fulfilled by adding a disputed statement of principles as a replacement for LDS D&C 20. The Lord's requirement is rejected and left undone instead.

Therefore, the true state of affairs of this people pertaining to the Lord's requirement that a statement of principles be adopted by the mutual agreement of this people is this:

1. There is nothing in the A&C restricting me from selecting my own G&S.
2. There is nothing in the A&C restricting me from disputing the adoption of any other G&S proposals.
3. There is nothing in the law and commandments of God restricting me from selecting the law and commandments of God as my G&S.
4. There is nothing in the law and commandments of God restricting me from disputing the adoption of any other G&S proposals.
5. I have made a choice of G&S proposals that I will agree to for this assignment and it is The Rock of Jesus Christ.
6. I have made a choice to dispute the adoption of every single other G&S document past, present, and future.
7. Therefore, if the body actually and truly does want to be the Lord's people indeed, they will each individually accept and do as the Lord has required of them and adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ.
8. Failure to accept and do as the Lord has required occurs when any other proposed G&S is placed in the scriptures.

The task has been simplified down to where in order to succeed at this assignment all the body has to do is place The Rock of Jesus Christ in the scriptures after any who dispute its adoption shall have ceased their disputations. Any other action taken by the body is failure.

Failing to verbally dispute a proposal does not necessarily mean that one is not disputing that proposal. One may dispute a proposed G&S by adding a disputed G&S to their scriptures. The placement of disputed documents in the scriptures, feigning to have accepted and done as the Lord requires while in reality rejecting his requirement and leaving it undone - must also cease.

It is not accurate to say that I am attempting to control the body. It is accurate to say I reject the rule and ministry of the unrighteous (A&C p. 8) and corrupt (A&C p. 3) majority, and I will not agree to curse, harm, and misinform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway by failing to dispute their preferred G&S. I reject the rule of men for the rule of my Lord, Jesus Christ.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 26, 2018

Book recommendation, with love for all you guys:

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From chapter four: The Way-of Being Diagram

Behaviors: (Voting)(Discussions)

Way of Being:

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RESPOND TO OTHERS' WAY OF BEING TOWARD US RATHER THAN TO THEIR BEHAVIOR. Which is to say that our children [others] respond more to how we're regarding them than they do to our particular words or actions. WE CAN TREAT OUR CHILDREN [OTHERS] FAIRLY, for example, BUT IF OUR HEARTS ARE WARRING TOWARD THEM WHILE WE'RE DOING IT, THEY WON'T THINK THEY'RE BEING TREATED FAIRLY AT ALL. IN FACT, THEY'LL RESPOND TO US AS IF THEY WEREN'T BEING TREATED FAIRLY."

"As important as behavior is, MOST PROBLEMS AT HOME, AT WORK, AND IN THE WORLD ARE NOT FAILURES OF STRATEGY BUT FAILURES OF WAY OF BEING. ...when our hearts are at war, we can't see situations clearly, we can't consider others' positions seriously enough to solve difficult problems, and we end up provoking hurtful behavior in others.

"IF WE HAVE DEEP PROBLEMS, IT'S BECAUSE WE ARE FAILING AT THE DEEPEST PART OF THE SOLUTION. AND WHEN WE FAIL AT THIS DEEPEST LEVEL, WE INVITE OUR OWN FAILURE." (emphasis added)

- MichaelBurke March 26, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke March 26, 2018

Jared,

I respectfully request you answer a question Adrian asked you on another forum.

Were you speaking literally when you spoke of being in God's presence before accepting the covenant offered in Boise, and being denied His presence after saying "yes" to the preliminary questions asked of those entering the covenant?

And when you spoke of seeking to regain His presense in the months since the conference?

Are you saying you were in God's secret council, then sinned, and found yourself cut off from His presence?

That's what I understood you to be saying, and it seems to be what Adrian understood you to be saying, and I'm asking you to please tell all of us if we understood you correctly.

Please.

Thank you.

- TwoCents March 27, 2018

Part 1 of 2

Since last May, my experience with the G&S has been both very positive and very negative. I learned a great deal about God’s lexicon and I learned a great deal about myself, which I tried to share with you. These two points out weigh the many negative experiences attributed to me. There are many negative thoughts and expressions that are being purported here on line that will be judged; therefore, I feel the need to express

the following:

Back in October when Jim and Angela O'Rullian and Karen and Kirk Strong came into my home to tell us about the Lots proposal, I tried to inform them that I didn't believe utilizing lots is an expression of my faith. I did tell them if they felt the need to move forward on this then to do so. BUT If they did, I did ask them to Not hold a vote, as this would cause us to be separated. Maybe they didn't believe me or maybe they did.

We expressed on line time after time, that we didn't believe in the voting system, as this would cause a separation. Maybe Gordon didn't believe us. He kept on saying this is out of "love" etc. Love for who, the majority who had a lot of love already? Did you think of the minority and how this experience would be for them? I did. What did you think would happen? Did you think that Rob and I would not say anything, especially when we were not being accurately portrayed? Just because we didn't play by your rules doesn't mean we were contentious.

The whole process was uncomfortable for those of us who were on the minority, especially since everyone who was on the majority side were pitched as being united, expressing charity, etc. and those who were not, as being the ones who were "opposed." Even the whole "yes" and "no" words used. Even the word "ours" were all expressions of an "us" and "them" mentality. It was a big judgement in front of a large group akin to having a Scarlet Letter sentence.

- TwoCents March 27, 2018

Part 2 of 2

Gordon, we submitted to your process, Rob even went to meet with you. We tried to support you and your process and you hung us out to dry. You didn't once protect us from the many negative comments that flew our way. You said it was to be a meeting where we could voice our "opposition" You are the one who chose to make it a very public spectacle, choosing to have the meeting outside where everyone will pass by. Why? In your report, did you mention this? Now you report the following as if you fulfilled this part of your process with honor and success:

"After our group talked to those that opposed the outcome/vote, I would estimate that no more than 8-10 people were in opposition to the "lots" G&S. That's less than 5%. Others may have a different estimate, but that is my honest appraisal of the numbers."

What was your point? So that you could finalize this? If that was your point, then you accomplished it. It's obvious that you don't care about the after effects of it all to the minority- as people told us to leave and told us to shut our mouths. And it still continuous with people talking, gossiping and expressing their opinions about us here on this blog and others. Who will speak up for the injustice and inequality that occurred?

Do you guys not realize that you voted before angels, God and witnesses that you were taking on this document as your Guide and Standard. This will be a document you will be judged by. Moses's governing principles were used to judge his people. This isn't me trying to instill fear in you, but it is a warning. Read your document and the Covenant.

I find it very interesting that many people felt like our speaking up was act of contention. Was it contentious when many of you spoke up in the LDS church, wrote letters to the First Presidency and when you stood up for justice and equality. I'm sure you were told you were dark and contentious for speaking up. What did we say that was so contentious? Or could it be that you just felt uncomfortable? I for one didn't feel the spirit leave. I even felt supported by my ancestors.

The bones of my ancestors call out because of the injustice and iniquity used to eliminate the higher law they lived, having been forced to live a law that so many religions forced upon them. They cry out for their blood lines, because of the unbelief they have due to the iniquity of the Gentile nation. Last year, I gave a talk at the Strong's fellowship meeting, at that meeting I stated that I finally felt equal to a group of white people. This last years' experience tells me I am not equal to you- the majority. I suppose you can call me the minority of the minority.

You believe you have the majority, that may be true at this point, that you are aware of, and that you can see. I know who I am. I know who I represent. I know who my father is. I know my role. I serve my Lord Savior Jesus Christ and Him only. I wish you the majority well as you guys move forward.

Rob and Q Adolpho

- Anonymous March 27, 2018

Rob and Q,

I never called you contentious. That wasn't me. And I do not desire to be separated from you, in fact just the opposite. From the moment in the meeting when Rob suggested he was being driven out because of the vote, I expressed my love for him and told him I didn't want him to go anywhere. My attitude from the beginning has been that we have a difference of opinion — and that's all. I do not wish to be divided from you. If you knew my heart, you would know that. And, more importantly, no one at the conference that I heard or talked to wishes to be separated from you. Again, just the opposite, I heard many expressions of love directed toward the both of you, and the desire expressed that you stay.

I am sorry If Rob felt ganged up on after the conference. It wasn't my idea to engage with anyone other than the folks opposed to the majority's choice. But once outside the conference you engaged with them, Rob. And you had multiple supporters in that group. I didn't want to tell you that you shouldn't continue to talk with them if you wanted to. But, as soon as it became obvious that you'd rather not continue the discussion with others, I suggested we move away from the group. If that was unpleasant for you I'm sorry. Truly.

I am happy to take responsibility for including the "lots" document in my own set of scriptures. I am at peace with that. It was not my first choice of documents, but I am happy to support the preference of the majority. I really do believe that is more important than getting my way.

I love you both,
Gordon

- Dani March 27, 2018

I have heard plenty about how the majority should "get their way" because they are the majority. I have never heard any of the minority seek to get their way, but only to ensure that the Lord gets HIS way, for it is the Lord that placed the requirements upon the people:

"But *I require* a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my

people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands.

When you have an agreed statement of principles *I require* it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow.

This is the reason we are here--to see if we will follow the commandments of God no matter how "impossible" they might seem, to see if we will call on HIM in faith to hold us accountable for our weakness and teach us how to overcome.

We can't just set aside what HE requires. If we will meet God where He calls us then, as the Adolphos say, unity will be the byproduct because we will all be standing in the same place--in love with our Redeemer!

- TwoCents March 27, 2018

Ok thanks Gordon,

Take Care, Q

- ShaneGuymon March 27, 2018

Log, the Lord also said multiple times that He doesn't want anyone to dispute. He never said that He doesn't want us to dispute UNLESS we don't get our way then it's ok to dispute.

So, do you actually desire to be obedient to the will of the Lord?

- BryceBartel March 27, 2018

I feel very comfortable printing out the "Lot's" version of the guide and standard. I will print it out and add it to my Teachings and Commandments.

- Log March 27, 2018

Shane,

1. Cursed is the man that trusts in man, saith the Lord (KJV Jer. 17:5; LDS 2 Ne. 28:31).
2. Denver Snuffer is a man.
3. Cursed is the man that trusts in Denver Snuffer.
4. Leading men to trust Denver Snuffer brings upon them the curse of the Lord.
5. Being cursed is a bad thing.
6. We do not want to be cursed.
7. The law of God, which is the law of the Celestial kingdom, is this: every last thing you wish others would do to you, do to others.
8. Because we do not want to be cursed we should neither trust, nor lead men to trust, Denver Snuffer.
9. The Lottery document leads men to trust Denver Snuffer by offering his words to be the guide to their behavior and the standard by which to judge their behavior.
10. By the law of God, the adoption of the Lottery document (and any other that offers the words of Denver Snuffer to be trusted as their guide and their standard) should be disputed and not agreed to.

11. Salvation is a good thing.
12. We want to be led to salvation.

13. Christ is salvation.
14. By the law of God, we should lead men to Christ.
15. The way to Christ is by both believing and putting into actual execution his law and commandments as they are written.
16. Christ's law and commandments are the written guide which leads to Christ.
17. Christ's law and commandments are the standard by which our thoughts, words, and deeds are judged.
18. Christ's commandments are the principles of the law of the Celestial kingdom.
19. Christ's law and commandments are his guide and standard, and his statement of principles.
20. By the law of God, we should accept, practice, and teach Christ's law and commandments and not dispute them.
21. Therefore, we should accept, practice, and teach The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles and not dispute it.

Jared Livesey

- Jay March 28, 2018

As I have considered Q's position I have had this observation:
Consider any statement of principals that contains language such as "we as a covenant people offer the following..." And suppose that within my fellowship there is one member who does not accept that statement for himself for whatever reason. Suppose further that even though I agree with a particular statement, I still love this person and do not wish to exclude him. Can I adopt a statement with language that assumes "we as a covenant people..." are a group that accepts this statement as our guide without recognizing that there may be someone, who we can also consider a fellow member of the covenant, who does not accept that statement? In other words, by containing that language does it necessarily put anyone who may disagree with it in a category outside "we, the covenant people"? Does the use of that language impose "sameness" on the body?

- Anonymous March 28, 2018

I too did not feel the spirit leave during Saturday's events, although I overheard several souls claim such things the next day. All I can say is, if you corner a lion and poke it with a staff you’re not going to be happy with what comes next. ;)

My experience was that the spirit of God increased to sustain and comfort me through an otherwise humiliating and intimidating and perhaps unnecessary experience. Whatever the intent of the vote organizers and however “unfair” it may be, it was a sting similar to what I experienced in the Church. To have the camera turned on us for all the world to see us stand in opposition to a popular notion with the jeers and head wagging, the “be quiets” and “sit-downs” seems to be what was truly “unfair.” I am not surprised some who supported this action against their brothers and sisters felt the spirit leave. At the same time, I felt love and forgiveness for everyone, and the clarity and calmness of the spirit descend upon me, and I was happy to stand with my brothers and sisters in the breach. I don't expect anyone who didn't stand with the minority to understand those sentiments.

I have a completely different perspective of my good friend Rob than most seem to. I saw him placed in an extremely difficult situation over the weekend. Publicly put in a situation that did not reflect much of the background of the situation he spoke out, was unfairly vilified in the minds of those who were not familiar with all that had gone before, cornered (literally) and encircled and put on the spot in front of the crowd - who of us

would not have felt defensive and found it difficult to articulate in those circumstances?

I have had several people try to convince me that it is impossible to approach Rob because of some flaw they perceive in him. In each case I could see a similar but perhaps more passive or subtle flaw in the person making the claim. If a shy and awkward boy like myself can approach him, I am confident anyone can successfully. When I learn the circumstances of their attempts I think I can see the issue. They approach with intent of making him see their perspective, rather than truly desiring to understand his. Some want to attack some flaw they see in him, and are surprised when he attacks back, shattering their glass house. Read the description of the cherubim in Ezekiel chapters 1 and 10 and tell me how comfortable any of us would feel approaching these sentinels of the chariot of God if we were anything but humble, sincere and contrite.

This weekend there were reports of signs manifest, and interpretations given. I too saw signs and wonders.

As my wife and I were visiting her Basque relatives in the valley of the sun we were walking one dark night among a small flock of sheep. As we approached the entrance of a large fort which promised refuge, we encountered several javelinas. I heard a noise and looked up and I saw a thin flat fire ball spinning as it streaked through the constellation Leo from head to tail. At the point of the mighty lion's heart the meteor burst into seven pieces which surrounded the lion, but continued burning painfully bright. I beheld till it passed out of Leo through the lofty crown into Virgo, when the light of the comet became warm and subdued and as the pieces spun around seemed to unite into one again, which filled me with hope and peace. As the fragments continued spinning out from the woman-ward I could see they were still divided as they faded into the dark horizon.

My only other thought is that maybe we can all agree to add the "Doctrine of Christ" and the "Law of Christ" as a movement-wide "Guide and Standard", with no other title, and leave room for individuals or fellowships to add principles, titles, or documents as they see fit and the spirit directs. Does this satisfy the Lord's requirement and all of the competing parties without compulsion, humiliation, or unjust judgement?

-Sam Vaughn

- etluxentenebrislucet March 28, 2018

Beautiful, Sam. I am moved by your heavenly sign. Your description of what happened last Saturday is correct. I've wondered if anyone else spent Saturday and Sunday an emotional mess. I still feel so.

I agree with your idea to add Christ's doctrine and law as our foundational guide and standard. Rare is the Christian who understands both and lives them.

From the last sentence of the 'mutual agreement' entry in the glossary of the T&C:

"...perhaps His most godly example was the patience with which He dealt with those around Him kindly, patiently, correcting them when they largely came to Him with questions trying to trap Him, but affirmatively stating in the Sermon on the Mount how you could take a group and turn them into Zion itself, if we would live the Sermon on the Mount."

I have a long way to go. Most days I'm unsure I will make it given my lengthy list of weaknesses.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 28, 2018

Jay, when I hear or read "we, the covenant people" it feels a rather pompous thing to say. Am I all that special? Have I proven myself worthy to Him of such a label?

I read this morning something in Christ's Answer that gave me pause about thinking of myself as His people.

"Whenever I have people who are mine, I command them to build a house, a holy habitation, a sacred place where my presence can dwell or where the Holy Spirit of Promise can minister..." (T&C 157:41)

Given that we have not been given such a command, is it right and accurate for me or us to claim we are His people at this point?

"Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required." (T&C 157:56, last line.)

That comes at the end of several admonishments and corrections. Have we done any of those things? (157:49-56)

I cannot agree with a clear conscience to any statement including a title of "we, His people."

- Anonymous March 29, 2018

The Lot Guide and Standard needs to be corrected in the part where it describes the Covenant ordinance. "Read aloud the Prayer for Covenant, " needs to be added or else the ordinance will not be complete.

- Anonymous March 29, 2018

Anonymous,

Wondering if you can provide a reference for that suggested correction?

I see in the A&C that it says this: "I will give to you words to speak to the people to accept my covenant, and you shall read those words to them. Read first to the people these words I now speak, and then read the words of the covenant, and the people who will receive and do my words and my covenant shall then stand and say, Yes." (p9)

And in the opening remarks of the Covenant of Christ Conference, Denver said this: "Once the covenant is established, those sustained by seven women or a man inside his own family, who receive it, also have authority to administer the ordinance to others who want to be numbered among God’s people. To administer to others, repeat the ordinance, read aloud the Lord’s answer and the words of the covenant. Ask them to stand and say yes and they will become one of the Lord's covenant people. Do not change the words of the covenant, for to change an ordinance is to break it." (p2)

I couldn't find mention of also reading the "Prayer for Covenant" as part of the ordinance.

- OpenMind March 30, 2018

Bryce, you are precious, therefore I would caution you to ignore the command of our Lord for "mutual agreement". We have seen by sad experience what happens to groups

of people who begin to ignore direct commandments from the Lord. Please give your decision some very serious thought. Please don't add anything to your Teachings and Commandments lightly, but of course you are so free to do as you'd like and while I don't support any action in opposition to the command of Our Lord, I do support you because we are equal.

- Anonymous April 04, 2018

bokepbro

- Anonymous April 04, 2018

bokepbro

- blog21 April 04, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

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- Anonymous April 04, 2018

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Proposed Statement of Principles

Monday, March 26, 2018

This is from D&C 4 (RE) . I haven't been following this effort fully but I watched conference today and I don't like to see the lack of unity. Could this be the Guide and Standard? A guide - meaning a thing that helps someone form an opinion or make a decision. A standard - an idea used to measure a norm. It's simple and sweet and to the point. Yet unique, it speaks of the lost sheep that the whole of the Book of Mormon speaks of, and it's also the words from the Word of Life Himself, to Joseph Smith and to us today.

1. "Behold, I am Jesus Christ the Son of God. I came unto my own and my own received me not. I am the light which shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehendeth it not. I am he which said, Other sheep have I which are not of this fold, unto my disciples, and many there were which understood me not.
2. And I will shew unto this people that I had other sheep and that they were a branch of the house of Jacob, and I will bring to light these marvelous works which they did in my name. Yea, and I will also bring to light my gospel which was ministered unto them and behold, they shall not deny that which ye have received, but they shall build it up and shall bring to light the true points of my doctrine, yea, and the only doctrine which is in me. And this I do that I may establish my gospel, that there may not be so much contention. Yea, Satan doth stir up the hearts of the people to contention concerning the points of my doctrine, and in these things they do err for they do arrest the scriptures and do not understand them. Therefore I will unfold unto them this great mystery, for behold, I will gather them as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings if they will not harden their hearts, yea, if they will come, they may and partake of the waters of life freely.
3. Behold, this is my doctrine: Whosoever repenteth and cometh unto me, the same is my church. Whosoever declareth more or less then this is not of me, but is against me, therefore he is not of my church.
4. Now behold, whosoever is of my church and endureth in my church to the end, him will I establish upon my rock and the gates of hell shall not prevail against them.
5. And now, remember the words of him who is the life and the light of the world, your Redeemer, your Lord and your God. Amen."

-Matthew

Comments

- YourFriend — March 26, 2018

Considering our current state of affairs, I am having a difficult time figuring out how we will ever agree totally. We were so close, probably as close as we will ever be. With Denver's emphasis on differences in Fellowships, it seems he was saying we can all have our own brand of G&S. I was so pleased to see so many lay their own desires aside and vote to agree on the Lot's G&S. I was so encouraged and optimistic until the fray started. The mood totally changed in the meeting. Gordon tried to maintain decorum without trying to control, but all feelings of love dissipated into strife and contention. I felt there was enough support behind the Lot's verision that I should have no issue with including it in my scriptures. I am going to pray about it, and ensure I have the Lord's blessing before doing so. I only see further disagreement from this point on. And apparently that is fine, disagree if you want, and just add your own G&S into your

scriptures and use it in your own Fellowship if you wish. Our hearts will be the final judge, whether we were meek, easy to entreat, loving and supportive of each other. And I am very comfortable with that. This solution ends the disagreement and contention, at least it confines it to a fellowship level where it is more manageable. This seems to be the most viable solution at the moment. You are all free to continue to work however you see fit. If I am prompted to join in any efforts going forward I will. God bless you, until we gather at the river. :) Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet March 26, 2018

Scripture Committee, is this your suggestion? It isn't clear to me whose idea this is. I think it sounds great, being in the scriptures after all. I just don't know that any will leave the stakes they've pounded into the earth to accept a single statement for the whole body of believers at this point. I don't even know if we are to do that anymore.

I'd like to copy and paste a comment I just left elsewhere, a clear sign I am mentally and emotionally drained at this point.

I feel a need to prayerfully consider things right now.

In a way, the "solution" of every family or fellowship writing their own G&S and adding it to their scriptures seems good and right. But if that is true, then why did we as a whole struggle to see it that way for so long? Is that the "if your hearts were right" issue? We were unwilling to allow others to determine their version of a personal G&S?

When Christ said He was speaking to us as "one" did He mean each one of us or the whole group together? Depending upon how that is interpreted will impact how we plan to move forward, I think. It probably determined what has happened thus far.

The vote at the end of Saturday's session was hard to witness. I think I was okay with the first part, inviting everyone to choose their preferred statement, but it felt wrong to continue beyond that. So very wrong. There was definitely a spirit of contending felt just in doing a vote. Maybe that was just mine and my husband's perception though.

If we are each able to choose or write our own statement of principles, there is no need to even know what a "majority" of people want, right?

I can understand that it felt like there was contention, but from my perspective, as my husband and I sat watching, it appeared there was a room filled with people who lacked charity and compassion. I saw people standing alone. I was not okay with that, whether or not I agreed with them was irrelevant to me. The majority had many people to support them, but those few...who was willing to strengthen them and walk with them a mile? Who was willing to listen? It was in that moment I would have been willing to "submit" my desires, whatever they were, to help them. It would have been the ideal moment to humble myself, asking if we could all kneel and pray collectively yet individually for His part. That is how I wish it had gone.

I believe everyone in that room contributed to the energy of the moment, either positively or negatively. That is also true for the entire covenant body and this process; we have all made contributions to the energy, the atmosphere if you will, whether we have commented openly or not. We cannot hide what is in our hearts. It seeps outward to touch the world.

I feel a fierce love in my heart for this group. I want to fight for us, in prayer and supplications. I feel so weak and vulnerable, yet know we each have goodness and gifts to contribute that will benefit the whole.

I don't know what will happen now, but I hope relationships can be healed, fences mended, bridges rebuilt. Hopefully we can leave the drama to Shakespeare now and learn to believe in each other as we seek Christ.

- Anonymous March 26, 2018

I really like what someone said in the other thread:

"There is nothing in the A&C restricting me from selecting my own G&S."

Now's that's a statement I can agree with (provided "me" is really me or you or anyone else, and we are applying it to our own choice, not someone else's).

- AndEva March 27, 2018

Matthew, that was beautiful. Thank you for sharing. I definatly support and agree with what you have written and took the time to share with us all.

Love Eva

- OpenMind March 28, 2018

I've not as yet gotten involved with this site or any of the GNS's in any degree but have felt very strongly to now.

Just for some minor introduction so I'm not only words on a screen, I was the first speaker at the Saturday Session of the Phoenix Conference. My Wife's name is Heather. For those who don't know me...good. My name is not important.

The Answer to the prayer for covenant was given over 6 months ago. Since it appears no one has yet read the paragraph pertaining to the commandment to write a Statement of Principles, I will quote it here.

"You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them-so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you."

Statement of Principles is repeated three times before the function even clarified to be a "guide" and a "standard". Was statementofprinciples.blogspot URL taken? Even the name of this forum appears to ignore the paragraph from the answer. Maybe that could be step 1?

I only commented because I saw Eva commented before me. That is apt. Did anyone hear the opening prayer for Sunday morning session?! That was her. It was the most beautiful prayer I've ever heard. I asked her afterward if she wrote it. While it leaned heavily on scripture, she wrote that prayer. Let's learn from her wise comment above for a moment which is so incredibly wise maybe she doesn't even realize it. "I definitely support and agree with what you have written". She was speaking to Matthew, the

author of this post. She agreed with "what Matthew has written". What did HE write in his post? He wrote the first two paragraphs. While I also agree with his first two paragraphs he wrote, he did NOT write any more of his post. I think the first two paragraphs of his post would be a rather confusing statement of principles which would confuse those who yet know nothing of all this. After the first two paragraphs, he quoted already written scripture which was penned by no one living today as we are. You see where I'm going? The answer says "to be wise in word and kind in deed as YOU write". While I have only read a few of the GNS's, I understand most, if not all of them restate the Doctrine of Christ with the argument "who else's words are worthy of the GNS except Christ's?". This argument is used while CHRIST HIMSELF has instructed us in the Answer to prayer for covenant to write something ourselves and did not mention the word "Doctrine" at all in His commandment. So basically the argument is to listen to Christ alone while simultaneously ignoring Christ. The word irony falls comically short. Irony needs to be leveled up multiple times to adequately capture this.

- OpenMind March 28, 2018

Lastly and most importantly, "wise in word and kind in deed". I am so grateful that I'm currently dispossessed of the arrogance and stupidity to think that I, a Son of Adam, could possibly be as "wise in word" or "kind in deed" as a Daughter of Eve. Unless I am mistaken, not a single GNS presented for a vote was authored exclusively by a Daughter or multiple Daughters of Eve. Who is surprised the vote failed in dramatic fashion? Literally everything about the command has been ignored! Denver went into detail in his talk about the "Word of Wisdom", which was also not meant to be a commandment (actually writing the statement of principles is the commandment, the document itself will not be) and came through Emma. Look at the answer wording: "wise in word". Are we all literally blind and/or illiterate? How can we be slapped in the face harder?

Denver has been forbidden to participate. Has Stephanie, his Wife been forbidden? I'm pretty sure her input is fair game. (Stephanie I have never met you and if you read this please do not be mad for me bringing this idea up! I Love you!) I would bet she could either come up with a face-meltingly wise statement of principles or at least have some ideas as to the number and selection method of the WOMEN who could write one. Eva wrote that opening prayer on Sunday. I humbly submit she could come up with a statement of principles so wise and magnificent it would make us all cry, both at its beauty and at our own frowardness (hey this did try autocorrecting to "forwardness" but I power owned that!) in taking so long to even simply read the answer regarding the statement of principles.

I hear a lot of people saying in desperation to just have everyone put their own GNS in their own scriptures. I can appreciate the desperation, but before we simply try something else which also completely ignores the Answer and commandment to write a "statement of principles", maybe we try doing precisely what Christ instructed us to?

I just quickly want to thank the vote dissenters for caring so much about our success and ability to move forward toward Zion in raising their precious Voices. I saw a lot of women standing. They felt the grave mistake happening and spoke up. When Rob Adolfo suggested the dissenters should simply leave my heart nearly broke in half. If that dear brother, who is fighting for US (and not himself) ever leaves, we're done. I'll state that rather boldly.

I understand the temptation to ignore me because I'm a Son of Adam. But I am the oldest of 8 kids. The rest are all girls. My Mother is a Saint and my father is the antithesis of Wisdom. So for being a male, I am somewhat acquainted with what wisdom is and what it is not.

- gregnorton March 28, 2018

"Do not murmur saying, Too much has been required at our hands in too short a time. If your hearts were right it was a light thing I have asked. You hinder and delay and then you say I require too much of you and do not allow you time, when, if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves you could have finished this work long ago. Do you indeed desire to be my people? then accept and do as I have required." Answer and Covenant pg. 8

The focus is on our hearts. Our hearts being unprepared or weak, caused the cascade effect of hindering which delays us from completing the work. In this context, I believe when it says, "If your hearts were right it was a light thing I have asked." this can say that our hearts are weak, unable to carry the burden of this task because we lack sufficient light, the kind of light from Wisdom, which if received would have strengthened our hearts enough to make this assignment light, easily born because of the borrowed strength from Wisdoms' light.

It is a "light" thing, not only a matter of knowledge, but also the focus to me clearly rests upon a lack of strength in order for us to fulfill this commandment because our hearts are too weak; consequently, it's heavy and not 'light.' This is why I believe if we strengthen our hearts with Wisdoms' council, we can easily carry out this assignment as a light-weight and a light-filled task.

- Anonymous March 29, 2018

I loved your talk, nameless fellow. The message of loving people exactly as and even because of who they are and how they behave in ways that may rub us wrong was so lovely and relevant, in my opinion.

I've also never commented on this or any other forum related to this assignment, but I have followed the effort much closer than I ever wanted to, both online and via in-person conversations. I find your suggestions intriguing and agree with what you have said. I only comment because, if you haven't been following, you have no way of knowing that there are many, many people who have spent the past nine months having their minds consumed and, more to the point, hearts shredded by this process. However imperfect we all have been, and I agree that that level is astounding, it is not for lack of effort or desire. Please know that. As we move forward, I hope we can assume the best intentions in each other and use extra care in the tones we use with each other even when we feel moved to speak with boldness. I have delivered some devastating wounds myself when I've made exasperated remarks without the understanding of the soul-wrenching processes many have gone through.

I pray that we can remember how tender each of our hearts are. I believe we all have the desire to act in love and to come together in understanding, I really do. We're just really bad at it, and it's probably a great thing we're being given this opportunity to face that fact squarely. Thank you for your comments, and I hope my response is taken as it's meant and causes no offense to anyone.

-elyssa

- etluxentenebrislucet March 29, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 29, 2018

Who is the YOU Christ said is not excused in writing a statement of principles?

If He is intentional and specific in the words He uses, was He possibly addressing people past, present, and future who have and also will accept His covenant? Are they also going to be required to write a statement of principles? I don't see where Christ said they would need to accept anything already written!

What if "those who know nothing as yet..." are our children, grandchildren, and families? A situation like what is described in RE Mosiah 11:18?

What care would each of us as a father or mother, son or daughter, brother or sister give to writing a statement meant "to bless, benefit, and inform THEM?" (emphasis added) (The pattern suggests a statement is to be a blessing first, then a benefit, with informing last. More for me to ponder and pray over.)

I've learned a sure way to get something wrong is to assume I know what it means without pausing to ask Christ if my understanding is correct to begin with. I wonder if we have unwittingly done that here.

If we are to craft our own statements according to the Lord's voice to ourselves, then perhaps what individuals and groups have expressed as Christ's voice to them has been right...for them! I don't need to judge or condemn or even accept such as my title of liberty, but am free to follow Christ's voice in my own family.

And those who do wish to craft a statement en masse, like the lots document, are also free to do that, and anyone could accept such if they want to. We could all openly share our inspired statements without anyone feeling pressured to agree, mutual agreement happening in families and fellowships.

It all looks beautiful and unique with that perspective. I could honestly say I appreciate each one without feeling pressured to do as others are doing.

Would it be wise and kind to support all families and fellowships in following their own inspiration in writing a guide and standard?

Would they not learn a lot for and about both themselves and the Lord through such an experience?

Thoughts? I'm not preaching a gospel message here, but sincerely would like feedback and differing perspectives. Hence why I put most all my ideas as questions.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 29, 2018

Were you the dude with the Darth Vader tee? My husband and I loved it! Hubs is a Star Wars nutter and also likes to wear funny tees. We enjoyed all the talks and the music of this conference. Thank you everyone involved! Sorry for interrupting your thought. :)

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

Hi Elyssa,

What a pretty spelling of your name. I also meant no offense whatsoever to anyone, and sincerely apologize as it appears my forthright writing style may have come off the wrong way. Believe me Elyssa, I'm painfully aware that the breaking of hearts is required

for us. I thought I was prepared for it. I was not. I humbly submit we should take the breaking of our hearts as a blessing. While it may not feel so now, this process has been to our collective benefit. God's Wisdom is beyond our comprehension indeed.

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

Don't be sorry for injecting!!! Yes that's me ;) That was my brothers shirt, who was killed. I don't know if you could see it all. It said "I'm not saying your wrong, I'm just saying your lack of faith is disturbing" I thought the shirt was very apt. My brother had so many funny Star Wars shirts. We both love Star Wars.

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

Interjecting*

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

From the Answer "A statement of principles". Singular. "Mutual agreement". I personally agree with your idea to support each fellowship in their own statements, however I am not charge. Christ is. The Answer is not ambiguous my friend. I renew my humble request that we follow the Lord and Him alone.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 29, 2018

Thank you for your response. I will continue to pray about what I am thinking and have offered here.

This process has been drawn out for a while now and I feel like we are all stretched to breaking; at least I am. Not a bad thing necessarily, but strong emotions can block Spirit's promptings.

I do not see a way forward right now and do not wish to repeat what has gone on before, causing the same divisions and hurts. It does feel like we have exhausted our own way of thinking and doing.

I need more light, His light, to show me the way. I desire to comprehend His mind and heart so that I know my understanding of His Answer is correct. Plus, He knows the way for us to accomplish His command to write a statement of principles, whether that is as families, fellowships, or the current covenant body. But I am puzzled why He would require *us* to do this now when those coming along afterward will not be part of any of the writing or voting, and what that means for them. Should we not also invite those who have recently accepted Christ's covenant to participate in writing a statement? When Christ said "you" who was He specifically referring to? Past, present, or future? Or all? How can any of us in the present write if those of the future should also write?

What statement of principles can any of *us* write that is not already espoused in the word of God? And I am pondering what I would want to offer and teach my own family.

And I am so thankful the scripture committee noticed the Lord said "add" and not 'publish and print.' There is a difference. We were the ones who assumed it had to be publish and print. But maybe we have been wrong?

Sorry. I like to think, write, and discuss. :)

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

Never be sorry for sharing your thoughts! They are sincere and beautiful! I suggest to look at the use of the word you throughout the entire answer. The answers to all the questions you have asked can be definitively answered by looking at the answer to prayer for covenant alone. Nothing else is needed. I never cease to be amazed at our Lords clarity.

- Inspire March 29, 2018

I would like to direct anyone who is interested to a relevant blog:

https://agreetingandinvitation.blogspot.com/2018/03/greetings.html

Thanks,

Doug Larson

- Sarah March 29, 2018

Really nice, Matthew!

- OpenMind March 29, 2018

Hallelujah Brother! I applaud your sincere expression of ideas and open mind. We will now proceed to find the majority who currently feel "right" and "vindicated" because they were in the majority vote for the lots GNS, (without regard for the dissenting minority) will now take up newly reinforced positions, feeling justified even while in total opposition to the answer to the prayer for covenant. Once a majority again come into harmony as one under Wisdom's guidance as the Answer instructs, the tables will be turned and the new minority will be placed in the mirrored position from where they are now. They will then need to hearken unto Wisdom for unfeigned and true mutual agreement to take place. I pray that cycle can be broken by heeding Wisdom's council and we can become unified. Become one. We either all succeed together or we all fail together. No one can proceed until EVERYONE proceeds together. The Lord has declared it. That will not happen until the Lord's instruction is followed to the letter. The Answer is not ambiguous. "Mutual agreement" is not "majority". This is not subjective wording. Mutual agreement is the sign we are following the Lord's command.

- Janeen March 29, 2018

Can we please stop using "us" and "them", "majority" and "dissenters, or other such wording. It is divisive and incorrect. I don't know of anyone who was in favor of the Lots document that felt "right" or "vindicated".
Many tend to assume what they think others feel and think and it is not true. Please stop pointing fingers and making accusations.
Our task is not to revel in the supposed success or perceived failure of each other. Should we not be encouraging each other and trying to calmly and lovingly work together?

- etluxentenebrislucet March 30, 2018

I have written a response out twice now, haha. I realized I am feeling defensive. I will just say I am sorry if my comments came across in any of the ways you expressed. Not

my intention.

PS--Thank you for recommending the book "Breaking the Habit of Being Yourself" in a comment you left a while back elsewhere on this blog. I am thoroughly enjoying it and learning a lot. If I may return the favor you might enjoy "The Anatomy of Peace." It is another good one I am currently reading.

- Janeen March 30, 2018

Glad you are enjoying the book. I will take a look at the one you recommend as well. Happy Easter

- HuhWhatda March 30, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 30, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda March 30, 2018

1 of 2

To: The Movement

Leading up to this past weekend, and given the “audience participation,” the common thing I get to hear is “You’re dark bro!” I get the reason people respond that way, no doubt! But how people respond isn’t a good indicator of whether or not something is good or bad, light or dark, true or false. The majority is frustrated with me because I spoke up in opposition to the vote, with more words than Gordon Platt allotted. Rather than simply saying “No,” I voiced my concern that this was an excommunication. Another man voiced that this was in haste. Both arguments (excommunication/haste) expressed concern at the process underway. Nothing was said to injure anyone’s document, only a plea to continue working, until peace wins out. Both submitted to the voting process, but that was not enough. What was clear was, only four options for peace was going to be acceptable. The preferred option was to submit to the mind of the majority, letting the lots be published. The second option was for those who oppose to not oppose, indicating “non-dispute.” The third option was to say nothing more than a quiet “no.” None of these options provide room for something better, something more, or something else. For the majority, it was “My way or the highway!” The message to those not yet among us is: get in, sit down, and shut up! Vizzini, I don’t think “mutual agreement” means what you think it means!

- HuhWhatda March 30, 2018

2 of 2

Gordon Platt claimed to have a place where those who opposed could be heard and considered. Nothing of the sort was available. He confessed that this part was not his role, but someone else’s to deal with. According to the plan, this was where Paul Durham was supposed to step in, but that didn’t happen. In the absence of the promised process of hearing and considering those who opposed, people from the majority began to hover like vultures to a carcass, pecking at me. John Pratt, on of the witnesses and supporters of the lots document yelled at me, insisting that I had to listen to him. Others

also insisted that they had the right to interrogate me, telling me I had to answer their questions. I told them all to “shut up!” I was submitting to Gordon Platt’s voting process, but he was saying nothing, allowing the vultures to peck. In the absence of the promised process, those who opposed were swatted down once again. I refused to speak to anyone else, until Gordon Platt did as he promised and provided room for me to be heard, or I would leave, unwilling to push my opinion on anyone else.

We spoke in person. Gordon gave me the impression that we could work things out after the conference. Eight more people joined us, in a circle of ten. We heard on another’s opinions, even a young teenager was allowed to speak openly about his feelings of love and disappointment with the contention. I was pressed for an answer to how it might work, in my opinion. When I was cut off by McKay, things flared up for a minute, until he let me voice my part, and we were all given greater understanding.

It wasn’t until there was a personal interaction, or an intimate setting of ten people, that any progress and understanding could be obtained. I make my point: a vote, in a mixed group of friends, acquaintances, and total strangers, naturally leads to a franchise mentality, that will inevitably lead to a hierarchy, producing bondage. We came from that. Let’s not repeat it. In a personal interaction, or an intimate setting of people, trust can grow, individuals have value, and bullies cannot claim a mass majority. Light should lead, not the louder voice. Intelligence should lead, not opinion polling and votes. The Spirit of God should lead, not the collective opinions of uncertain men.

You claim to love one another, and so do I, so let’s not stop working out our differences. Let’s love our way through this. I honestly don’t trust those who fight to push the lots document, and for that I will not entertain your company right now. You feel battered, tired, and exhausted even. I get it. That’s ok. I’ve learned a lesson from my Dad that I’ll share with because it applies right now. He said it to my family, and I’ll say it to you: “Those who can carry more, should carry more! Those who cannot carry much, carry what you can. But, those who cannot carry anything, that’s ok, we’ll carry you!”

I can carry more. Those who feel they have more to give, lets talk, I can use as much help as you can give. But those who aren’t able to carry any more of this burden, that’s ok, we’ll carry you! Ohana is family. God will not leave His family behind, and neither will I.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous March 30, 2018

Froward - AND - filled with pride and vanity. The whole package! Some took it all when offered.

- OpenMind March 30, 2018

Rob Adolpho, I Love your soul. I was in that circle outside. You expressed your Love for the group so beautifully both at the conference and in your comments here in being willing to bear with us a little longer. But I still would like to beg you to bear with us a little longer. I have felt goodness in every single person I have met associated with this movement. In some I have felt overwhelming sincerity and goodness. You are one of those. I have hope in this group because I have confidence Christ is leading, guiding us, and teaching us. We'll make it. Hang in there brother.

- OpenMind March 30, 2018

At Anonymous: I would respectfully like to point out Rob's posts and yours. One accused. One did not. I don't know who you are but I have a feeling I Love you, so,

Love, Jay

- etluxentenebrislucet March 30, 2018

Rob, thank you for being a warrior. Thank you for speaking, especially for keeping things honest and out in the open. Too much hiding has gone on. Thank you for choosing not to pack your bags and leave on a guilt trip. Love to you and Q.

- Anonymous March 30, 2018

I, I, I, me, me, me. We have heard that worn out tune before. Moses 4:1

- Anonymous March 30, 2018

I've learned a lesson from my Dad:

"And again, verily I say unto you that it is your privilege, and a promise I give unto you that have been ordained unto this ministry, that inasmuch as you strip yourselves from jealousies and fears, and humble yourselves before me, for ye are not sufficiently humble,"

- Donald March 30, 2018

Thank you Janeen for your wise and loving counsel. I accept it and invite others to consider it. I am grateful for Gordon and his good faith efforts to unite our hearts. I did not see the vote Saturday as an attempt to produce a "winning" document as some have characterized it...I saw it as an honest effort and attempt to unite our hearts. After seeing what we saw Saturday morning, my wife and I are pleased to add the Lots document to our family scriptures (for now). I believe others should consider adding a statement of principles to their scriptures that they are comfortable with. Meanwhile, I'm grateful for the continuing efforts to unite our hearts...and to help us be a humble and obedient people and to "calmly and lovingly work together." Thank you again Janeen.

- Janeen March 30, 2018

Thank you Donald. I appreciate your words.

- etluxentenebrislucet March 30, 2018

"A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart, and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words."

- ShaneGuymon March 30, 2018

Rob, thanks for sharing. I greatly appreciate your friendship and all you bring to "the movement." Love you brother.

- Donald March 31, 2018

It has been helpful for me to listen again to Denver's Sunday talk "Our Divine Parents"...from about 2:42:50 on.

- Donald March 31, 2018

sorry....I should have included a link to the video of Denver's talk:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qiyzKzomls

only the best of feelings. :)

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

1 of 2

To: The Movement,

Thanks for the kind comments made above. I also enjoyed the irony of really strong accusations, from someone calling themselves “ANONYMOUS” (tee-hee). I can be grateful for his/her (anonymous’) comments, and other comments that paint my response in a bad light, blaming me for dismissing the spirit. It gets me thinking how we failed to come together, trying to avoid repeating mistakes. Evaluating the event can provide more. I’ve learned not to short cut the micro-tearing process of muscle development, and work through it.

Initially, mutual agreement alluded us. Then more was given that we must “…not dispute.” However, that has been used as a club, removing all individual rights to disagree, to be corralled like a herd of cows, by a “group think” herd mentality. A vote with a mixture of people (a few friends, more who were acquaintances, and a majority of strangers) kills the value of the individual, clumping them into a majority. What added to my frustration was when Denver addressed the value of the totem pole, the tiki, and the sculpture, pointing to the necessity for uniqueness to be protected and valued by us, …the majority, who rejected my opposition, …filled the air with a round of applause and hollering in support of the very thing they tried to crush!

McKay Platt told me he saw only three options. The first was for the minority to go along with the majority. The second, more Polynesian he said, is for a leader to write it and the people follow him. The third is that we wait until we can all agree. I corrected him, telling him that the third was Polynesian, and that priests and hierarchy was introduced by colonists, and the influence of Tahitian’s, according our history. Prior to these influencers, “ho’o pono pono” was the Polynesian way. That means to council with one another as equals, providing a safe space to work through our difficulties, preserving the agency of the individual, and working to understand, no matter how long it took. Although McKay served his mission in Hawaii, he was quick to be corrected, and that provided room to continue the conversation. If I were to sum the three options, it would be: a franchise/ a dictator/ and a people. But being a people isn’t as easy as people think.

Perhaps more clarity about mutual agreement, to add to not choosing to dispute, can include: a law that each individual is willing to govern themselves by (not a law to enforce upon others). According to “All or Nothing,” a government of no government is the only option for Zion. That means people must agree to govern ONLY themselves. And that fits well with the responsibility to persuade. Persuasion can only occur in an agreement between a teacher and a learner, whether as individuals or as a group, both roles governing themselves. If either are not willing to conform to self-governance, persuasion cannot occur.

The introduction of greater light or greater understanding must only come through persuasion. However, greater light and knowledge can only be given to a people who

self-select, self-enforce, and are self-governed. Those among this movement represent a degree of self-governed people. Because we were able to govern ourselves to a certain degree, more light was given than we have the ability to consume, fulfilling the prophecy of tithes and offerings, because we can see that God has poured out more blessing than we are currently able to receive. I propose that the degree of our self-governance is the degree of our ability to receive more light.

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

2 of 2

An attack on self-governance, by external enforcement, threatens and shrinks our ability to receive more, both as individuals and as a collective. Couples suffer, despite good intentions, unable to live within the same Governing Principles, and divorce. Parents have lost children, depending on external enforced discipline methods that atrophy self-governance, only to loose their children when they are of age, to their newly found freedom as adults. Even we, as a community of high level, revelation receiving, self-motivated people, …we suffer when we use methods of votes, majorities, statistics, percentages, opinion polling, campaigning, marketing to rule over another. Despite the good intention, and the scriptural background in support of your intention, it is wrong to govern another. It cannot become Zion.

Conclusion: A government with no government requires its citizens to be self-governed. The success of the Governing Principles project must be mutually agreeable. When it is written and represents the potential of the words and the understanding that can produce the fruits of a community of the family of God, none will dispute it, all will be self-governed, …and then it will be mutually agreeable. When it is, we will not only need to adopt it as a guide and standard, …God will prove us against it, expecting sweet fruit, or we will be burned with the rest of the vineyard.

The Lots document does not represent that for me. Interestingly enough, although I have avoided an online confrontation with Jared Livesay about his document (Doctrine/ Law of Christ), it seems as if greater light has far greater growth potential in the Doctrine/ Law of Christ, as the giver of all light is the source of that Doctrine & Law. The concepts of celestial light in the King Follet Discourse has greater growth potential within the Doctrine & Law of Christ. Although Jared's online personality doesn't provide popular allure of vanity, elitism, and cliques, …the principle is sound. If this project can produce a people who are self-governed, where light can increase and fill us all, then we will be prepared to do more. Otherwise, …well, …you know!

Among those fighting Io "this document," Io "that document," …I throw out: Io "lets keep working because our relationships, while difficult, are getting much deeper/stronger/more valuable." More is being given through the difficulty of relationships that have gone undervalued in apostasy. I feel a second wind, and it's not gas. Let's gather us as lost sheep before seeking out the remnant lost sheep. For we are surely lost if we fail to be mutually agreeable. I have not doubt that among us is the family of God. Let's act like it!

Mahalo Ke Akua,

Rob Adolpho

PS: Man up anonymous! You cannot learn anything hiding in the shadows, unwilling to put yourself into question, engaging using strong words, yet cowering from accountability. Join the mix, carry some of the load, owning your words, and engage in this difficult, blood boiling, adrenaline pumping, anxiously engaging in a good cause

exchange

- Anonymous April 01, 2018

I hate to pop your testosterone tantrum and not “man up” for you. That would be a bit difficult since I’m not equipped that way if you catch my drift. I tend more to the wisdom side. Sorry, no “manning up” and fighting like men to be done here. One person being a danger to the universe is enough. I would prefer harmless as a dove.

If you really believed your own words, “we surely are lost if we fail to be mutually agrreable,” you would not be one of a small handful who do not mutually agree.
You have been froward and argumentstive from the beginning.

- TwoCents April 01, 2018

Anonymous,
Then "Woman" up. You don't have to be a man to have courage enough to stand by your own words.
Q

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

Anonymous,

Sorry for mislabeling your gender, I get that you are a woman, and women ought to be treated differently than head butting men. Please forgive me for assuming incorrectly. It's difficult for me to speak openly to women, as I tend to treat them like men. I come from a family of seven boys and five girls, and our girls are really tough girls. The kind that make men quiver, not because of their size, but because of their savage-like toughness. Being raised in that environment can really mess with your expectation. I will work on changing how I treat you, if only out of respect toward Wisdom. E kala mai ia'u (Please excuse/forgive).

I am grateful for being raised with tough sisters and brothers, as they have shaped who I married. My wife asked why I married her. I said, "Next to the fact that you're drop dead gorgeous, I married you because you're tough!" You can see her savage-like qualities coming out below, and to me, that's why I married her.

Concerning my frowardness, I can see how you would see me as froward and argumentative from the beginning. When Denver introduced that word, I knew I qualified. I didn't know until he said it, but it's pretty obvious that it applies to some of the things I've done, and some of the things I am doing right now. It's such a new concept to me that it's going to take a little bit for me to make the change.

While frowardness is certainly going to be my focus now, I don't think that having a different opinion and opposing necessarily qualifies as froward. Again, I'm new to the word, so I could possibly be wrong. But I don't think I am, and am more than willing to be corrected.

I'm sorry I have offended. I'm turning a new leaf once again. I could use a pinch of patience as I transition.

Mahalo,

Rob Adolpho

- DevinFausett April 06, 2018

Rob,

I agree in principle with the female anonymous above, regarding that we ought not be froward. If we could put away our froward and decide to agree (or at least not disagree/dispute) on a document (the lots document is 95%+ the consensus), then we can see if the Lord will accept it. If He won't then we all ought to go back to the drawing board and consider why it wasn't accepted, and maybe the Lord will enlighten us with what the document yet lacks.

Having said that, I'm not taking sides against you. I felt your heart in Phoenix and I know you are good and that you and your wife mean well. And I certainly don't want to exclude or factor you out of anything going forward. Regarding Jared, if taking the covenant is one of the biggest regrets of his life, which he stated somewhere on this site, then I'm fairly certain the Lord will forgive him of his mistake and allow him out of the covenant or rather consider him not part of it (the Lord does not compel us). Since Denver can not participate in this tedious process, all he could offer us is Wisdom from above, and Her advice. The missing link I heard was that word "froward". She hates the froward mouth. Without getting into a long discussion of what that meant, and point fingers at who is being and who isn't being froward, we all should ask ourselves "am I being froward?" Are my heels dug in and immovable? Personally, I'm willing to concede for the sake of mutual agreement, but to ask 95-99% to all concede to the handful of dissenters is a little extreme and feels like the froward ones will have prevailed over those who chose not to be froward.

I think that we ought to give the lots document an opportunity to be accepted or to fail, by submitting it to the Lord and seeing if it is acceptable to Him. If He does accept it, we can learn valuable things from the process it took to get there. If He doesn't, then surely we will have more work to do and can more readily consider ideas from venues that we as a whole didn't previously consider, or that we weren't as open to consider since this process has disillusioned so many and frustrated those who thought their votes for acceptance mattered. I would be willing to bet that if you would agree to let this be taken to the Lord to see if He would accept it, then those who have felt distant toward you would open up tremendously to your ideas and viewpoints. Laying down our weapons will go a long way toward becoming one, and while this assignment was given us from the Lord, it doesn't need to be perfect. Denver said that the world has been using an incomplete, imperfect bible for 2 millennia and we have still gotten the basic message, at least good enough for many to have found their way into Christ's presence. It's worth a shot isn't it?

Love you man,
Devin

- TwoCents April 06, 2018

Devin,

I think you are good and you mean well too.

It sounds like you believe froward individuals are the ones that don't agree with the Lots document or who aren't willing to accede to the view of the majority. Dispute has been defined and accepted by the majority as being someone who disagrees in anyway. In order for me to NOT dispute, according to the definition of the majority I must put away my dialogue with God to accept the Lots document. I will not dispute with God and I will

do what He requires of me. I suppose if I defined dispute the way the majority does, I would not even respond to you, as this has been the means in which people are choosing Not to dispute with me. I on the other hand believe when you ignore people or give them the silent treatment you are disputing with the person.

Let me be clear, Rob and I are not stopping you from moving on. AND we don't believe the document needs to be perfect. Go and ask God. No one has to concede to us. The only person anyone should concede to is God. Do what God is telling you and stop blaming us for stopping you, as if we have the power to stop the majority from moving on.

Devin, we can still be friends even if we disagree. We can share what we have in common and leave our differences for polite disagreement. But what you are saying is to accede to your view and I will not. If that makes me froward, so be it. I don't choose to govern myself with the Lots document, but you can. Submit it to the Lord, scream from the tops of your houses that this is the document you want to be governed by, that is your choice. Everyone must choose. When I stand before God, I am willing to be accountable for my actions.

Take Care, Q

- DevinFausett April 06, 2018

Q,

I appreciate your response and your insight as well. I have learned a lot from you and Robs viewpoints. I hope to see the day in Zion when we have all this behind us and can look back and realize how little we knew as compared to how far we've come. I know there's still a lot to learn and I'm trying my best to be open to learning whatever is needed to get there.

The concession I'm willing to give in this matter is to achieve harmony or agreement. I think that by and large those of us who have accepted the covenant have good motives and intentions and want to progress toward Zion. For this reason I have hope that we can come to mutual agreement and present some document to the Lord that didn't become the document by coercion, manipulation, somebody's holdout or by bullying. I want it to be that we can individually and collectively take a step back and consider that being agreeable and cooperative is far more important and Zionlike than to be right or to get our way. This document can only be so good, it can't be perfect because it's coming from imperfect people. I hope that we can look past the things that divide us or make us different from one another and choose to focus on the things that we have in common.

Thank you for your voice and wisdom and for Rob's knowledge. You make a great team and I am so grateful to know you and to consider you my friends.

Sincerely,
Devin

An Invitation

Saturday, March 31, 2018

Some have suggested that Wisdom has not been a part of our proceedings in fulfilling the assignment of coming up with a statement of principles. As it happens, we have Wisdom's council right before us, but have not put two and two together.

DEFINITION OF 'STATEMENT' Account Affidavit Allegation Announcement Assurance Charge Comment Description Explanation Presentation Proclamation Remark Report Testimony **Word**

FROM D&C SECTION 89 (RE 31): "Given for a principle…"

In other words, the Word of Wisdom is a "statement" (word) "given for a principle" [statement of principle(s)]. If we can consider it as a guide and a standard for how we put together our own 'statement,' then we would do well to look closely at its framework and history. Here are a few things I have found in the Word of Wisdom, but there could be others:

It is adaptable - "adapted to the capacity of the weak, and the weakest of all saints who are or can be called saints."

The council given to us in the Word of Wisdom has been customized to make sure it is understood by the broadest common denominator (the weak and the weakest). But at its root, the Word of Wisdom is "a principle." In the case of the assignment given to us, it would seem obvious that we have the permission, if not the commission, to adapt it to the audience which it is to be directed: those who know nothing of this work. I think this could mean that the language is such that it appeals to a wide group of people and cultures. There are those among us who could give great input as to what would appeal to their particular tradition.

In the case of Ammon, he tuned into the language of Lamoni, then let him ask the questions. He didn't tell Lamoni to pull out his copy of the Brass Plates and quote it, although Ammon surely drew from it to put it into a language Lamoni understood. Once Lamoni got the general idea, the Lord took it from there. Perhaps that is something to emulate.

It is responsive - The Word of Wisdom is given "In consequence of evils and designs which will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days."

While the purpose of the Word of Wisdom might be thought of as a response to Emma's request to clean up the meetings, we are told that it is actually a response to the condition of the "hearts of conspiring men" in the last days. The Answer and the Covenant speaks of our hearts as well, in that if they are "right" before God, then it will be a "light thing" for the Gentiles to raise up the tribes of Jacob and begin to restore the preserved of Israel. Perhaps if we petition God, They, too, will respond to us.

It is not constrained - "to be sent greeting, not by commandment or constraint…"

We may look at our task of creating a statement as something we were commanded to do. Or we may think there may be only one possible statement, and if others don't come on board with what we deem is the right (singular) statement, we are not in mutual agreement; thus, constraining others to see it our way. However, if we use the Word of Wisdom as our template, the statement will be "sent greeting." In other words, it is not to be this imposing list of "to do's" in order to be a part of a group who claims to know God; but rather, it will be an invitation. If we are sending out an invitation to folks, I would think they would be completely turned off by a list of demands. Instead, we could focus on the "thing" we have in common, which is hopefully the "light" of Christ. I'm sure this could be expressed in a myriad of ways. But again, there are many in our midst who could give valuable input as to what might be inviting to their particular tribe or other interested groups.

It is revelation – "…but by revelation and the word of wisdom…" and "…I have warned you and forewarned you by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation…"
God needs to be involved in this process, and what They give to us may even be something unexpected and not seen before ("revealed.") This means we need to clear our heads of any expectations of what the statement has to look like. When Emma asked Joseph to inquire of the Lord, little did they know that it would be such a revelation! Not only does the Word of Wisdom address the particulars in staying healthy, but is also to benefit the saints in these last days (us) and also the saints in Zion (where we aspire to be). We have the means of knowing the "order and the will of God in the temporal salvation of all saints" through the Word of Wisdom. This is no small thing, as following Their standard will lead to "great treasures of wisdom and knowledge, even **hidden** treasures…" Who knows what God might reveal to us in the process of filling this one assignment!
My Invitation This is pretty much coming to me as I type, but if we can mutually agree that the Word of Wisdom is our template for creating a statement of principles (as has been demonstrated), then I would suggest that we can divide our task into different areas like I just did, and have those who feel drawn towards these areas contribute their experience and ideas.
Or… we could divide it into the Seven Pillars of Wisdom: Prudence, Knowledge and Discretion, Fear of God, Counsel, Sound Wisdom (Common Sense), Understanding, and Power Or even the Seven Sacraments (drawing on Catholic tradition): Baptism, Confirmation (Baptism of Fire), Repentance, Anointing/Healing, Holy Orders, Marriage, and Eucharist (Communion Meal/Feast).
A "light thing" doesn't just have to do with the ease of how it comes together, but also the feeling one has when working on it. This task can be a light and fun experience, rather than drudgery and frustration. And who knows… maybe the Word of Wisdom was given to us for this very task for us in the "last days," as a standard to guide us as we serve and do His work.
Feel free to use the comments below to give your input.

---Doug Larson

From the Word of Wisdom:
"…adapted to the capacity of the **weak**, and the **weakest** of all saints who are or can be called saints."

From Ether 12 (RE 5):
"Thou hast also made our words powerful and great, even that we cannot write them; wherefore, when we write we behold our weakness, and stumble because of the placing of our words; and I fear lest the Gentiles shall mock at our words. And when I had said this, the Lord spake unto me, saying: Fools mock, but they shall mourn; and my grace is sufficient for the meek, that they shall take no advantage of your weakness; And if men come unto me I will show unto them their weakness. I give unto men weakness that they may be humble; and my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; for if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, **then will I make weak things become strong unto them**. Behold, **I will show unto the Gentiles their weakness**, and I will show unto them that faith, hope and charity bringeth unto me—the fountain of all righteousness."

From Proverb 9 (RE 1:39) He that reproveth a scorner (mocker) getteth to himself

shame (shall mourn): and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.
Are we mockers or wise? Are we going to bring shame or are we going to increase in learning and become ‘strong’?
Here is a relevant link: www.agreetingandinvitation. blogspot.com
-Doug Larsen

Comments

- Inspire — March 31, 2018

Christ is the name and the way, but many have come to Him already without the document, so we know it is possible. Why exclude those who would come to Him if He was presented (manifested) in a way they understood?

- Log — March 31, 2018

Doug,

There is no wisdom in expending effort to produce something that you know before you begin will not be accepted and can therefore only produce division.

Jared Livesey

- tyler — March 31, 2018

The principles that work for you and your fellowship may be different than what would work for someone else.

I wouldn't come to your fellowship and tell you how do things. Likewise I would hope you would have equal respect for mine.

The way you worship and practice your faith my be different from mine. It most definitely will be different from Native Americans, Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims. Those who know nothing about the work. I believe we should allow diversity rather than try to dictate conformity.

Tyler Kelly

- Inspire — March 31, 2018

Jared,
There is a difference between diversity and division. If the Lord has accepted the sundry approaches of individuals and groups (as is testified in the scriptures) then I have confidence He will continue to do so. Even if not, it is worth the effort for me, anyway, to ask. Come along, or not. We all have freedom to choose.

Doug

- tyler — March 31, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- tyler March 31, 2018

I'm assuming that each family and fellowship wants to govern themselves. No one wants an outsider telling them to wear white shirts and ties etc...The gentile way is to control and compel others to be like ourselves.

What if "being wise in word and kind in deed" means to require no less or more than our Lord requires? What if it means to leave room for diversity? What if it means to leave room for the Lord to guide people by His spirit?

Tyler Kelly

- tyler March 31, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- tyler March 31, 2018

Doug,
you put forth the idea to listen to Wisdom. In the talk this past Sunday it was made clear that Wisdom points us to Her Son. He is the way, the truth, and the life. If She points all mankind to Her Son then I believe it would be "wise" to follow His Doctrine and also His Law.

If we mutually agreed on these two teachings it would not prevent individuals or fellowships from adhering to other guides and standards. It would make things light and allow for the diversity like Denver spoke about in his second Christian talk.

- Inspire March 31, 2018

Yes, and the ultimate expression of the doctrine and law of Christ is love... Love for ourselves, love for our families (living and dead), and for all nations and cultures.

Wisdom tells us we should "adapt" the message of love to the language and understanding of people. If that is done in fellowships, great. If it is individual, that works too. For the Father of Lamoni, he saw Ammon's love for his son, and it encouraged him to "call on God" for himself, where he received a personal witness of Christ.

If you look closely at the Sons of Mosiah, they came up with a statement of their own before going into the land of the Lamanites, then acted on it, according to their gifts and desires. Why couldn't we try something similar?

Doug

- Inspire March 31, 2018

Basically, the sons of Mosiah and Alma honed in on love (through fasting and prayer), then they went out and lived it. Once the Lamanites saw love manifested, they wondered about it, which was the cue for Ammon, Aaron, et al to point them to the Lord (which is what Wisdom does, right?) But clearly the 4 understood and spoke to the culture of the Lamanites. They knew about the Great Spirit. They knew how diligence to the king's commandments and loyalty were important. This is how love played out for them.

Recall also when the Lamanites were killing their brothers and were so flabbergasted by those who threw down their arms, that they instantly joined them. Love begets love. But

there are many ways it can manifest itself. Because if God is love, and God is in and through all things, then everything is a potential tool for Him to manifest Himself. Why would we limit ourselves and set up stakes for ourselves, others and God?

- Log March 31, 2018

Doug,

In the context of the singular statement of principles the Lord has required the body to mutually agree upon, diversity is synonymous with division.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 31, 2018

How much adapting is required to understand "give to every man that asketh thee, and of him who taketh away thy goods ask them not again?"

Jared Livesey

- Log March 31, 2018

Can one really improve upon the statement of principles - the Sermon on the Mount - given to us by the founder of peace, even Jesus himself?

Wouldn't it be wise to demonstrate that Jesus's own guide and standard - the Sermon on the Mount - is somehow deficient before presuming to improve upon it or setting it aside for a declaration of one's own wisdom?

Jared Livesey

- Inspire March 31, 2018

It's not a matter of improvement, it's a matter of comprehension. There may be cultures where sharing all things is not a big issue, but others who don't comprehend the principle. Care must be taken to make sure they understand in a way which won't scare them off.

We have some examples of what works. The Ammonites didn't have all things in common to start
They were drawn in with a different point of Christ's doctrine (strict obedience). But they eventually got there.

Thus far, what we have done has not worked. There is nothing in the A and C prohibiting me from exploring this possibility. Others can join in a discussion, and I would love them to do so. But let's do it over at the other site. If it isn't your thing, no worries.

- Log March 31, 2018

I remain unpersuaded we have tried to observe the Sermon, Doug. And I am unpersuaded that it is wisdom to lay aside the commandments of Christ. As long as the words "give to every man that asketh thee, and of him who taketh away thy goods ask them not again" can be understood, the culture doesn't matter. Salvation consists of believing and doing all things whatsoever the Lord God commands. And it is the function of his priests to teach men his comandments, not to obfuscate or omit any of

them lest anyone should be offended by conflicts with their culture.

After all, there is no other way to Christ but by the gate of repentance and baptism, and from thence following the strait and narrow way defined by strict obedience to his law and commandments.

It seems to me that failing to do what Christ commanded in the Sermon is why the ancient Jews and Nephites were trodden under foot of men as salt that had lost its savor. That is, after all, the covenant curse for failing to obey the commandments of God.

It seems to me that failing to do what Christ commanded in the Sermon is what got the nascent LDS Church condemned. It seems their loyalty to Joseph Smith, a true prophet, was not an acceptable substitute for obedience to the law and commandments of Christ.

Jared Livesey

- Inspire March 31, 2018

I'm on board with you, Jared, with living the doctrine of Christ. I think if we all did that, then this whole statement thing would be a breeze.

Would you be open to the idea holding off with declaring a statement until we purposefully engage in the doctrine of Christ, individually or collectively or both, then seeing what comes of it? I'm sure you are already doing it, but maybe there is something to focusing in on it together, like the sons of Mosiah did.

If that idea doesn't work for you, could you paint me a picture? Imagine you have been called by God to go preach in, say.... Mexico. How would you employ the Rock of Christ in your approach to them? The more specifics you could provide the better. Like would you go door to door? Would you have copies of the Rock of Christ to hand out to people or would you just go by the Spirit and see how you were guided? Would people be convinced just from the words of the Rock of Christ or would it be by how you employed them?

Now say you got a call to Hopi land. Would you use the exact same approach or something different?

These are the practical things I think about in wondering how this can come about. It's easy to point at a document or statement and put it on the person I'm approaching to do the work, but it's another thing to attract them to the doctrine, so that they will be interested enough to want to find out for themselves.

---Doug

- JimORullian March 31, 2018

Um.....how bout for now we just translate the mutually agreed upon statement into their language and allow them to teach their own people those principles...

Our part in all this is just that....one part. We weren't charged with producing a different Statement of Principles for various cultures that we can't even begin to relate too yet; This small group of believers was simply assigned to capture the teachings God has revealed through His servant(s) in our day IN THIS PART OF THE VINEYARD so that

our bus station could serve as a rest area for the many peoples who will pour in prior to a gathering in Zion. When they arrive, we can learn from their records and all will be able to see the commonalities between their understanding and our own. It won't be guesswork. This happens in small steps and not all at once.

Again....please.....take a deep breath here folks. We have a long way to go and many other projects to complete. Let's just take it one step at a time together without contention and not get hung up on the light things so our hearts can unite. Our minds will come in due time.

- Log March 31, 2018

Doug,

If you do not have power and authority from God to teach his word, then all you can do is either repeat his words verbatim, or you can try to sell the gospel. Selling the gospel is a losing proposition, because the commandments of Jesus Christ run contrary to everything we are and everything we have in this world. The law and commandments are pure and utter foolishness to the unbelieving. Nobody will buy it: "Give to every man that asks? Don't ask for my stuff back from anyone who takes it? Yield without a fight whenever I'm sued? Turn the other cheek without reviling my assailant when I am struck? Don't save money for the future but give away everything I don't have an immediate need for? That's crazy!" That's why those who make their money from preaching the gospel must adulterate it or else nobody will pay them.

When God sends you forth to preach because you have been obedient to his word through your faithfulness in every trial, with him having written his law in your heart such that his law is before your eyes at all times, and you ponder it moment-by-moment, understanding the problem God has solved by his law, then you teach what he tells you to teach and he backs you up by the power of the Spirit to those who believe your words.

You simply speak, and if they do not believe, then they go their own way, having failed the first test of the gospel which is to believe the word of God.

If the Lord has not written his law in your heart and given you license to innovate, you really should restrict your teachings to repeating his words verbatim while executing them as they are written - that is to say, literally, at face value.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 31, 2018

The priestcrafters adulterate the doctrine to "attract" people to it, to avoid offending people, and so on. Once it's adulterated, is no longer Christ's doctrine.

Hence, this:

JST Matt 5:21-22

Whosoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so to do, he shall in no wise be saved in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach these commandments of the law until it be fulfilled, the same shall be called great and shall be saved in the kingdom of heaven.

For I say unto you, except your righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

The acceptance, practice, and teaching of the Sermon answers all the covenantal obligations.

I will not yield from the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 31, 2018

Jim,

The Lottery document is not mutually agreed upon, and never shall be.

Jared Livesey

- Inspire March 31, 2018

This is a very insightful and useful answer, Jared. Thanks.

So then, if I understand you correctly, you are saying that if the law is not written on our hearts, we must quote the Lord only so as not to misrepresent Him. (Sounds reasonable to me). If the law is written on our hearts, then the Statement is moot because we ARE the statement, and the Spirit is in constant communication. If adaptation is required, we will have the ability to sense it and use His power to do the convincing.

Would you then say that if our focus was on having the law written on our hearts, then the other issue would take care of itself?

Doug Larson

- Anonymous March 31, 2018

1st comment -You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people (His People).
Who are they?
It is not enough to receive my covenant, but you must also abide it. And all who abide it, whether on this land or any other land, will be mine and I will watch over them and protect them in the day of harvest, and gather them in as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. I will number you among the remnant of Jacob, no longer outcasts, and you will inherit the promises of Israel. You shall be my people and I will be your God and the sword will not devour you. And unto those who will receive will more be given until they know the mysteries of God in full.
But remember that without the fruit of repentance, and a broken heart and a contrite spirit, you cannot keep my covenant; for I, your Lord, am meek and lowly of heart. Be like me. You have all been wounded, your hearts pierced through with sorrows because of how the world has treated you. But you have also scarred one another by your unkind treatment of each other, and you do not notice your misconduct toward others because you think yourself justified in this. You bear the scars on your countenances, from the soles of your feet to the head, and every heart is faint. Your visages have been so marred that your hardness, mistrust, suspicions, resentments, fear, jealousies and anger

toward your fellow man bear outward witness of your inner self; you cannot hide it. When I appear to you, instead of confidence you feel shame. You fear and withdraw from me because you bear the blood and sins of your treatment of brothers and sisters.

- Anonymous March 31, 2018

Cont.
To be His people, we must abide in His Covenant
First: Do you believe all the words of the Lord which have been read to you this day, and know them to be true and from the Lord Jesus Christ who has condescended to provide them to you, and do you covenant with Him to cease to do evil and to seek to continually do good?
Second: Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?
Third: Do you agree to assist all others who covenant to likewise accept this standard to govern their lives to keep the Lord’s will, to succor those who stand in need, to lighten the burdens of your brothers and sisters whenever you are able, and to help care for the poor among you?
Fourth: And do you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?

Figure it out for yourself. Has mutual agreement been fulfilled? Only His people have to agree.

- Log March 31, 2018

His people are those who accept and do as he has required.

Those who do not wish to be his people do not accept and do not do as he requires.

Each man is his own judge in this thing and can figure out if he, himself, indeed desires to be one of the Lord's people.

Right now, we are all on trial - to see if we each will accept and do as the Lord has required of us.

The only figuring any of us need to do is whether we will accept and do as he has required.

Jared Livesey

- Log March 31, 2018

Doug,

I would say if our focus was on the practicing and teaching of the law and commandments of Christ as found in the scriptures - the Sermon on the Mount - not trusting in men, then the Lord would write his law in our hearts and make his covenant with us, and we would become one in Christ, obtaining his heart and his mind. Seeing eye-to-eye, we would come to agre in all things in the process of time.

And it is by believing and doing the things contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ that we obtain these things. It is his gospel.

Jared Livesey

- JimORullian March 31, 2018

Jared,

I suppose that is up to interpretation, but my comments above would apply to ANY statement of principles.

- Anonymous April 01, 2018

Jared,
Are not the things He requires listed out in the above Covenant, or does He require something different from you?

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

1 of 2

To: The People

A government with no government requires its citizens to be self-governed. The success of the Governing Principles project depends on mutual agreement. The words written must fit the condition of no disputations and all willing to govern themselves by it, in order to be mutually agreeable. When it is mutually agreeable, we will not only need to adopt it as a guide and standard, …God will PROVE US against it, expecting sweet fruit, or we will be burned with the rest of the vineyard. The Lottery document does not represent that for me, disqualifying it from my mutual agreement to not dispute, and to be governed by its contents.

Interestingly enough, although I have avoided an online confrontation with Jared Livesay about his document (Doctrine/Law of Christ), it seems as if “receiving greater light” …has far greater growth potential WITHIN the Doctrine/Law of Christ, than any of the competing documents. The giver of all light is the source of the Doctrine/Law of Christ. It provides freedom for all men, both for ourselves and those not yet aware, …the freedom to govern ourselves, …while gradually providing room for light to grow.

The concepts of celestial light in the King Follet Discourse has greater growth potential within the Doctrine/Law of Christ. Joseph Smith has greatest relevance in the Doctrine/Law of Christ. Denver has greatest relevance in the Doctrine/Law of Christ. More importantly, Christ, Joseph and Denver have taught things that are yet unrevealed to us, that cannot be revealed except through the Doctrine/Law of Christ. Although Jared’s online personality doesn’t provide popular allure of vanity, elitism, and cliques, …the principle is sound. If this project can produce a people who are self-governed, where light can increase and fill us all, then we will be prepared to do more. Otherwise, …well, …you know!

I like Kevin Gillman’s perspective of King Follet offering greater light, because it aligns with my own idea of light leading us out of darkness, and greater light directing lesser light. To those who think in terms of light, like Kevin Gillman, we would recognize that no one voted any of us into this movement. Rather, everyone elected to come because of light, despite the negative repercussions we would suffer for choosing the greater light. It’s an easy fit to see that with greater light, we all have greater capacity to sacrifice. When we are filled with light, we are willing to sacrifice all things. Without the light, there

would be no motivation to sacrifice, and we would remain in the world, digging pits for our neighbors.

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

2 of 2

I don't like Jim O'Rullian's opinion that the Lottery document is kind and covers the needs of those not yet aware of God's work underway. The Lottery leaders have exhibited an undesirable precedence of using a vote and the voice of the people, to govern over another, taking the liberty to speak for the majority on "my" behalf, …or giving me the option of suffering the group shunning. I cannot support his efforts in this direction, in opposition to self-governance. I hold no animosity for their mistake, but the Lots will never be mutually agreeable to me, not only because of it's contents, but because of its precedence of compulsion.

But, Jared's concept has been, and is, resting upon my mind these past few months. Considering his view, it makes room for greater light to gradually win out. It allows the potential of light to cleave to more light, as we the people reconcile to the Doctrine/Law of Christ. It doesn't force those who are young to drown in the depths of more light, allowing them to keep the Doctrine/Law by degrees, until they gradually understand greater things. To me, Jared's concept creates a unique environment, allowing truths like Holy Order/ Wisdom/ and Temple stuff to be deeply rooted in us, to grow, increase and produce fruits.

I have been looking deeply into the Doctrine/Law of Christ as of late, as the only Governing Principles to provide space for light to grow in me. I am not certain that what he has written, or re-quoted is right, but I am investigating, and moving in that direction.

Good-lookin-out! …Late!
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 01, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 01, 2018

Jim,

That the Lottery document is not and never shall be mutually agreed upon by the covenant participants is not up to interpretation.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous201 April 01, 2018

A few simple thoughts…
We take The Doctrine of Christ and His Sermon(s), found in NC 3 Nephi 5:9-15 and NC Mathew 3:4-34, to be our guide and standard. (The focus is the content of these scriptures and possible others, not the language I have used here.)
"Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you."
For those who know nothing of his work under way: Isn't the most kind and simple, yet

direct message, that salvation comes through Jesus Christ and Him alone. Isn't that the work now under way? I see this as kind to those that follow because it displays the simplicity of the gospel, and leaves out organizational oversight and control which so many have lived under for a long time dictating to them how and what to worship. And if someone needs further instruction it can be found in the scriptures, and by petitioning the lord directly seeking further light and knowledge. This would preserve diversity of fellowships, while standing upon the principles that if followed would produce Zion and lead to salvation, without establishing a how to guide that some have felt would step over the line into controlling others. Then any who wish to add things that are specific to them, their family and their fellowship can do so.

- Anonymous April 01, 2018

You are only a participant, if you are one of His people. You are only one of His people if you abide, meaning (are currently living and fulfilling) the terms of the Covenant you received through Denver from God. Read those requirements above and determine if you are truly a participant. If not, your participation is null and void until you do fulfil the requirements. No vote is necessary for God. He sees our motives, hearts, sacrifices and capacity and desire to love and become one. So the question is which document has His people chosen? I will leave that open for your discernment.

- Anonymous April 01, 2018

I wonder if this video may help describe what Jared has been trying to get at here?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5fC0NBW85Q

- Log April 01, 2018

Here are the people of God:

LDS 2 Nephi 30:2 "For behold, I say unto you that as many of the Gentiles as will repent are the covenant people of the Lord; and as many of the Jews as will not repent shall be cast off; for the Lord covenanteth with none save it be with them that repent and believe in his Son, who is the Holy One of Israel."

To believe in the Son of God entails obeying his law and commandments - the Sermon on the Mount.

And again, here are the people of God:

LDS D&C 29:12 "[T]he whole house of Israel [is] even as many as have loved me and kept my commandments, and none else."

Unless you repent and keep the Lord's law and commandments, even if you enter into the Snufferian Covenant, you have nothing from the Lord but empty words. And if you want his covenant, all you have - all you had - to do was repent and execute his law and commandments: the Sermon on the Mount. Those who enter into the Snufferian Covenant now must not only do all that the Lord said to do in the Sermon on the Mount, but they need to do everything else the Lord commanded in the Snufferian Covenant on top of the Sermon.

Nobody need enter into the Snufferian Covenant to become one of God's people and, in fact, those who do enter the Snufferian Covenant probably will be hindered from becoming one of God's people - because they will be taught to trust in Denver Snuffer

instead of taking the Holy Spirit alone for their guide by people hawking the Lottery document or a similar document which takes Denver Snuffer's words for a guide and a standard.

Being blunt: entering into the Snufferian Covenant is neither necessary nor sufficient to receive the Lord's covenant and become one of his people. Only repentance and obedience to the Lord's law and commandments is both necessary and sufficient to obtain the Lord's covenant from the Lord and become one of his people.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 01, 2018

And those who solicit others to join the Snufferian Covenant do so without authorization from the text of the Snufferian Covenant. Why do what you weren't asked to do? Why add to others' burdens? Why not merely tell them to repent, be baptized, and keep the law and commandments of God, that they may obtain his covenant for themselves from him?

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 01, 2018

Ok, I get what you are saying, but I consider the Covenant from Denver a Covenant which is currently being offered to us from the Lord to gather those who will prepare the Earth for the 2nd Coming, and to become a member of the remnant of Jacob. If you follow the Covenant language, by not believing the words spoken that day, you disqualify yourself from being a participant in presenting or supporting a G&S. According to the language of the Covenant you are not His people from whom He requests the G&S. And so goes for anyone not believing the words spoken by Denver as coming from Christ or not abiding in the Covenant, they disqualify themselves from being His people. Whether or not the body considers this as such, the Lord surely does, so in my view you are spinning your wheels. Those who are His people by their actions have spoken, so the attenpt to continue is a moot point.

- Log April 01, 2018

"The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation" (A&C, p. 3).

And, to address your implicit point, that those who dispute the Lottery document are not the Lord's people, and that those who agree to the Lottery document are the Lord's people, I say this pursuant to Question 3: "You have become your own adversaries, and you cannot be Satan and also be mine. Repent, therefore, like Peter and end your unkind and untrue accusations against one another, and make peace" (A&C p. 2).

Your accusation against me is untrue: I have already said I believe the Snufferian Covenant to come from God.

The Lord alone, and not men, is the judge of one's faithfulness to the covenant. Do not sit in Satan's seat to persuade others to defraud the Lord in the matter of the G&S by falsely dividing me from the number of the covenant participants.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

Jared,

I don't want this to come off the wrong way, so I'll preface what I am writing with a plea to see that I am trusting you with a bit of vulnerability. It hurts me to read you use the term "Snufferite." I have developed a love and gratitude for all of his work, giving me clarity in knowing God and Christ, so that I can have the relationship I have with them. I didn't realize how this would effect me, but it really hurts to see you treat him so casually. I can take a lot of crap, and I'm sure he can too. But, for some reason, I find it difficult reading what you wrote.

Please forgive my request to ask you to be sensitive regarding this subject.

Mahalo,

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 01, 2018

Rob,

I didn't use the word "Snufferite." I said "Snufferian Covenant," it being shorter than continually writing out "the covenant offered through Denver Snuffer," and I need some way to distinguish this covenant from the true covenant God makes with those who obey him in all things.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 01, 2018

So if you have a shorter descriptive term to divide the covenant delivered through Denver Snuffer from the true covenant that God makes directly with those who repent and believe in his son, Jesus Christ, I'm all ears.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

I think I'm not sure of the differentiation you are making. So before I make a suggestion, maybe you can clarify what you call the true covenant, as opposed to Denver's covenant.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

And you're right, I mis-quoted you. "Snufferian" was what I meant to write.

- Log April 01, 2018

Rob,

When one repents of all one's sins in the sincerity of one's heart and does the

commandments of the Lord with full purpose of heart, the Lord puts one under covenant. It is direct from heaven and does not come from mortals.

The Snufferian Covenant is, like an earthly temple and its rites, a substitute for the heavenly covenant which one would obtain were one to repent of all one's sins and do all things whatsoever the Lord God commands. Like the earthly temple and its rites, the Snufferian Covenant directs us back to the gospel: the law and commandments of the Lord, as per Question 2 (paraphrasing: do you accept the obligations set forth in the Book of Mormon, the Sermon on the Mount, as a covenant, and will you really do it, unlike those who came before you?).

It is obtaining the covenant from heaven that makes someone one of God's people. That covenant comes by repentance from all sin and obedience to the words of Christ in all things, which, for those who have entered the Snufferian Covenant, includes executing the obligations set forth in the Snufferian Covenant.

It is a mistake to think that merely entering the Snufferian Covenant makes one one of God's people. The Jews made the same mistake about the Law of Moses, along with their temples and rites. And the LDS also made a similar mistake.

These are they who obtain the Lord's covenant: "All you who have turned from your wicked ways and repented of your evil doings, of lying and deceiving, and of all whoredoms, and of secret abominations, idolatries, murders, priestcrafts, envying, and strife, and from all wickedness and abominations, and have come unto me, and been baptized in my name, and have received a remission of your sins, and received the Holy Ghost, are now numbered with my people who are of the house of Israel."

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

Jared,

I get the source of what you call the "True Covenant." But, I'm confused at what you're calling "Denver's Covenant." Above, it sounds as if you are describing how people "take" the covenant, rather than addressing what's not true about "Denver's Covenant."

You made things even more confusing when you added your precept of what a temple is, and how it functions, according to the heavens. An Earthly temple and it's rites was intended to do on Earth, as it is done in heaven. However, you have equated the Earthly temple as a failed substitution for the real ascent? Maybe? (I really don't understand what you're saying here so I'm guessing).

I am starting to understand your point, that you equate the law of Moses to the Denver Covenant. I don't agree that they are the same, but we can disagree on this matter.

Still trying to pick-up what you're putting-down,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 01, 2018

I freely admit, I'm not the sharpest tool in the shed, and some things take a while for me to understand. Sorry bro,

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 01, 2018

Rob,

I'm saying that I need a way to distinguish between the Snufferian Covenant which is a covenant administered and mediated by a mortal, and the true covenant from heaven administered and mediated by the Lord himself to those who repent from all their sins and keep his commandments, making them his people.

It's not that there's necessarily anything "false" about the Snufferian Covenant - it's simply a teaching tool designed to bring us to the real thing if we take it seriously and execute it as it is written, rather than trying to defraud the Lord because we don't believe what he asks of us is possible.

Referring to the Snufferian Covenant as the Snufferian Covenant seems to capture the essential difference between them. If we don't balk at attaching Moses's name to the law and covenant offered through him, we shouldn't balk at attaching Denver's name to the covenant offered through him.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 01, 2018

Rob,

The quickest - and, indeed, only - way to understand these things is to commit within yourself to go and do everything the Lord has commanded, and then do it. Then he will pour out his spirit upon you and you will gain understanding.

1. If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him without reviling your assailant (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
3. Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
5. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

And so on.

By faithfully doing his works which he has commanded us he gives us knowledge concerning his ways and his purposes.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

I understand the concept of proving the words of Christ. I have no problem with the necessity for the words to not only be said, but proven, in our constant daily walk. We're good on understanding here. Obviously, for me, I got lots to consider about my daily walk. But point understood.

Rob

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

Let me see if I understand you here. You are differentiating between the covenant from heaven, and a covenant dictated by a mortal Denver. To you, the true covenant can only be given from heaven, and while the mortal covenant points to the true covenant, we ought not get bogged down by the mortal covenant, and go directly to heaven. Is that what you mean?

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 02, 2018

Rob,

For those who have not entered the Snufferian Covenant, they may obtain the real covenant by believing the words of Christ as a small child would understand them, repenting from all their sins, being baptized by one of Christ's sent servants, and doing all things Christ commanded in the Sermon.

For those of us who have entered the Snufferian Covenant, there is now no way to go directly to heaven for the real covenant except through doing all things required by the Snufferian Covenant, which includes the above, and more.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

The first paragraph I totally get. The possibility for a person to become a little child, repent, and be baptized, and do all Christ commanded is free and available to all.

The second paragraph I don't get, "...there is no way to go directly to heaven fro a real covenant." Why is there no way for those of us to not go directly to heaven?

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 02, 2018

Because we agreed to do certain things when we assented to the Snufferian Covenant, such as adopt a G&S by mutual agreement, and help the other covenant participants to govern their words, thoughts, and deeds by the obligations established by the Book of Mormon, and additional unknown tasks in the future, and so on. We must now do all those things, too, or else we are unjust before God.

We said we would, after all.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

Uh, ...it seems like agreeing to do more cannot conflict with doing the Doctrine/Law of Christ. Adopting to live the Doctrine/Law of Christ as Governing Principle reiterates that Doctrine/Law. Helping other participants only supports the Doctrine/Law. The Book of Mormon only improves our ability to live the Doctrine/Law. Future tasks would not conflict but magnify the Doctrine/Law. So if the Doctrine/Law are central, doing more does not conflict, as you seem to be portraying.

The things you state seem to be included within the Doctrine/Law inherently.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 02, 2018

I am not saying they necessarily conflict. I'm saying you have to fulfill your agreements or else you can't be received.

Before we entered the Snufferian Covenant, we didn't have any particular obligation to this specific people, nor did we have any business with the G&S, nor would we have had anything to do with anything else the Lord would have required of this people. Now, we do. And we must do it all or else remain shut out.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

Ok, I was under the impression that you were saying that they necessarily conflict, but you have cleared that up. You're also saying that the Denver covenant requires more to be fulfilled or your can't be received, but what I think you're talking about is addressing the current approach toward Zion. And if you don't do THAT, you cannot belong to Zion?

I differ in my perspective, concerning not being received. The original, before the Denver covenant, was an invitation to those who sought Zion, and that hasn't changed. But, what seems to differentiate our circumstances from past circumstances is our approach. The failed approach is recorded in depth in scriptures, but the successful approach is vague.

Are you saying that simply living the Doctrine/Law is sufficient to approach Zion? I believe it is sufficient to approach Zion, and that those who actually live the Doctrine/Law would qualify for Zion, again, not necessarily in conflict with things within the Denver Covenant.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 02, 2018

Yes, simply living the doctrine/law is sufficient to become Zion. And that is the original faith of Christ.

When one understands that actually doing the works commanded in the Sermon is the doctrine, is the law, is the commandments, is the gospel, is the kingdom of God, is the will of the Father, then the successful approach to Zion is not vague, but well-defined.

3 Nephi 27:8-11
8 And how be it my church save it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses' name then it be Moses' church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel.

9 Verily I say unto you, that ye are built upon my gospel; therefore ye shall call whatsoever things ye do call, in my name; therefore if ye call upon the Father, for the church, if it be in my name the Father will hear you;

10 And if it so be that the church is built upon my gospel then will the Father show forth his own works in it.

11 But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you they have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence there is no return.

And we can read 4 Nephi to see a society that obeyed the Sermon for a while, and how they fell by engaging once again in economics - buying, selling, saving up for retirement - and other forms of temporal inequality and were trodden under foot as salt that had lost its savor.

Everything people say they want is on the other side of the Sermon.

Want Zion? Keep the Sermon (JST Gen 9:21, cited below).

Want revelations and mysteries? Keep the Sermon.

Want the gifts of God? Keep the Sermon.

The tradeoff is you will be made poor, you will be persecuted, you will be despised by those you do good to, you will hunger, you will be cast out of polite society, you will be reviled, and everything you seem to have in this world, including your relationships and possibly even your life, will be either taken or commanded to be offered up as a sacrifice.

You will become everyone's slave.

That is the price and the meaning of discipleship and salvation.

JST, Genesis 9:21 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant, which I made unto thy father Enoch; that, when men should keep all my commandments, Zion should again come on the earth, the city of Enoch which I have caught up unto myself.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 02, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 02, 2018

You will become everyone's slave.

The link somehow got broken...

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 02, 2018

Ok, ok, then what do you think it means that “more blessed” are they who heed your (those sent by the Lord) words? This conversation is really good.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 02, 2018

Those who believe on the words of a witness, and come down into the depths of humility - this means casting away one's riches, one's learning, and one's wisdom (meaning those principles and practices one does to prepare for one's temporal future), and becoming a servant of all - and is baptized shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost and receive a remission of their sins. From thence they are to walk according to the Sermon until the end shall come. These are more blessed because they will be more firm in the ways of righteousness through their struggle to make it to the tree of life, knowing good from evil by their own experience, having chosen the good, and having exercised mighty faith. On the other hand, if they should not make it to the tree, they won't reap as much condemnation as the eyewitnesses would.

Alma 32:19 And now, how much more cursed is he that knoweth the will of God and doeth it not, than he that only believeth, or only hath cause to believe, and falleth into transgression?

The multitude in 3 Nephi 12 were to be baptized with fire and with the Holy Ghost, and could not sin after that without becoming perdition.

2 Nephi 32:14 But, behold, my beloved brethren, thus came the voice of the Son unto me, saying: After ye have repented of your sins, and witnessed unto the Father that ye are willing to keep my commandments, by the baptism of water, and have received the baptism of fire and of the Holy Ghost, and can speak with a new tongue, yea, even with the tongue of angels, and after this should deny me, it would have been better for you that ye had not known me.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 02, 2018

So referring to the Covenant as a Snufferian Covenant sounds like something someone would say who is rejecting Denver and the Covenant. I get the same impression when someone refers to Denver as Snuffer. I read it all the time on the LDS frequented blogs. It does not indicate to me that you respect or desire the Covenant from Denver. If that is the case, by the Covenant language, you are not a Covenant holder, so why do you bother to engage the true Covenant holders. Realize your error, repent and become one in the Covenant, or go and
preach to the bloggers who have not entered into this Covenant.

The Covenant to me is comparable to this-anytime the Lord does something new, he sends a Servant to prepare the people to perform the work necessary. We are in the End Times timeframe, end of the Times of the Gentiles going into a new dispensation, certainly God has sent His messenger to begin the transition. You currently occupy the seat of a Pharasee, fighting against Zion. You don't have to be a part of this. Or if you want too, please do. You can't do both. You are lying if you are prentending. The truth is sometimes hard, I apologize for my directness, it is an inherited trait. Sorry, I can't spell either. Technical background. But dude, it's time to make a decision. I pray you will join us. Like Nephi, a humble man is teaching us. Did not his teachings of our Heavenly Mother convince you of his understanding of things beyond our present knowledge. To build the Temple, we must be humble and teachable. Denver is the teacher. Rejecting him is rejecting Christ. Good luck brother!

- Log April 02, 2018

Anonymous,

I absolutely regret trusting Denver Snuffer and entering the Snufferian Covenant. It ranks up there with the biggest mistakes of my life.

That doesn't invalidate my covenant status, of which God is my judge.

"Receive my covenant and abide in it, not as in the former time when jarring, jealousy, contention and backbiting caused anger, broke hearts and hardened the souls of those claiming to be my saints.... I say, Judge not others except by the rule you want used to weigh yourself" (A&C p. 9).

Jared Livesey

- Log April 02, 2018

I think I will refer to it instead as "the Davidic Covenant."

Jared Livesey

- Donald April 02, 2018

I thought the original Davidic Covenant was an unconditional covenant. The Boise Covenant is conditional.

- Inspire April 02, 2018

This has been the most enlightening interaction I have seen thus far. I appreciate Jared and Rob for letting us in on it, and for engaging each other the way they have.

Doug Larson

- Donald April 02, 2018

True.

- Log April 02, 2018

Ah, that's a good point. "Snufferian Covenant" distinguishes this one from that.

JL

- Donald April 02, 2018

Well, there was the conditional covenant (the Sinai Covenant) that Moses administered....perhaps the covenant made in Boise could be thought of as the "Boise Covenant?" :)

- Donald April 02, 2018

sorry...I meant to include the Boise covenant administered by Denver?

- Log April 02, 2018

Boise Covenant it is.

- Anonymous April 02, 2018

Jared

Is your position not exactly what Rob Smith and Matt Crockett have been teaching for a while now? I think Drnver addressed them in his St. George conference address. The covenant God offered through Denver is essential for a Zion people. Pointing only to an individual covenant would thwart the purposes of God relating to Zion , according to Denver.

- Log April 02, 2018

"The Book of Mormon was given as my covenant for this day and contains my gospel, which came forth to allow people to understand my work and then obtain my salvation" (A&C p. 3).

When we look at the Book of Mormon, we do not see any reference to the Boise Covenant as a condition of Zion nor of salvation. We do, on the other hand, see the keeping of the Sermon as being necessary.

Apparently, the covenant offered through Denver is neither essential, nor necessary, nor sufficient for Zion, nor for salvation. It is not part of the doctrine of Christ.

If the Boise Covenant were necessary, or essential, then we would expect to see a directive in the A&C to solicit people to join the Boise Covenant. There is no such directive in the A&C. There is, on the other hand, an explicit injunction to teach the lost sheep remnant of this land, and of Israel, the ways of the Lord. That is, we have agreed to teach the Sermon.

Jared Livesey

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

Hi Everyone. I think it is wise to realize that some arguments are “of Christ” but are not really his way. If the arguments are self-described as disputations, then they are against Christ’s doctrine overall because they offend in that one point. The voice of the Lord asked us to, as between ourselves, we choose not to dispute. Which means, we must disregard all disputations. We do not cast out people, but we disregard the disputations. They have no place in the decision-making process. Only persuasion and love unfeigned is acceptable in the councils in order to follow the words of the Lord. No disputations are allowed for consideration in any vote or decision if we choose the Lord’s way. No matter how solid the reasoning, no matter what the covenant status or baptism status of the one disputing. They self-select in that particular decision to opt out by disputing. We are free to accept parts of the reasoning but must reject the disputing spirit. The words of the Lord are the same coming from a servant or a book or in person. There are equivalencies in language, and the Rock includes the Lord instructing on baptism, including baptism as one of the Beatitudes, and includes his later talk on Sacrament that he called the rock in 3 Nephi, and includes the Sacrament prayers Mormon left out that Moroni put in when he recounted and corrected the record of 3 Nephi from what was missing. Ignore the disputes. Accept non-froward persuasion to consider. Do not revile against the revilers. Peace and God bless. Imagine when all the disputers around the world come in before the angels remove the non-repentant. We will

have to be made of tougher stuff and refuse all disputations as we go along, maintaining a broken heart. Love you all.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

It could be said the Answer and Covenant is the same covenant as the Book of Mormon, restated in the Lord's own words. Every obligation is the same. Even the G&S requirement. King Benjamin made his own, too, as an example. We'd be doing the same thing, carrying the covenant to the remnant as required, teaching our children as the Book of Mormon asks of us. There is no difference. The whole Book of Mormon is the Sermon lived in lives.

- Anonymous April 03, 2018

"I am surprised at how often men and women who should know better depart from the path. When men get a little revelation, they think themselves wise. When they fail to discern between the vain and the true, they open themselves to prideful, vain and angry spiritual guidance. They contend for the attention of others — becoming upset when they are not respected, and falsely accusing others who remain true to the Lord. I spoke about this and compared what was coming to what happened in Kirtland. (D&C 50:2-8) They leave the association of fellow believers and hurl vindictive at the flock. It saddens me to see this happening, even though I told you beforehand that it would.

"A false spirit is not difficult to identify. It stirs up fear, anger, resentment, envy, jealousy and false accusation. It makes a man spread false rumors, and make accusations that are untrue and unwarranted. Too many of those who should be lending their strength to this effort are now laboring to undermine it, claiming to have a better path to offer. They want to divide the Lord’s sheep, for each to “find Jesus” alone and apar t— a plan which would prevent Zion and please the adversary who knows that if he can prevent Zion he can continue to falsely claim to be the god of this world."

- Denver Snuffer, “Things that Keep Me Awake At Night”, March 2017

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

Someone asked me what I meant by dispute. I replied with the following: I mean the following with dispute:

http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/dispute

I consider it distinct from dissenting.

http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/dissent

There are some overlap in the definitions, which causes ambiguity and confusion, but I believe taken overall, the meanings can be distinguished.

I believe we need to decide as a body which arguments have been presented in a disputatious manner. We can then choose to reject the disputation, even if we decide to accept the content of the dispute for consideration. In other words, if we choose not to dispute, then arguments advanced in a disputatious manner can be ignored in the voting, even if the ideas can be weighed in by the others. No person needs be excluded, only individual motions that are disputatious.

April 03, 2018

- BrianZangTheZangFamily

It might be good for a body of women only to be chosen to decide what motions have been disputatious and unworthy of halting the rest of the body for. However, they could then summarize the content of the disputes without incendiary language so that the body could consider the ideas independently from them being disputes that stop the presses. Oh yes, remember the letter kills, and the spirit gives life. This way, if a person didn't intend to dispute, their idea can still get heard even if the women mistakenly decide their way of promoting their idea was disputatious.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

And I should add, we probably shouldn't get in the business of barring someone from participating or offering other motions just because something they offered once was deemed a disputation/contentious. It's embarrassing enough to have your manner of motioning called into suspect, and we all can repent at any time. Hell, I've disputed in the past. I repent, too. We can move forward by condemning disputatious motions as a body, and avoid condemning people.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

Further clarification was asked what I meant by dissension vs dispute by a friend and I answered: For this context: A dissension is a counterpoint offered in a persuasive manner, where the one motioning refuses to let their dissension arrest the body from deciding. The body could decide for majority rules or unanimity. If they choose unanimity, they work with the dissenters until agreement is made, and the dissenter who chooses to avoid disputing is willing to work with the body.

A disputation is the opposite.

If a body chooses majority rules, dissenters have no problem if they end up persuading all they can and still end up in the minority. If they aren't persuasive, they accept the body's choice, whether it is a mistake or not, and leave the judgment to God.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 03, 2018

More: Q: So, you mean that a disputation to you is something like a filibuster to stop the body from deciding?

Since your post could be taken as referring to Jared's argument, would you say that Jared is disputing? If so, how so?

A: It could be a filibuster, but not necessarily. In a body who consents to filibusters as a procedural allowance, noone can be disputing by using it.

I do not say whether Jared is disputing. He has said "I dispute" several times. But, he may be using the wrong word. I think a body of women should take the definition of dispute in mind and decide if any motion is a dispute based on the behavior, words, and/or effect of the motion. Content should be a separate consideration.

Q: So, in other words, they do like what the vote at the conference did, submit to the majority? But a disputer does not submit to the majority?

A: Depends on what the body decided at the outset of the vote. If all agreed to majority rules, a dissenter agrees they may be a minority and they accept it.

If all agree unanimity is required, a dissenter realizes their argument holds the body temporarily, has a due respect for the fact they are holding things up, and wouldn't submit their dissent unless they felt it was important enough to hold off the decision. Then, if things go on too long in negotiations, the dissenter will reconsider and find out if the problem isn't with them. This may go on a long time, but the attitude is different than disputing. If they negotiate and come into agreement, it is with the understanding that although the decision is unanimous, it can be vetoed at a future time.

If an agreement is stalled in a unanimous process, the dissenters and the body could agree they have a true dispute (this is a non-passionate, procedural decision). What I mentioned before could apply. A body could choose to reject disputes. A second option is available. A dispute can be recognized and taken to the Lord for revelation to decide the stalemate with light and knowledge. We haven't decided as a body how to do that yet. We don't know how to get revelation and verify it in a large group. Denver has, according to some arguments, been forbidden to be involved even to that point. That's why I mentioned the rejection of disputes based on the Lord's words about as a body, we choose not to dispute, to move forward.

- Log April 03, 2018

Brian,

That's not how mutual agreement works.

Mutual agreement, in the context of decisionmaking, is synonymous with common consent, or universal agreement. And, where in the practice of common consent we would be asking if any oppose, or dissent, the Lord has made it so that we must choose to dispute. If you do not choose to dispute a proposal, then you agree with it.

Thus, we do not need to ask who supports a proposal; agreement is assumed with the Lord's "clarification." All we need to do is ask if any choose to dispute it.

Now, the majority can convince themselves that those who choose to dispute - by whatever definition they wish to apply to the word "dispute" - have somehow magically ceased to be part of the decisionmaking process, but that viewpoint is utterly without support in the A&C and it is utterly without support in the dictionary. In fact, that viewpoint transfigures mutual agreement into majority rules, which is not what the Lord requires. Mutual agreement, after all, is not an esoteric religious phrase, but a common modern legal phrase, meaning essentially that **all** parties must agree to a proposition or else the proposition doesn't happen.

When mutual agreement, otherwise known as common consent, otherwise known as universal agreement, is the standard for decisionmaking, as the Lord has required of us in the matter of the G&S, the body does not make any decisions I, myself, do not make - and this statement is true for every individual comprising the body. And I choose to permanently dispute the adoption of the Lottery document, and every other document save it be The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

So it's not like there is no way out of the G&S stalemate people keep saying exists. I have given you a way out which establishes the Lord's righteousness - the Sermon on the Mount - as our guide and standard. The Sermon on the Mount also happens to be the covenant in the Book of Mormon. And the Sermon on the Mount also happens to be the ways of the Lord, and also happens to be the path to the Lord himself.

The majority of the body, on the other hand, can do whatever it wants. The body minus even one of us is not the body. It is simply the majority. The majority cannot fulfill

obligations the Lord requires of the body. The majority can only defraud the Lord with respect to those obligations and seek to deceive men.

And if a majority chooses to instantiate an all-women committee to serve as the bishop, or judge, of the members so as to move forward without even one of us, all that majority is doing is dividing itself from the body while instituting explicit hierarchy.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 03, 2018

So, I've been sitting on this last comment, wrestling with the idea that a contradiction exists, based on your concept of the "true" covenant and the "Denver" covenant. You have stated that they don't necessarily conflict, but something doesn't seem to fit. So let me see if I can ask a "gooder" question concerning "more blessed" are they who heed a servants words.

"More blessed" for heeding the words of the servant gives relavance to both the "true" and the "Denver" covenant, as both were recorded by servants, in the voice of the Lord, the "giver" of the covenant. The only way for you to differentiate between the "true" and the "Denver" covenant is to claim that the "giver" is different. And that would require you to discern and judge the "giver" of the "true" covenant as different from the "giver" of the "Denver" covenant.

So, can you tell me if you see the "giver" of the "true" covenant as a different from the "giver" of the "Denver" covenant. If to you they are the same, then we see eye to eye. If to you they are different, then we don't see eye to eye. If the latter, the only proof of who is correct is our fruits. No matter what the situation, we must all be judged by our fruits.

If you are willing to say it, can you tell me if you see the giver as different, or the same for the "true" covenant and the "Denver" covenant. If you'd prefer not saying, no response is necessary, and I'll mind my own business.

Nosy,
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 03, 2018

Rob,

There is a context to that "more blessed" that I see I have not adequately communicated and may not be able at this point to make more clear.

However, I have already responded to Anonymous above (and many others) that yes, I believe the Lord gave Denver the words.

However, recall the example of the two prophets in 1 Kings 13. The one was slain for hearkening to a message from the Lord via an angel to another prophet which contradicted the word of the Lord to himself directly. Just because a prophet declares something from the Lord does not mean his message is for you, or me, or anyone else.

Sometimes, it's a test to see if you fear or trust the words of men more than you trust the Lord.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 03, 2018

Jared, Hey I am the original Anonymous who began the dialog about you and the Covenant. I think there was a little side conversation about disputes. I don't think we are disputing. I am trying to help Jared get out of something he obviously doesn't want to be in. Jared, I do appreciate your changing the Covenant name. That was helpful. So back to the Covenant language. The first part of the Covenant states:
Do you believe all the words of the Lord which have been read to you this day, and know them to be true and from the Lord Jesus Christ who has condescended to provide them to you, and do you covenant with Him to cease to do evil and to seek to continually do good?
You cannot keep the Covenant if you don't believe Denver's words came from the Lord Jesus Christ. I think you negate yourself by your admission that you regret making it. You are not locked into it, that would be compulsion. I think you are incorrect in believing you are bound to the Covenant by the Lord. Just repent for entering into it and you are free to do as you see fit. God would not lock someone into something against their will. I don't see the point there. But I respect your position, if you cannot see that you are disqualifying yourself due to unbelief, or thinking you followed a man. That's cool. I won't mention it again. But we who have taken the Covenant in all sincerity regard it as holy, something that we are priveledged to take part in. This is not a place for people to disrespect Denver or the Covenant. There are plenty of places on the Internet where that would be welcomed. That is just the way I feel about it. Thanks for everyone's input! It has been an enlightening conversation.

- Log April 03, 2018

Anonymous,

God's opinion of my covenant status is the one that matters. You can try to persuade him I am not a covenant participant, if you like. You may not have a better chance of convincing him than you do me, however.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 03, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 03, 2018

Jared-Log, by your own logic and argument you should still be bound by all of your previously made LDS covenants. You rung those bells, too. Or, how is it that you determined that you can break or cast aside those covenants and yet are bound by new ones? If the other party isn't really God - God did not originate the covenant - then it is just invalid & pretend anyway, right? So which bells can't be unrung: your LDS-administered covenants or your Denver-administered covenant? One of the premises of this movement is that most of the LDS covenants were pantomimes - pretend, practice, but not valid & powerful, and therefore breakable. Have you since come to "know" that the covenant administered through Denver is valid? Answer the questions please.

- Log April 03, 2018

Anonymous,

Do you agree that God's opinion of my covenant status is the only opinion that matters?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 03, 2018

Want to change your tag to Socrates? Answering questions with questions is called evasion or prevarication, or self-righteousness for a mortal (presuming yourself to be teacher/superior and everyone else students/inferior) but I'll play: of course only God's opinion matters (does God have opinions?) but why would he reveal his opinion about you to me or anyone to anyone else? All we have to go on is your own words regarding yourself.

So, in saying - "God's opinion of my covenant status is the one that matters. You can try to persuade him I am not a covenant participant, if you like. You may not have a better chance of convincing him than you do me, however." - you are declaring that you now know for yourself that God considers you a covenant participant and that the covenant is legitimate. You're obviously just not willing to go into the details of how you changed from not knowing to knowing. How about just stating that plainly and unequivocally? How do you know is a good question, though - because I presume you used to think you knew the same thing about your LDS covenants. Why aren't you willing to simply testify that you now know, that the knowledge came after your disingenuous "yes", etc.? I think everyone would be willing to accept your own testimony of your own experience. Why won't you share that at least? Or are you still where you were, totally uncertain, but still feeling obligated because you said "yes" instinctively or whatever?

- Anonymous April 03, 2018

Ok, there are two different Anonymous folks here. But please respond to the question above, if you will. Personally to answer the question “Do I agree that God’s opinion is the only one that matters”? I believe God would say if you aren’t for Him you are against Him. Knowing the Covenant given by Denver came from Him (Jesus Christ), I think He would be disappointed that you would take the position you have. I am sure you.would say I cannot judge you or your actions. I will say that there is righteous judgment and I am secure in my knowledge of God and His Covenant. If I were you, I would not keep walking this tightrope. It is a perilous place to be. I would as an equal to you beg you to repent and become a true Covenant holder and begin helping us instead of hindering us. You have so much potential Nevertheless, the gathering will only include sincere faithful Covenant holders. I am pretty secure in that opinion. Only those who are humble and teachable who can live together in harmony will be able to be included. Otherwise, we will just repeat the conditions of Joseph Smith’s attempt at Zion. Just my thoughts, not disputing, maybe there is some disagreement and possibly some rightteous judgment here, that is all. I take full responsibility for it. We should all be working on our ability to be meek and loving toward each other, that is for sure. I still cannot understand why someone who initially made the Covenant then thinks they were duped, would believe they must stay in the Covenant. You cannot be a Covenant holder if you do not abide the Covenant. That is a condition of the Covenant. Oh well, beat that dead horse to death. I’m done now.

- Log April 03, 2018

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- Log April 03, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 03, 2018

Anonymous agrees: "[O]f course only God's opinion matters (does God have opinions?) but why would he reveal his opinion about you to me or anyone to anyone else? All we have to go on is your own words regarding yourself."

Since you agree only God's opinion matters, I will tell you how to obtain God's opinion on my covenant status so that you have more than my own words regarding myself and find peace concerning the matter.

RE 1 Nephi 4:2; LDS 1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

After all,

KJV James 1:5; RE Jacob 1:2
If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

RE Moroni 10:2; LDS Moroni 10:4-5
And if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you by the power of the Holy Ghost. And by the power of the Holy Ghost, ye may know the truth of all things.

There are two common problems that stop people from getting answers:

A) They are not diligent in keeping the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ, which are found in KJV Luke 6:20-49, LDS 3 Nephi chapters 12 through 14, and KJV Matthew chapters 5 through 7.

B) They are not patient and do not wait upon the Lord for his answer.

You have agreed that God's is the only opinion that matters concerning my covenant status, and you now have the means to obtain his opinion. The rest is between you and God, and it is not between you and me.

Jared L.

- BeckyWolford April 04, 2018

Hi Doug. I just wanted to say that I really liked your thoughts here. Love, your sister in Christ, Becky Wolford

- JohnDutson April 04, 2018

I was impressed to say. “I choose not to contend any further” and have therefore printed off a copy of the Lots G&S and put it in my scriptures.
This isn’t about the G&S. This is about “CHOOSING” NOT TO CONTEND!

- Anonymous April 04, 2018

Log-Jared, still you prevaricate, obfuscate, and lawyer your way around answering very simple questions directly & plainly. Why should I ask God something about you when I can simply ask you? Are you not capable of answering for yourself? Why won't you answer openly and clearly explain yourself. Why won't you testify of what you know or don't know concerning the Covenant administered through Denver as well as the covenants previously administered to you by the LDS Church? Why do you persist in your self-righteous Socrates teaching method?

- Inspire April 04, 2018

Thanks Becky. While the discussion here has not really focused on the opening thoughts, it has been an excellent one, nonetheless. Maybe we can get to the idea about 'Wisdom' later.

And to Anonymous who asks Jared why he does what he does, I believe it is to show us something. And for that I am thankful.

- Anonymous April 04, 2018

From the Anonymous who engaged Jared on his desire to continue in the Covenant, I loved Adrian's latest post on becoming one. I do not wish to dispute or dissent, however some issues must be hashed out so that better understanding can be had by all. Even if nothing is achieved with the one you are discussing the issue with, those reading the material can gain a greater understanding from seeing other perspectives. I never wish to harm anyone's heart, but straight-forward conversation can either help those involved to come to an agreement, or give either or both charity due to desires of either or both to love and respect one another dispite their differences. Love should be the last element of the conversation. So I just want to say that I have a great deal of love for all who will honestly air their differences without being mean-spirited or froward. Sometimes conversation in text, is difficult to tell the difference, so I always try to give everyone the benefit of the doubt.

- HuhWhatda April 04, 2018

Jared,

I have been thinking through what you've been writing, and trying to understand what you are saying about the difference between the "true" covenant and the "Denver" covenant, that they don't necessarily conflict. I read your reasoning for the KJV as your source for the Sermon, I also read your reasoning. I'm kinda slow, when it comes to reading someone else's words, because it's difficult for me to get out of my own head, to put on the head of the author, so I can think through the author's thought process.

Most of what I have read, in response to your comments here, is "reader response," …rather than understanding your intention (author intent). What I mean is, those interacting with you read what you write, and then gauge their own emotions; And, rather than responding to what you wrote; they respond to their emotions of what you wrote. How people have responded to you isn't necessarily an indicator of what you've wrote as much as it is an indicator of them, their hearts, and what they understand. My experience is that people prefer to engage with their perceptions of others, rather than investing the time to engage with the people. As we are all strangers, quick conclusions/assumptions/perceptions toss the baby out with the bath water. Relationships have been replaced by "franchise methods" to get people "on-board," generating a massive momentum as justification for being acceptable, while dismissing

the importance of hearing the voice of the Lord.

That being said, I must admit, taking the “author’s intent” approach is not easy at all. And your writing personality makes it even more difficult, as most of us have associated the phrase “I Descent!” as your call-sign. However, that should not be used as a crutch or an excuse for us NOT to figure out what you’re saying. I have been engaging with you slowly, a little at a time, and I think I have a greater understanding that I want to test, against the “author’s intent,” to see if I understand. I’m pretty confident that I got it right, and the reason I am so confident is because I believe that it reflects my own heart. Here’s what I think you’re saying.

The Doctrine/Law is all that matters. Within the Doctrine/Law, the Holy Ghost can increase the light in all who will be governed by it, as quickly as they reconcile to the Doctrine/Law. As we are all at different levels of light, only the Holy Ghost can progress any individual to recognize & receive more from a servant, or the voice of the Lord, until they receive directly from the Father. Any man, even a really, really good one, like Denver, …if the process is short-cut, is a chink in the armor, and will prove their doom.

I know that there’s more explanation that could clarify, but I wanna see if I’m in the right direction.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 05, 2018

Rob:

"The Doctrine/Law is all that matters. Within the Doctrine/Law, the Holy Ghost can increase the light in all who will be governed by it, as quickly as they reconcile to the Doctrine/Law. As we are all at different levels of light, only the Holy Ghost can progress any individual to recognize & receive more from a servant, or the voice of the Lord, until they receive directly from the Father. Any man, even a really, really good one, like Denver, …if the process is short-cut, is a chink in the armor, and will prove their doom."

Yes, that is the right direction.

JL

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

Doug, the recent conference presented a preliminary quorum of believers’ vote on the Lots document, which won a majority. That may make it worthy of applying the good idea you uncovered in the scriptures about a “Word of Wisdom.” The Lots document has a preamble that sounds like the preamble in the Word of Wisdom. It may just fit the bill for consideration of a final vote later on. Maybe your idea for starting afresh is appropriate. But also, maybe the exercise at the recent conference puts some weight to considering the Lots document as a Word of Wisdom. The last step may be to hold a final vote, as well as decide as a body which proposals are contentious and should be rejected by the body (not saying yours is). I sent in some thoughts I tried to base on scriptures which may appear as another post on this site soon.

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

Jared,

You can imagine my celebratory scream, "CHEEEYAAAAAHOOOO!" …when I read your response this morning. As I said before, I felt really confident that I did, but the suspense built over night, and I was left to wait, …and that made your response all the better.

I realize my grasp is still yet surface, and the details of the content is still a work in progress in my mind, but the big picture is getting clearer. My wife and I have been wrestling the Doctrine/Law big picture view in comparison to the other proposals, the original, the Aug 5th, the Lots, and the acronym one, …and the Doctrine/Law is the only one that permits certainty to us as Native People, not needing to promote more vote, more franchise process, and more politicking to control the perceptions of people.

Although there is little available, regarding Zion, written by Enoch and Melchizedek, what we do know is, both Enoch & Melchizedek preached repentance, and the people repented. The Doctrine of Christ can be summed up into one word, “Repentance.” You may have said it before, but I only came to the same conclusion yesterday that since God is unchanging, those who built Zion would have been commanded to do as we are commanded to do, which is to write a Governing Principles document in mutual agreement. Although the scriptures do not say it directly, having my heart set upon the Doctrine/Law, and looking back, all the scriptures seem to point that this is precisely as Enoch & Melchizedek did it.

For those who would prefer something simple, it is simple. For those who want to do things their way, they are free to do things with their own flare. For those who seek a more sophisticated or scholarly approach, they can feel free within the bounds the Lord has set! Each relying upon the Holy Ghost as their immediate guide, and their fruits as their justification. Conferences will be less like LDS General Conferences, being filled with fruits of success/gifts of the spirit to be shared, more like a convention than a boring “talk-giving meeting, meeting, meeting! Fellowships will be free to adopt ideas, improve upon them, and share their fruits whenever they choose to meet. And the hearts of the people will maintain it’s uniqueness, while being one.

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

2 of 2

The concepts in King Follett, Pyramid Text, Hebrew Text, Ancient Christian, Nag Hammadi, Gnostic, Apocryphal & Pseudepigrapha have been of great interest to me, as they have great light within them, pointing to remnants of truth trapped within an ancient knowledge text that immediately gets retracted in each apostasy. The ancient Egyptian Pyramid texts offer much regarding being sanctified and the fiery ascent, and restoring the primordial (original) unity between men and Gods, for Gods to instruct men in person. The Hebrew Wisdom from Margret Barker not only teaches things related to Wisdom, it gives far greater insights to the design and functionality of the temple. The 40-day literature included the record of higher ordinances given by the resurrected Christ, before going to the other sheep. They include remnants of things Denver has taught within his papers of the Holy Order, and most recently on Wisdom. The Gnostic origins from Origen, and the ancient Christian-ecclesia, house churches, the male and female deacons, also offer greater light regarding fellowships. The reasons I find these teachings really interesting is not because they are “scholarly,” …but because they reflect traditional Native American and Polynesian cultures, and can easily be tied into principles described in the Book of Mormon. For me, I take the Book of Mormon as my authentication for these writings, and for aligning my Native American/Polynesian views. I refused to accept the other documents because they are closed to greater light. I was

worried that an oversimplified document would set our sights too low, and that our conversations would reflect it, being too low, too mean, too vulgar, …resulting in our rejection of greater light to lead out. The other competing documents still represent that to me, but within the Doctrine/Law, I see the simplest of thinking permitted, and an incubator for the greatest light to fill us all up. And for this reason, I turn my attention to the Doctrine/Law as a Governing Principle for people to be governed by.

Some things I want to address is why one sermon and not the other. You have written on that, and I have read it, and I am going through each sermon to gain a perspective worth discussing. Another is the statement you included that: “We accept, practice, and teach the doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ, as contained in the Book of Mormon…” In keeping with allowing the Doctrine/Law to instruct by the Holy Ghost alone, it seems as if the only thing we need to do is “accept to govern ourselves by the Doctrine/Law.” To practice it and to teach it is not for us to say, but would be directed by the spirit, wouldn’t it?

Talk to me,

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 05, 2018

A law which a people claim to accept and do not obey is not accepted.

And we have agreed to teach these things. See Question 3, and this:

Teach your children to honor me.

A check is honored when it is redeemed for the full amount it is written for. A check is dishonored when it is not paid out. Therefore, if we honor God, we render unto him all things he has required of us, and if we fail to render unto him what he has required, then we dishonor him. All this is a long way of explaining "to honor is to obey."

Seek to recover the lost sheep remnant of this land and of Israel and no longer forsake them. Bring them unto me and teach them of my ways, to walk in them.

His ways are his law and commandments; to walk in his ways is to keep his law and commandments.

1 Kings 3:14 And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

Therefore we must also teach his law and commandments. And see the following, per Question 2:

2 Nephi 26:27 Hath he commanded any that they should not partake of his salvation? Behold I say unto you, Nay; but he hath given it free for all men; and he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance.

Therefore, we must teach these things.

Jared Livesey

- Inspire April 05, 2018

Brian,
Great to hear from you. I can't say what will ultimately happen, but I have seen some amazing things in this conversation between Jared and Rob. It has helped me to reconsider almost everything.

I keep asking myself, do I need this covenant "through Denver" in order to play my part? I mean, nothing is stopping me from living the doctrine of Christ outside of the covenant. And if I did that, I would not be bound by another's interpretation of what has been commanded to me, but would just listen to God through the Spirit which speaks my language specifically. Furthermore, it would show the true desire of my heart... that I'm not in it for the "blessings" or promises of the covenant, but just because I love others.

I think it might be good for us to carefully read 2 Ne 9:41-42:

"O then, my beloved brethren, come unto the Lord, the Holy One. Remember that his paths are righteous. Behold, the way for man is narrow, but it lieth in a straight course before him, and the keeper of the gate is the Holy One of Israel; and he employeth no servant there; and there is none other way save it be by the gate; for he cannot be deceived, for the Lord God is his name. And whoso knocketh, to him will he open; and the wise, and the learned, and they that are rich, who are puffed up because of their learning, and their wisdom, and their riches—yea, they are they whom he despiseth; and save they shall cast these things away, and consider themselves fools before God, and come down in the depths of humility, he will not open unto them."

Perhaps the reason why the path is "narrow" and "strait" (deep) is that there is only room for one on it--you. Which means the He wants to deal with us directly, not "through" the "wise" or the "learned," etc. In fact, it's when we cast those things away that He opens up to us.

How does this relate to the required statement? I'm not sure. Certainly there are elements of getting along which we need to learn. Whether or not they are necessarily encased in a covenant has yet to be determined for me.

---Doug

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

Jared,

I’m afraid that I must point out to you what you have pointed out to me, which is the difference between the “true” and the “Denver” covenant (not in conflict). Christ has given both, recorded by the hand of His servants. And in our interaction we have concluded that His purposes are why He gave them. You have suggested that perhaps His purposes are to test people, to see if they follow a man. I, on the other hand, see His purpose as our current approach to Zion. However, in your last comment, it seems as though you are combining the two covenants into one. The “true” covenant is accepted by those who accept to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ, while the “Denver” covenant is the bell that you cannot unring.

In my last comment, I was addressing the Governing Principles project, referring to the

“true” covenant, apart from the “Denver” covenant. I stated that, according to the “true” covenant (Doctrine/Law of Christ), all one needed to do was accept to be governed by it, and then produce the fruits. If we understand the definition of accept to be a consent to receive, then that would satisfy the requirements of the “true” covenant, and now all who consent must produce acceptable fruit, sweet fruit.

However, you have combined the two covenants, stating that we must also teach it, and gather the lost sheep of this land, all inclusive in accepting, practicing, and teaching the doctrine. When referring to the Governing Principles project, all that is required of any, is to accept to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ. And that would be congruent to your argument about the difference between the “true” and the “Denver” covenant, keeping them contained.

As I see Denver as a legitimate servant of the Lord, I recognize the words in the Answer to the Covenant as the words of Christ Himself, and a new effort among this movement to approach Zion in our day. As the Lord’s plan of salvation is about progression, whenever the Lord condescends to give more, it is only additive, to what has already been given. In this case, the Doctrine/Law of Christ is the subject for the completion of the Governing Principles project, and NOT the “Denver” covenant found in the Answer to Covenant. The successful accomplishment of the Governing Principles project would complete the requirements of the “Denver” covenant, for those who elect to accept to be governed by that to now accept and be governed by it. However, without the mutual agreement on the Governing Principles project, the “Denver” covenant cannot be accepted, let alone performed, to produce fruits for the Lord to sort through.

I am separating the two covenants, and directly focusing on the Governing Principles project. As an aside, I call it Governing Principles because it only becomes mutually agreeable by those who agree to be governed by it.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 05, 2018

Rob,

I'm not sure what you're trying to say. Help me out.

JL

- Log April 05, 2018

Would it help if I said I'm killing all the birds with one stone?

JL

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

Jared,

Sorry for not being clear. I'm doing some searching concerning the Doctrine/Law of Christ, regarding the New Testament version of the Law, against the BOM version. I have read why you choose the Luke version, because it's short, it refers to those who aren't the disciples, but are commoners, ...and I am working on obtaining an opinion for myself on that.

However, I have an opinion on the part that you have written, regarding the statement. You write: We accept, practice, and teach... prior to the Doctrine, and prior to the Law. Regarding the Governing Principles project, I suggest that it only say we accept to be governed by... I am differentiating being governed by, from accept/practice/ and teach because the Holy Ghost ought to be the only instructor, and all who simply accept to be governed by it can be instructed by the Holy Ghost how to accept it, practice it, and teach it. For this reason, a change is in order to not supplant the Holy Ghost by telling people what to do, once they agree to be governed by this Doctrine/Law.

Does that make it clearer?

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

When you say you're killing all the birds with one stone, are you suggesting that not only does the Doctrine/Law of Christ fulfill the assignment for the Governing Principles project, but that the way you have written it, the Doctrine/Law of Christ also replaces the need for the "Denver" covenant, simply adding: accept/practice/teach?

If that is your recommendation, I don't follow your reasoning.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 05, 2018

Rob,

It is not enough to say one accepts the doctrine / law / commandments - one must actually do it. The actual execution of the doctrine / law / commandments distinguishes hypocrites from the people of God. And because we have taken upon ourselves the Boise Covenant, we are not only obligated to execute the doctrine / law / commandments, but we are also obligated to teach them. Thus The Rock of Jesus Christ is for the people [the Boise Covenant participants] to follow.

As to what the doctrine / law / commandments mean, and how to practice and teach them, that's between the individual and God - after all, one of the commandments is "judge not." That's where the Holy Ghost will instruct.

Principles are rules of behavior which you do not ever break, under any circumstances. The commandments of the Sermon are the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom, and, if we aspire to build up Zion, they must also be our principles.

"Whoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so to do, he shall by no means be saved in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever shall do and teach these commandments of the law until it be fulfilled, the same shall be called great and shall be saved in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, except your

righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven" (RE Matthew 3:17)

"Break not my commandments to save your lives, for whoever will save his life in this world shall lose it in the world to come" (RE Matthew 9:3).

"[A]ll things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets" (RE 3 Nephi 6:3).

"Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the Celestial kingdom, otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself" (RE D&C 40:1)

"Behold, I am the law and the light. Look unto me and endure to the end and ye shall live, for unto him that endureth to the end will I give Eternal life. Behold, I have given unto you the commandments, therefore keep my commandments. And this is the law and the prophets for they truly testified of me" (RE 3 Nephi 7:2)

"Do my works and you will know my doctrine; for you will uncover hidden mysteries by obedience to these things that can be uncovered in no other way. This is the way I will restore knowledge to my people" (A&C p. 7).

Jared L.

- Log April 05, 2018

I'm saying the acceptance, practice, and teaching of the doctrine / law / commandments answers all of the obligations arising from the Boise Covenant.

That is, if we will actually accept, practice, and teach the doctrine / law / commandments of Christ, we will thereby fulfill the Boise Covenant and qualify to receive the Lord's covenant from heaven, for we will in fact have repented of all our sins and done all that we agreed to do.

JL

- etluxentenebrislucet April 06, 2018

Brian, you stated: "I believe we need to decide as a body which arguments have been presented in a disputatious manner."

I prefer to discern that for myself rather than let others decide for me or tell me what is disputatious and what is not. I would not be interested in taking away that opportunity from others, either as a "chosen representative on an appointed committee" or via some sort of voting procedure.

I feel it is one thing for others to use their brand of persuasion and quite another for someone to determine what I ought to think of that persuasion. I believe this is the burden we all must carry in this world.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 06, 2018

Jared, what is this about for you, truly? I need help understanding. I have spent much time reading, re-reading and pondering your words to understand why you say things you say in the way you say them. I think I am piecing your words together into an English Paper Piecing quilt slowly but surely.

On April 2, @11:37AM, you stated, “I absolutely regret trusting Denver Snuffer and entering the Snufferian Covenant. It ranks up there with the biggest mistakes of my life.”

Those are strong words expressing strong emotions.

You have also written this, from your blog post “Awake and Arise!” on February 25, 2018:

“And I found out to my horror what the Lord meant by "cursed be the man that trusteth in man." By saying "yes" to the covenant, thereby saying I knew the words Denver Snuffer put forth were from the Lord when I did not, in fact, know those words to be from the Lord, I broke a commandment and trusted in men.”

Are you saying that in the moment when we were invited to stand and say yes by Denver (a man, not men, btw) at the Covenant Conference you did not know the Answer to the prayer for Covenant AT THAT TIME was of and from Christ but now you do? You have stated you do believe the Answer to the prayer for Covenant is of Christ. Did I get that correct? And is that a result of whatever happened the night of the Covenant?

You continued, “The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, LEAVING ME TO BE LED BY THE HOLY GHOST.”

You now feel demoted? You are as Cain after he murdered his brother Abel?

With the first portion of the above quoted material, were you being literal or something else? I take things literally until I am taught otherwise. Is this why you say accepting the Covenant from Christ albeit offered through Denver is one of your biggest regrets in life? You lost something precious and yearn for (It) to be restored?

Would you say it is similar to what Joseph experienced after losing the 116 manuscript pages and he lost his gift and privilege to translate the plates of brass for a time?

I am sorry for your hurt and suffering. I do not understand but desire you be restored to wholeness and felicity of spirit. What have you learned you can do to repent so you are not so filled with regret?

I can recall a lot of choices I regret in this life, yet by regretting them I am not appreciating all that I am and have learned as a result of them. I am here to learn and mistakes are a necessary albeit painful part of learning. I guess I do not believe in failure as the world defines it. All things work together for my good through Christ Jesus.

Are you perhaps, potentially, projecting your experience onto the rest of the covenant body? If Christ has told you to only hearken and heed His doctrine and His law, is it right to dictate that to others? I am just seeking understanding with this.

I am familiar with all the scriptures you have shared repeatedly. I feel you are sound in pointing to those things as a foundation. But I also know that just because Christ has told you to do something does not also mean I must do it unless He tells me to also. That is true for all of us and each of us, and applies across all areas of our lives. I still am content with such as a statement of principles. But some are told to resign from the LDS church, while others are to write a book which leads to their excommunication, and yet others are to stay in the church and serve. I know some have felt this Covenant opportunity is “not their deal.” That does not mean I am wrong, they are right, or vice versa. Christ’s gospel is not an Easter cookie cutter kit or one-size-fits-all t-shirt.

Please help me understand what I am incorrect about here or what I did piece together accurately, and how I can be a support to you. Life is hard and I believe we are not meant to suffer or endure it alone, especially in Zion.

Lori

- Log April 06, 2018

Lori,

If you want to know what you can do to support me - for you asked - you can accept, practice, and teach the law and commandments of the Lord.

Then I would have more company.

JL

- etluxentenebrislucet April 06, 2018

Well, I think you have more company than you realize, but we have different ways of expressing it. Perhaps you are not yet as Job?

It appears you are willing to express a great many things but struggle to engage with specific questions on them. I hope I have not wounded you further. I do not mean to. I just was puzzled very much why someone would express such strong regret over accepting this unique opportunity, especially when you have expressed to now know it is from and of Christ. (Unless I am mistaken.) You are an enigma to most here, methinks. And online interactions are difficult by nature.

If I may ask one further question.

On April 2 @10:09PM you wrote,

“Apparently, the covenant offered through Denver is neither essential, nor necessary, nor sufficient for Zion, nor for salvation. It is not part of the doctrine of Christ.

“If the Boise covenant were necessary, or essential, then we would expect to see a directive in the A&C to solicit people to join the Boise covenant. There is no such directive in the A&C.”

Do the above words mean you are of the belief, opinion, and directive from Christ to persuade others *against* standing and saying yes to the Answer to the prayer for Covenant? To prevent them from experiencing the same regret you have expressed.

- MichaelBurke April 06, 2018

You say here that you absolutely regret entering the "Snufferian covenant," and that reminds me of something Adrian once asked you. Were you really admitted to God's presence before the Boise conference, and were you literally cut off from His presence when you entered the "Snufferian covenant"? Adrian asked you if you meant to imply that you literally had the experience of being in and then out in your "arise and awake" blog post and you just ignored him. Would you please answer him? Have you literally had such an experience? Please reply. Thank you.

April 06, 2018

- Log

Lori,

The words you ask me about only say what they say. They don't say anything other than what they say.

I offered them as explanation for why I do not and will not solicit people to join the Boise Covenant without a direct commandment from heaven to myself. The Lord hasn't appointed us to do so. That's another reason to dispute the Lottery document, and any like it.

"Behold, mine house is a house of order, saith the Lord God, and not a house of confusion. Will I accept of an offering, saith the Lord, that is not made in my name? Or will I receive at your hands that which I have not appointed?" (RE D&C 54:8)

Non-solicitation does not imply opposition.

JL

- etluxentenebrislucet April 06, 2018

Okay. Thank you for helping me understand that. I appreciate it.

And I am sorry if I have opened a can of worms here. I did not mean to, but wanted to make sure I was understanding correctly or get clarification after spending some time reading your blog. You have taken much time to explain yourself, and that is a good thing.

Lori

- MichaelBurke April 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke April 06, 2018

Jared,

As Adrian asked you elsewhere, when you wrote "Arise and Awake," did you mean to imply that you were literally cut off from God's presence when you entered the Boise covenant?

- Anonymous April 07, 2018

So you're saying that you believe the words of the Boise Covenant were given to Denver, but only as an Abrahamic test, and those who entered the covenant failed that test unless they had previously received some clear personal revelation that the words Denver said were given to him by the Lord really were from Lord--Is that right?

Than what becomes of this passage?

"Charity...believeth all things."

If you are a covenant participant, didn't you promise to accept that passage, and the body of scripture it's part of, as a standard to guide your life by?

And hadn't you accepted it as such even before the conference, and even taught others that anyone who disbelieved anything he was told without having some real personal knowledge that what they were told was untrue, simply didn't have charity, and was therefore unsaved?

And didn't you teach others that believing an authorized messenger was necessary for salvation?

If Denver is an authorized messenger, and you had no personal revelation to the contrary, how could it be wrong for you to accept the words of the Boise covenant (which Denver said were given him by the Lord) as the words of God?

How could that have been so serious a sin that God would withdraw His personal presence from you?

That is what you're saying, isn't it?

As Adrian Larsen asked you:

"The following two statements clearly claim you have been in the Lord's presence, which implies you have seen Him face to face:

'The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost.'

'Afterwards, I fasted and prayed and was baptized again, confessing my sin, in the hopes that the Lord might receive me again into his presence.'

My question is simple: Are we to take these statements literally?—i.e. you previously met the Lord face to face, and that the covenant incident caused Him to deny you access to His presence?

Is this what we are to understand by these statements?"

Please answer these questions here.

A Ground Rule from the Doctrine of Christ

Thursday, April 05, 2018

A Ground Rule from the Doctrine of Christ

Hello Everyone.

Perhaps we have suffered a great error by not including the following in our quotes of Christ's doctrine:

"And there shall be no disputations among you as there hath hitherto been, neither shall there be disputations among you concerning the points of my doctrine as there hath hitherto been. For verily, verily I say unto you, He that hath the spirit of contention is not of me, but is of the Devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of

men to contend with anger one with another. Behold, this is not my doctrine, to stir up the hearts of men with anger one against another, but this is my doctrine, that such things should be done away." 3 Nephi 5:8 NC

This comes right before our normal quote and is stated explicitly as part of His doctrine.

This is important for our non-hierarchical open and accepting movement which has sometimes been likened in process to the following part of the Savior's wedding feast parable:

"Go you therefore into the highways, and as many as you shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all, as many as they found, both bad and good, and the wedding was furnished with guests." Matthew 10:18 NC

We have been instructed only to ask if those wishing to be baptized believe the doctrine of Christ. After baptism, we have been instructed to record their names. We have not been given any modern-day instruction from the Lord about any process to blot out those names for transgression similar to Mosiah 11:20-23 NC. Neither should we want it, in my opinion.

It may be that the Lord's servants, presumably angels, will take care of this process later, since we gather both good and bad now. The parable continues:

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man who had not a wedding garment. . . . Then the king said unto his servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take and cast him away into outer darkness." Matthew 10:19 NC

However, for now we have something from the doctrine which can settle disputes. If we say we agree to the doctrine of Christ by baptism, then we consent to not disputing concerning the points of His doctrine.

Therefore, we have already mutually agreed as a body of believers to have any proposal we submit to be scrutinized as a disputation if it seems contentious.

As a last resort, the body does not need any further consent to vote to say an individual proposal is contentious and will not be counted as a vote for that item in discussion. The person who advanced it can still participate in any other item up for discussion, or even the same item provided they don't advance the same argument, or another dispute.

This is all based on the philosophy that contentious arguments are not valid proposals in the body of Christ, even if the content is OK to consider. It's the idea that "I'm going to hold this argument and arrest common consent until you comply" which must be rejected if we want to avoid filibusters (the definition of a filibuster is to act in an obstructive manner in decision making, especially by long speeches, but it can also be by contention).

I could be wrong. IF we want filibusters in this movement, then we should agree to allow filibusters. This is the crux of the decision here. This is about filibustering, not about the content of a proposal. We can consider the content as an option without it being in the context of a contentious filibuster. This does not reject any minority positions, which can be considered until resolved. It only rejects contentious behavior by any given minority. It

is not common that a majority is unified enough to coordinate a contentious attack on a minority (Mosiah 13:6 NC). A majority is usually a group of people with diverse opinions, who have negotiated agreement on one item, and their agreement is tenuous. In fact, our majority can agree to listen to minorities until we reach unanimous mutual agreement, while only rejecting contentious behavior.

If the doctrine of Christ inherently rejects filibusters in our councils (as in, it's defined as disputing the points of His doctrine), then we already agreed that filibustering isn't allowed in decisions by the body. We don't have to be like Congress, where they allow disputations, even though it is orderly disputations. We are trying to learn to council without that part of the process. That may seem un-American. But, as Adrian has aptly pointed out, we are striving to be children of God as our main pursuit. We still get to persuade and council and dissent and renegotiate, just not dispute.

Dispute is defined as:

http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/dispute

It is distinct from dissenting.

http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/dissent

There is some overlap in the definitions, which causes ambiguity and confusion, but I believe taken overall, the meanings can be distinguished.

The meaning given by the Lord for “Mutual Agreement” is “as between one another, you choose not to dispute.” Perhaps that means we have the freedom as a body to reject disputes that individuals offer that hold up the body, because even with persuasion, we can’t convince everyone. But, always remembering that we do not reject the people who do so:

“And behold, ye shall meet together oft, and ye shall not forbid any man from coming unto you when ye shall meet together, but suffer them that they may come unto you and forbid them not. But ye shall pray for them and shall not cast them out, and if it so be that they come unto you oft, ye shall pray for them unto the Father in my name. Therefore, hold up your light that it may shine unto the world. Behold, I am the light which ye shall hold up: that which ye have seen me do.” 3 Nephi 8:8 NC

I have written some thoughts on how these principles can be applied in the comments of the post called “An Invitation” on March 31, 2018 https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/03/an-invitation.html . I also summarized them on my blog here: http://www.cachevalleybaptisms.org/2018/04/one-possible-implentation.html .

There are numerous ways these ideas could be implemented. These links are merely brainstorming. The principles above are more important.

-Brian Zang

Comments

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

I propose the following:

1. That we add the portion of 3 Nephi 5:8 NC quoted above to the Lots document in the Doctrine of Christ section.

2. That we acknowledge the Lots document as a Word of Wisdom, and decide whether the preamble conforms to this concept, and if not, adjust the preamble wording to reflect it, in terms of it being advice and not by way of commandment.

3. That we reject as contentious the proposal to “halt all decisions until the exact wording of the Rock of Christ is accepted.” Christ Himself delivered the Sermon in different wording in the Gospels and in 3 Nephi. However, we should accept the premise of the argument, and scrutinize the Lots document to make sure it precisely conforms to the principles in the Sermon without adding or taking away.

4. That we reject as contentious the proposal to “halt all decision on the G&S until we have a short document.” However, we should consider the wisdom of a short document. Therefore:

5. I propose we have a long version and a short version of the Lots document. I propose we consider the short version “the Standard” and modify it to consider those who have never heard of our movement before. And, we should consider the long version “the Guide,” to benefit those who are starting involvement as fellowships in the movement. We should create the short Standard by removing only the sections of the Lot document that don’t relate to complete strangers at first, leaving the language alone otherwise. We could include scripture references for long block quotes of scriptures to further reduce the size.

I think if we can do the above and hold a final vote, we could see good fruit.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

6. I propose we add as a quote to the Lots document: "The first and fundamental principle of our holy religion is, that we believe that we have a right to embrace all, and every item of truth, without limitation or without being circumscribed or prohibited by the creeds or superstitious notions of men, or by the dominations of one another, when that truth is clearly demonstrated to our minds, and we have the highest degree of evidence of the same.” Joseph Smith. That is, after all, the standard of truth.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

I fully accept that unless each of the individual proposals above are seconded, they are automatically dead in the water. If someone wishes to modify the proposals, you may take them and make a new proposal as you wish. You can second them by saying you second proposal #__ . This will alert the body as to the idea being worthy of an overall vote by the body at some future time. The body is at liberty to reject the seconded motions as calls for a vote. I will not contend for them.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

But, being baptized in the name of Christ as a believer, I am officially asking for other believers to second these motions and thus call for a vote by the body if seconded.

- Log April 05, 2018

A couple things to consider.

A. The commandment concerning disputations was specific to those twelve individuals to whom it was given. I have yet to see anyone who appeals to the "non-disputation" commandment to these twelve act, or teach, consistently with these commandments which were also given to these twelve (it was given generally in Luke).

3 Nephi 13:25-34
25 And now it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words he looked upon the twelve whom he had chosen, and said unto them: Remember the words which I have spoken. For behold, ye are they whom I have chosen to minister unto this people. Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26 Behold the fowls of the air, for they sow not, neither do they reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin;

29 And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, even so will he clothe you, if ye are not of little faith.

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow, for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient is the day unto the evil thereof.

B. All of these procedural proposals are attempts to defraud the Lord of his required mutual agreement. There is no procedure nor judgement needed when mutual agreement is the actual standard of decisionmaking. This is because we either freely agree or we don't agree. When I tell you I do not and shall not agree to your proposal, that's not a filibuster, since filibusters can't exist in the context of mutual agreement. That's me telling you the body does not and shall not agree to your proposal.

Jared Livesey

- etluxentenebrislucet April 05, 2018

As to the above original post and each of the proposals, no. Thank you.

- Anonymous April 05, 2018

No thank you. This seems to be an attempt to force things rather than work with each other.

- gregnorton April 05, 2018

Amen, Amen and Amen. I second this proposal.

- gregnorton April 05, 2018

Could you elaborate as to your reasoning behind thinking it is an attempt to force things rather than work with each other, please?

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

Greg, are you seconding proposals 1,2,3,4,5,and 6, or one or more of them individually? There seem to be some objections, which if this goes to a vote, can become a part of a normal negotiation with opposing votes. It would be good form for the body to take seconded motions in turn and put them to a discussion and vote, but it has no obligation to do so. It can choose to vote via an majority rules framework, or a unanimous framework, but as I suggest, a unanimous framework will probably only work if we agree beforehand that there will be no filibusters that deadlock a final outcome. Or, we find out how to get verifiable revelation as a body in a stalemate (not an easy proposition). If the body does not take up seconded proposals for discussion and voting, cannot resolve stalemates and the decision about the place of filibusters, cannot get revelation for stalemates, or cannot find another way forward, I think we can candidly conclude our system is broken.

- gregnorton April 05, 2018

I am seconding proposals 1,2,3,4,5, and 6.

- HuhWhatda April 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

I still don’t know how the body will move from a seconded motion to a vote. Others have done that in the past. I think we have time. Objections above and some from before have been duly noted.

Consider the following incorporating the motions above.

“The Rock” is included as the sole standard. I think the idea has merit in that context.

The preamble to the Guide has been stricken and modified to match the concept of words of wisdom, with encouragement for fellowships to make their own individual guides as needed. This is just a suggestion and starting point.

The Doctrine of Christ includes the earlier part of the reference.

Changes are marked in red and/or cross-throughs. I only changed what I mentioned above.

A title page includes Joseph Smith's quote as a frontispiece, with no obligation to consider it as part of either the Guide or the Standard. It is a poetic thought put on the page above the title.

This is just presented as a helpful possibility and useful resources if the body decides to take up these motions for a full vote. Again, it has no obligation to do so.

Title Page: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xKn7kYodkLLcJCmFQkr4XcoVUJ0AnW9-/view?usp=sharing

A Guide: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lT07Nce4OKtc5jFHfrNuk2VWz32RhCer/view?usp=sharing

The Standard: https://drive.google.com/file/d/16HbmS2oiT_tK4l6VfxJmTTpqkfLJXMVI/view?usp=sharing

- Log April 05, 2018

Brian,

There shall be no textual modification to The Rock of Jesus Christ. We, including Denver Snuffer, are all equally reflected in The Rock of Jesus Christ - which is to say, none of us is.

We are all equal or else we are not the Lord's. And we all must actually do what is contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ or else we actually disagree with it while feigning agreement. The Lord will have a people who freely accept and actually do what he requires, not a collection of hypocrites who feign agreement with his doctrine, law, and commandments with their lips but deny it by their deeds.

Jared L.

- Log April 05, 2018

"Each of you must equally walk truly in my path, not only to profess, but also to do as you profess" (A&C p. 3).

JL

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 05, 2018

This small modification of the Lots document does a number of things:
1. It includes a Guide that is not a requirement, but a word of wisdom.
2. It suggests the Guide is an example that other fellowships can follow or they can make up their own using scriptures.
3. It gives us something to give new fellowships who have no idea where to begin.
4. It includes a short document for people who have never heard of anything about us.
5. That short document is the Rock of Jesus Christ.
6. It includes a title page that can put it in the context of a set of scriptures.
7. It fulfills the motions I made above.
8. It's completely up for debate and voting and change.

9. If we accept this and move on, the Guide can be modified at future times if we find a better overall document to pass out to new fellowships.
10. It shows we can agree to put something out with kind language that is based on wisdom, while also stating what we all agree on with the Doctrine and Law of Christ definitively in a separate, declarative document.
11. It takes into account the document that a quorum majority voted on, while also considering minority concerns that have validity, without allowing the minority to arrest the progress of the body.
We were almost there with the Lots doc. Maybe we just needed to figure out how to include it as a Guide and Standard.

- Log April 05, 2018

Brian,

There is no such thing as "allowing the minority to arrest the progress of the body" when mutual agreement is the standard of decisionmaking. We either agree, or we disagree - that's the end of it. If we do not agree, there is no "progress" by appealing to a majority, for the existence of a minority is sufficient to demonstrate that we don't mutually agree.

Progress - true progress towards unity - requires coming together in humility as equals, not as a conquering majority imposing itself upon an unwilling minority. All of us minus one of us is not progress towards agreement, but is instead failure.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

1 of 2

Jared,

I must admit, your last comment has taken me by surprise. Looking back, however, I suppose it shouldn't have been surprising at all, as you have clearly stated your perspective regarding the words Denver Snuffer has written, and one of your biggest life mistakes being ringing a bell in Boise, that you are unable to unring.

In my mind, I engaged with you because I thought that you were addressing the Governing Principles project. I have taken the time to deeply consider your perspective, but something kept me from connecting to your perspective, leaving me to wonder what I was missing. According to our most recent interaction, it seems as though you have the mind to replace the entire Boise Covenant with words of your own: accept/practice/teach. It leads me to believe that what was missing in my understanding was your intent. Your regret for ringing the bell, by accepting the Boise Covenant, directs you to replace the entire Boise Covenant in your verbiage, so that no one need to make the same mistake you claim to have made, by heeding another man. It seems as if you feel duped by the momentum of the majority to accept the Boise Covenant, but as you cannot unring a bell, your effort is to make heeding another man totally unnecessary, by solely relying upon the Holy Ghost.

I recognize and agree with the perspective that the Holy Ghost will teach you all things you should say and do, and that by the power of the Holy Ghost you can know the truth of all things. However, according to Lectures on Faith (lecture 2), Joseph Smith describes the object upon which faith rests. God being the only supreme governor and that in Him every good gift and principle dwells. In God, the principle of faith dwells

independently. However, the evidences by which the first thoughts were suggested to the minds of men that there was a God who created all things, came from one who had been in His presence. Because God conversed with man face to face, and man received instruction directly from His mouth, heard His voice, gazed upon His glory, …although man did transgress being shut out from God's presence, …God had already manifest Himself to Adam, which knowledge remained in Adam after the fall. Knowledge of God was given to Adam's posterity from Adam, who had been in God's presence. From the time of Adam until now, the knowledge of God came from father to son, for the purpose of man to exercise faith in God, to be restored to the presence of God by way of turning their hearts to the promises made to the fathers, and turning their hearts to the fathers (the Holy Order as a tool for restoration). The testimony which fathers have had of the existence of a God, was through a testimony of a man. Abel was required to receive important information of his father Adam that God did exist, before his sacrificial offerings were ever acceptable unto God.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

2 of 2

To "heed" means to pay attention or take notice of. To "harken" literally means to "hear" and "know" for yourself (hear-ken). Lecture 2 expresses the importance of a witness given from one who has been in the presence of God, conversed with Him face to face, received instructions directly from His mouth, and gazed upon His glory. Both heed and harken is the instructions given in scripture for men to interact with prophets, never trusting in them for personal strength, making flesh their arm. Any who heed and harken to a prophet are responsible to pay attention, and discern his message, …requiring the necessity for the Holy Ghost to then unveil the truth of all things, to tell you all things that you should say and all things that you should do.

I recognize that God is no respecter of persons. If God can speak to a Denver Snuffer, then why can't He speak to a Jeff Savage, a Lots committee, or a Jared Livesay? I believe God can and will speak to other men, including Jeff/Lots committee members/Jared. If a message comes from God, I want to be ready to receive it, no matter who it comes through, even if it is the "passerby." That fact alone requires my personal preparation, to constantly discern, and then choose to believe and act, or not, …to be judged solely upon "MY" connection to the heavens. No one can be connected to the heavens for me. My ability to discern the heavens rests upon my relationship with God.

Your concept of fulfilling the requirement of the Governing Principles project is in keeping with the spirit that animates me. However, your concept of replacing the Boise Covenant does not. Instead, it replaces the words Denver has provided with the words Jared has provided. And while that is totally possible for God to do, the spirit within me says it is not the case.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

I am not replacing the Boise Covenant. I am fulfilling it to the letter. There's the difference you're missing.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

Jared,

You are combining the Boise Covenant with the Governing Principles Project. While you might think that you are fulfilling it to the letter, the only thing required of our mutual agreement, left un-obtained, is the Governing Principles. I didn't miss the difference. I am simply focusing on the assignment at hand, to respond to the assignment I have been given, regarding the Governing Principles.

I never obtained from heaven an assignment to replace the words from the Boise Covenant, with my own words, which is precisely as you are doing.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

I have made this simple for all involved.

I shall not yield from the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the guide and standard, and I shall not cease to dispute the adoption of any other document as the guide and standard whether past, present, or future.

Therefore either The Rock of Jesus Christ shall be the G&S, or the Lord shall be defrauded in the matter of the G&S.

If you will not accept and do as the Lord requires and agree to adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ, then you defraud the Lord in the matter of the G&S and render it impossible for the body to accomplish future tasks the Lord will require at our hands.

I don't have an obligation to persuade you or convince you, but merely to speak by persuasion. That is to say my job isn't to change you. You get to choose. I simply explain.

The choice is up to you, and the rest of the covenant participants.

By the by, Rob - if you don't think the purpose of the guide and a standard is to assist all the Boise Covenant participants to fulfill the Boise Covenant and thus obtain the Lord's covenant from heaven and qualify for Zion, then where do you think you want to go, and how do you think you're going to get there?

Joseph Smith himself pointed out this necessary truth:

"Could we read and comprehend all that has been written from the days of Adam, on the relation of man to God and angels in a future state, we should know very little about it. Reading the experience of others, or the revelation given to them, can never give us a comprehensive view of our condition and true relation to God. Knowledge of these things can only be obtained by experience through the ordinances of God set forth for that purpose. Could you gaze into heaven five minutes, you would know more than you would by reading all that ever was written on the subject."

Ordinances means laws, things appointed. Joseph is effectively saying that without experience, you know nothing. The King Follett discourse does not give knowledge,

only a report of things that we know nothing about without experience. If we want to experience the things Joseph experienced, we obtain that experience by diligent obedience to the Sermon.

Jared L.

- FolloweroftheWay April 06, 2018

What is going to set this work apart from all the other Christian denominations? They too teach repentance, baptism, Holy Ghost, the Sermon on the mount.

What makes what we are offering any different?

"Joseph Smith's audience for this sermon had the Book of Mormon. His listeners were largely converted through the Book of Mormon. They had Joseph's revelations. Joseph had been their Prophet, and he had taught them a great deal before April 1844. So when he returned to the "first principles about which so much hath been said" he was speaking to those inside the church, not to the unconverted and untaught. He was able to tell them much more about what the Gospel really included. He opened up and declared they really are this:
-Attaining to the resurrection from the dead,
-becoming Gods, and
-walking in the same path as our Lord walked

These are the real first principles of the Gospel! That's why he wished he had the trumpet of an archangel with which to declare it. He didn't have that. But I read his words as if they came from
an archangel."

- FolloweroftheWay April 06, 2018

"You thus learn some of the first principles of the Gospel, about which so much hath been said. When you climb up a ladder, you must begin at the bottom, and ascend step by step, until you arrive at the top; and so it is with the principles of the Gospel--you must begin with the first, and go on until you learn all the principles of exaltation. But it will be a great while after you have passed through the veil before you will have learned them. It is not all to be comprehended in this world; it will be a great work to learn our salvation and exaltation even beyond the grave."

Being True and Faithful in KEEPING the Doctrine of Christ is the mechanism to achieve a greater Intelligence and enables us to gradually climb up that ladder. This is what sets this work apart from all others. We have the authorized Ordinances required for this ascension and do you believe it?
His other Sheep will hear this message, because it resonates with their records and stories. What marvelous truths we may learn from them!

Ascension/Progression/Zion

And what is ZION? It is not what most of us think it is.

Just an insignificant sister,

- Log April 06, 2018

What shall set this people apart is that unlike every other "Christian" sect, we actually do accept, practice, and teach the Sermon. That is what is meant by "walking in the same path as our Lord walked," which leads to the other things mentioned.

Otherwise, we meet the same prophesied fate as all the other Gentiles: to be cast out and trodden underfoot by the remnant of Jacob as salt that has lost its savor.

Jared L.

- FolloweroftheWay April 06, 2018

"These are the basics of the Gospel of Christ. This is the foundation upon which salvation itself rests. This is the way you must climb in order for you to be like Him. But it will be a great
while after you leave this life before you will arrive there. No one will do this for you. You can go from exaltation to exaltation, and from grace to grace, but you will only arrive at the end when you have learned all you will need to know to be like Christ.
If you understand Christ, you understand salvation. He is the prototype, and therefore you must be like that prototype in order for you to be saved"

"As long as you are here in this mortal venue, clothed in mere flesh, you have the great endowment and capacity to offer a SACRIFICE to God. You are in the ideal condition to develop the
ability to exercise faith in Him. You couldn't do it if you were continuously living in His presence. You will not return to His presence until you first develop that faith. Therefore you are
in an ideal, even enviable place here.
You will be amazed at the grace it is possible to acquire, if you will only do so while in this dark place. You are here to accomplish great deal, and I hope by the time we are finished
today you will be more fortified to accomplish it. This creation was designed as an opportunity to sharply contrast good and evil. It is a testing or proving ground. That is exactly why you are
here. This is a glorious opportunity. You wanted it. You shouted for joy at the idea of coming here to experience this veil of flesh.Therefore you should rejoice again now, because salvation
is free and offered to us all"

What an disservice to our God and the World if we do not hold these truths and invitation to all, to come and partake freely of Gods Mercy.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

1 of 2

Jared,

We have discovered where we disagree. I would be satisfied with the task of the Governing Principles project, and you want to replace the entire Boise Covenant with the words you prefer. It is clear that you hold out your opinion that your document be added as being mutually agreeable, and that any other document would defraud the Lord because you will dispute any other document, making mutual agreement impossible. It's obvious that we have come to a point of difference, a hot point even, by your response of accusing me of defrauding the Lord. And if I pushed to finalize things, then I would be defrauding the Lord.

However, I haven't, nor do I plan to enforce my view. Rather than stopping another from doing as they believe (many others, including you), I'm grateful to have my own view, a reason to stand upon my testimony, to trust Christ as my rock, …rather than seeking to simply get people to agree with me, for no other reason than to create an "image" of peace. I have thoroughly understood your perspective, have come to a place of impasse with you dictating both the Governing Principles and the Boise Covenant, and can wait upon the Lord to give me further light and knowledge, as I am not certain how to move forward from here.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

2 of 2

Mutual agreement is required, and I am more than willing to work towards it, but you and I understand differently. You would never yield to me, trusting in my arm of flesh, nor would I want you to. And I would certainly never yield to you, just the same. However, the Lord requires mutual agreement, and what the Lord wants is what the Lord will get. I just need Him to show forth His part to me, as I have exhausted all my resources to obtain mutual agreement, just short of giving up my agency to trust in the arm of flesh (which I will never do). Either way, I will wait for Him some more, for further instructions.

Thank you for engaging me, and not simply writing me off, recognizing my willingness to work things out in my mind. I will continue seeking deeper into the Doctrine/Law of Christ, considering your perspective about your choice to use the Luke account over the others, including the BOM. I am clear that unless your document is adopted, there will not be mutual agreement, because you will not agree to anything but your document. As things sit, I cannot agree to your document, and we are both unable to complete the assignment of mutually agreeing together. As things are currently understood, you cannot complete it without me and I cannot without you, so let's wait until something changes, and more light is added, to make it possible for us to find mutual agreement. Perhaps you and I are not His people, and that the instructions for it to be adopted by mutual agreement only applies to those whom Christ has called "My People." Despite our circumstances, this is the Lord's work, and heaven knows that He will complete it.

I respect you for your perspective and your uniqueness enough to not require you to be anything other than what you choose to be. At the conference, it was confusing to me to hear the cheers of the majority, when Denver mentioned individuality and uniqueness, when the day before they supported conformity, opposing my uniqueness. We must maintain our uniqueness, requiring only persuasion. You have done your best at persuading me, and I have done my best to persuade you. I will not short-cut the long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, and unfeigned love. Best of luck.

Thanks for the conversations,

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

I'm not sure you do understand my position. However, maybe I don't understand yours:

Are you in sincerity saying you do not want to fulfill the Boise Covenant, which requires both accepting, practicing, and teaching the doctrine / law / commandments of Jesus

Christ, but that you instead prefer to stay in the Telestial world and be led by men?

Because that's what I hear you to be saying.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

C'mon, you not serious right now, are you? Telestial? Huh? What'da?

I just disagree to how you wanna proceed, and you seem to want only your way of proceeding. So, rather than trying to force you to my side by some argument, as some would try to do, I'm willing to be good with you having your way, and waiting for things to part, as this seems to be as difficult as crossing a Red Sea. But, like Moses, I'm confident God's got ma back!

For me, I am focused on the Governing Principles project, leaving the Boise Covenant to stand on it's own merits, while focusing on mutual agreement. Interpret how you like, painting an inaccurate picture of me as you see it, being telestial and all, you wouldn't be the first, nor will you be the last. I'm willing to take it, respecting you!

RESPECT! WORD!

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

Telestial - where those who follow the prophets are, and who go to hell.

"These [the Telestial] are they who are thrust down to Hell.

And the glory of the Telestial is one, even as the glory of the stars are one, for as one star differs from another star in glory, even so differs one from another in glory in the Telestial world. For these are they who are of Paul, and of Apollos, and of Cephas; these are they who say they are some of one and some of another: some of Christ, and some of John, and some of Moses, and some of Elias, and some of Esaias, and some of Isaiah, some of Enoch, but received not the gospel neither the testimony of Jesus, neither the prophets, neither the everlasting covenants" (RE D&C 23:9, 11).

That is to say, they followed - trusted in, proclaimed loyalty to - prophets but didn't accept, practice, nor teach the gospel, neither did they receive the testimony of Jesus, nor the true covenant from heaven.

The way out of the telestial is to no more trust in any man, but follow the Lord alone. This means accepting, doing, and teaching his doctrine, law, and commandments - which just happens to be the way to fulfill the Boise Covenant.

But, as I said a ways back, you're not convinced the Lord's law and commandments are the only way to what you want. Therefore you seek elsewhere.

"Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?"

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

I'm not sure why you assume that I follow a man, being condemned to hell, calling me telestial, ...based solely on the premise that I disagree with you. I have not been instructed to adjust the Boise Covenant, but to work on the Governing Principles project. Not by any man, but by the voice of the Lord to me. I haven't ever claimed to be assigned, like Jeff Savage, nor to have participated in the Lots program. I have relied solely on the voice of the Lord through it all. And Denver hasn't participated, so you can't claim that I follow him regarding this project. How is it that you can quickly judge me as Telestial?

I mean, feel free to do so, recognizing that how you judge, so shall you be judged!!! I simply don't agree with you right now bro, and you haven't told me anything different regarding your view, that I haven't already considered, so, ...I'm good bro! You seem to have taken the perspective that your view is of the terrestrial or celestial caliber, leaving only Telestial for me. We all gotta be judged by the choices we make. Condemn away daaawg!

PEACE!
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

I didn't say you follow Denver Snuffer regarding this project.

As I said, I'm not sure you do understand my position. You say you disagree with me, but since your characterization of my position - that I am trying to replace the Boise Covenant - is false, I'd have to disagree with the position you say you disagree with as well.

So where do we disagree, except that you do not want the guide and standard to assist you to fulfill the Boise Covenant?

And if you do not fulfill it, you remain in the telestial world. And if you don't know how to fulfill it, then what kind of guide and standard can you possibly offer others?

"Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?"

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

The Doctrine/Law of Christ is totally satisfactory to support the Boise Covenant, without altering or adding to it. Your recommendation adds to the Doctrine/Law the necessity to accept/practice/teach, ...and that's something I believe the Holy Ghost ought to instruct. Your justification for adding the practice and teach differs from my understanding as that's none of my business what you do with the Doctrine/Law. I'm satisfied that you and I agree to be governed by it, and allow you to practice according to your understanding, and to teach according to your understanding, when you are impressed by the spirit to do so.

I don't see how it helps to add any more than to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ. And that is how we differ.

I'm sorry for misrepresenting your point of view. You can feel free to correct me. I take correction regarding your point of view really easy. I just don't take someone correcting me on my own point of view. You've not done that, so please forgive me for getting your point of view wrong.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

Do you know what a hypocrite is?

Jared L.

- Log April 06, 2018

By that, I mean what the word actually means.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

Yup, in my own words, it's to say one thing and do another. According to definition, it's a deceiver, a pretender, a person who puts on a false appearance of virtue/religion, a person who acts against his stated beliefs.

Your point?

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

What is the critical difference between a hypocrite and a disciple?

JL

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

How they act. The disciple act in alignment to their acclaimed belief, where a hypocrite could swing one way or another, with every wind of doctrine.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

The word "hypocrite" means "actor," as in TV and movie. The hypocrite acts like a believer, but doesn't believe.

The hypocrite says things to be heard of men, and they do their works to be seen of men, playing the role of a righteous person.

With their lips they honor God, but their hearts - their desires, their intentions - are far from him. That's why you read this in the A&C: "Yet many of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do." The Lord is saying *many* of us are hypocrites. "As a people [this is the majority he's speaking of] you

honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting." Again, he's saying the majority of this people are hypocrites.

Recall, again, to Joseph the Lord said, concerning the Christian sects of the day, that "they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me, they teach for doctrines the commandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof."

The difference between a hypocrite and a disciple is that the disciple believes the word of the Lord and does it, while the hypocrite does not believe and does not do, but they act like they believe.

To accept, practice, and teach the Sermon divides disciples from hypocrites, and gives sufficient guidance to hypocrites that they may drop their act and become disciples.

Jared L.

- MichaelBurke April 06, 2018

Have you obtained?

- MichaelBurke April 06, 2018

Jared: were you literally cut off from God's presence when you entered the Boise conference? Please answer me or Adrian. He asked you the same thing in the comments section of your "Arise and Awake" blog post, at latter day commentaries. Please answer him (and me) here.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

So, ...um, I totally agree with the concepts you have written above, fully understanding the difference between a hypocrite and a disciple, ...and even more concrete that how you see it reflects the way I do. Which leaves me to ask, again, what's your point? Why the expounding upon a hypocrite and a disciple? I'm trying to pick up what you're putting down.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Saying one accepts is not enough. One must also practice or else one is a hypocrite. And, by the Boise Covenant, not to mention the Book of Mormon, we must also teach.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

So, ...bruh, are you accusing me of being a hypocrite? Is that what the point is? I mean tell me straight, this beating around the bush and talking in circles about hypocrisy and discipleship, what's the point?

I agree that saying you accept the covenant is insufficient. I opposed the vote in Arizona because the majority supported a document that I could not live as a disciple. I refuse to

be a hypocrite and say, but not do. I get the concept, but have no clue as to what's your point!

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

My point is that the verbiage that you dislike - accept, practice, and teach - is justified by the Boise Covenant, the Book of Mormon, and the needs and condition of this people and the work we are supposedly setting about to do.

The Rock of Jesus Christ is precisely what one must live to be a disciple.

And fulfill the Boise Covenant.

And seek the Lord to establish his righteousness.

And build up Zion.

And partake of the Atonement.

And obtain the heavenly covenant.

And be saved.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

So you have said. What's the point of hypocrisy? You have failed to get to a point. I fully expect to accept/practice/teach the Doctrine/Law of Christ, but opposed to you, I don't expect to tell anyone else to do it. I am fine being mutually agreeable to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ, but not fine with telling someone else what they are to do:accept/practice/teach. The one who's role is to instruct is neither yours nor mine, but the responsibility of the Holy Ghost. So if someone agrees to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ, then they are accountable to do it, and let the Holy Ghost instruct them in what they should say and do, to know the truth of all things, ...not Jared.

But, hey, this conversation sounding like several of them we have already had. I won't try to convince you to do differently, and mutual agreement eludes us. You have done nothing that persuades me, and mutual agreement eludes us. I am fine with allowing you to be you, and will not be a hypocrite, but a disciple, waiting upon the voice of the Lord for my instruction.

I won't attempt to judge your heart as a hypocrite. I wouldn't recommend you judging my heart as a hypocrite. You good? If you're good, me too!!!

I'm OUT!
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 06, 2018

Rob,

It does seem you cannot be persuaded. I will note that your argument actually contradicts the idea that a written guide and standard should exist - yet the Lord has required it of us.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

Wait, are we now finally talking about the Governing Principles now? Cause I'm down with that. But, trying to take th Boise Covenant over, I ain't tryin' to do dat! Good luck wit dat Jared!

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 06, 2018

No matter how you rephrase the same argument, as long as it is more or less than to be governed by the Doctrine/Law of Christ, I dissent from you, and now you have no ability to find mutual agreement without me, or suffer defrauding the Lord by moving forward.

Now I'll sign off as,

Frobert Adolpho

- Log April 07, 2018

Rob,

You seem to not know what you agreed to do when you entered the Boise Covenant.

Instead of contending against me, pointlessly bluffing, you should find out from God.

Jared L.

- Log April 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 07, 2018

Do You Know What It Is You Agreed to Do?

First: Do you believe all the words of the Lord which have been read to you this day, and know them to be true and from the Lord Jesus Christ who has condescended to provide them to you, and do you covenant with Him to cease to do evil and to seek to continually do good?

What defines evil doing?
What defines doing good?
Some call evil good, and good evil (2 Nephi 15:20). By what sure standard do you

divide good from evil so you can do what you agreed to do here?

Second: Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?

What, specifically, are the obligations established by the Book of Mormon?

Third: Do you agree to assist all others who covenant to likewise accept this standard to govern their lives to keep the Lord’s will, to succor those who stand in need, to lighten the burdens of your brothers and sisters whenever you are able, and to help care for the poor among you?

How, specifically, can you assist all other covenant participants to accept something?
What is "this standard" being referred to?
How, specifically, do you assist all others who have covenanted to also accept "this standard?"
What is the Lord's will?
How do you know it is the Lord's will?

Fourth: And do you covenant to seek to become of one heart with those who seek the Lord to establish His righteousness?

What does it mean to become of one heart with someone?
How, specifically, do you seek to become of one heart with someone?
What does it mean to seek the Lord?
How, specifically, do you seek the Lord?
What does it mean to establish something?
What is righteousness?
What is the Lord's righteousness?
What does it mean to establish the Lord's righteousness?
How, specifically, do you establish the Lord's righteousness?

If you do not know the answers to these questions, then how can you possibly guide someone to accomplish these things?

If you do not know the answers to these questions, then what standard can you possibly give someone to measure how well they are doing these things?

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 07, 2018

A reminder to consider the original post, 6 proposals, and the links to a version of the Lots document above fulfilling the proposals. Anyone who accepts the premises about no contention can ignore any contentious proposal. This still allows minorities to be heard, and even contentious minorities can have their ideas considered even if their contention bars them from participating in a single issue during the time they contend or dispute. These proposals have been seconded and we call for a formal vote by the body. The version of the Lots doc I submitted as a way to fulfill the 6 proposals has not been seconded. Please read the links in the comments above and if anyone seconds this version, please state it here.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 07, 2018

In the comments early on is a version of the Lots doc I did. Read the new preamble to A

Guide. Then see The Standard. The Standard is the Rock doc almost identical. A Guide is suggested as a word of wisdom without compulsion and a recommendation that each fellowship create their own guide, too. It uses the Lots doc as a guide since it got a majority in a quorum. But, the preamble idea makes it understood it really could be any G&S doc, we just choose one to offer as a suggestion.

- HuhWhatda April 07, 2018

I did! I know what I gots ta do. And it's to chill! I was just entertaining myself as I waited for my sons event to be done. Five hours.

I thought you had a point about hypocrit and discipleship. I had already settled way long ago that we don't agree, and I've never tried turning you over. I had no more to say, but thanks for spending the time. I'm genuinely grateful for your clarity, and have no intention on questioning your motives. But you went down a rabbit hole with hypocrisy and discipleship. I had waiting time to spare, and since I am totally consumed with this Governing Principles document, like a puppy, I chose to chase the rabbit.

I don't mind engaging with you, light heartedly, or in a serious mood of doctrine. I've learned a lot engaging. While others might take offense, I don't, and I can engage lightly or seriously too. Maybe you thought I was contending. Sorry for that. I don't feel like engaging is contentious. I just didn't know what your point was in bringing up hypocrisy and discipleship as we agree on both.

If your point was to passive-aggressively draw me out in a public forum, in a display of offense, to your light conversation, hinting around at hypocrisy, as you play the role of discipleship. All I got to say, light heartedly, "...silly rabbit, trix are for kids!"

Rob Adolpho (all in good fun)

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Jared,

It is sad how some understanding appeared to take place between you and Rob (and even the rest reading along), then it all fell apart. I am trying to understand what the h-e-double-hockey-sticks just happened.

Jared, are you not okay with someone disagreeing with you? If not, why?

If a person proposed a statement with only the sermon from Matthew 5-7 and the doctrine of Christ, including Christ's point not to contend from 3 Nephi, nothing wavering, are you saying you would never accept or agree to it? If never, why???

You appear to be doggedly attached to having everything worded as you require, or as you say the Lord requires. But do you get to dictate to and interpret for anyone other than yourself what the Lord requires, what He says, how He says it, and what He commands?

Your command of scripture is admirable, and greater than mine. Your ability to reason and articulate are strong, and these too more than mine. But discussions with you tend to leave one feeling bruised and battered, as though one has been repeatedly butting into the wall of Zarahemla.

I am greatly saddened for what transpired here in conversation. You appeared to be

unwilling to be at peace with someone-anyone who disagreed with you. Or am I mistaken? I hope I am.

Have you ever lost a debate or argument? How then did you respond? I am genuinely curious and not at all being humorous. There is a reason so many will neither listen to you nor engage with you anymore. Can you understand why? Would you say your efforts here are representative of exactly how Christ teaches and speaks directly to you?

--from someone who genuinely cares about YOU, more than a statement of principles.

- YourFriend April 07, 2018

If you are in complete alignment with Him and are are fully repenting, obeying all His commandments, if you have made the sacrifices asked of you, if your life has been lost in submission to His will, and you know Him, then you are His people. His people know how to guide and set a standard. I believe there are many here who are walking with Him, however there are some who are still not. He told me so. He said there would still be wheat and tares at the Conference. I would hope we will honestly evaluate ourselves and seek our Savior and become one with Him, receive His Servants sent by Him, and listen for His voice given through His Spirit and become His Holy prophets who are the servants of all. You cannot contend when you are serving in His love with true charity.
Love, Lisa

- YourFriend April 07, 2018

I loved that Lori! I felt your heart.
Love, Lisa

- Log April 07, 2018

Lori,

Do not counsel me.

Jared L.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Brian, I am sorry that your idea has not been given full discussion here. The area for that has been hijacked. Whether for better or worse I could not say.

But what you propose doing with these statements:
"Anyone who accepts the premises about no contention can ignore any contentious proposal. This still allows minorities to be heard, and even contentious minorities can have their ideas considered even if their contention bars them from participating in a single issue during the time they contend or dispute."

I do not understand. If I ignore any proposal I deem contentious then how are the authors still being heard by me or how am I able to consider their idea?

Is your intention truly inclusive or an attempt to separate yolks from egg whites?

And why ANOTHER VOTE??? I am feeling traumatized at this point.

Will this end when the lots document is published in the T&C? Is that what you and its

supporters require?

- Log April 07, 2018

One of the primary intended outcomes of the restoration is this: "The weak things of the world shall come forth and break down the mighty and strong ones, that man should not counsel his fellow man, neither trust in the arm of flesh."

Perpetually turning the conversation from principles to personalities - or, in other words, from the subject of truth to the subject of me - doesn't help anyone, but rather hinders.

Jared L.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Jared, I feel so hurt this morning and ANGRY. DO NOT COUNSEL ME. How the h-e-double-hockey-sticks did I counsel you??? I asked questions, did I not?

I am fed up with the level of spiritual and emotional immaturity displayed by this body. We all need to GROW UP. Christ is serious about HIS WORK. HE SUFFERED, BLED, AND DIED FOR EACH OF US. And this effort is how we show Him gratitude???

How about we each get over ourselves and our perceived knowledge?

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 07, 2018

I think the body, as a last resort, can consider a certain tactic used as causing contention, but repeat the proposal for consideration so the ideas are not lost. So the body decides not to stop moving forward. Maybe this can be done by appointing a neutral party to repeat the proposal and the body can negotiate normally without the proposal being required. In that spirit, I don't require my proposals to end up being adopted exactly as I proposed them. They are freely offered as helpful and the body can modify and use or not use my proposals as they see fit. In calling for a vote, I am offering this as a follow-up to the stalled second vote at conference for the G&S. I realize that second vote included a repeat of allowing any G&S doc to be accepted. I offer this modified Lots doc as a way to weigh in all the minority concerns I have seen to hopefully make a peaceful resolution and final vote. Whether to include it in the scriptures or not is another debate. I am open to supporting that idea.

- Log April 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 07, 2018

I would suggest we can do so by discussing truth and not discussing each other.

JL

- Log April 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 07, 2018

Rob,

I was explaining to you why the answer is what it is. Thank you for clarifying your intent.

JL

- Janeen April 07, 2018

Lori,
Feel free to contact me at
naturesattitude@ gmail.com

Janeen

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Jared, the truth is you are not alone. You told me that to support you is to “accept, practice, and teach the law and commandments of the Lord.”

The truth is I have already accepted what you proposed, giving up all claim to want it to be any different than what it is. I have also accepted what all others claim as their statement of principles. What more can I offer you or anyone else?

The truth is also that we are to become one of mind and one of heart. The former is possible but not without the latter happening first.

The truth is "connection is about Relationship. Relationship is about LOVE. LOVE is a Choice."

You want to keep a focus on truth. That will not happen without also including the heart. We have a duality about us in that we have both a mind and a heart. Some are gifted in one or the other, or both at some point. I’m a card-carrying member of the heart tribe. :)

The truth is Christ speaks to my heart. It is prayers from my heart that He hears. The adversary speaks to my mind and when I agree with him he then gets into my heart; then things get crazy messy. It is a constant struggle of discerning the origins of every thought and every emotion. But I love a good struggle cause that is when I grow good muscle.

The truth is I understand hearts and emotions best. Logic is hard, impersonal, and white noise to me at times. If I cannot discern love as the moving cause of all action then I want to understand why. Maybe I am simply misunderstanding and need reassurance.

The truth is it is Christ's Love for me that draws me to Him, not His laws, His commandments, His doctrine. I follow Him and seek Him because He Loves me and I have felt it. I know He Loves me because of Spirit’s witness to me of His sufferings for me and what I experience when I interact with Him. He does not have to tell me. I know it because Love is who and what He chooses to be. He has taught me what Love truly looks like, feels like, tastes like, and sounds like. He is my yardstick by which the love of others is measured against.

The truth is the gospel of Jesus Christ is about Love and His Heart for me above all else.

The truth is the gospel of Jesus Christ is about me, you, and every other person on the planet; it is about the one. It is not about some words written in black and white on a

computer screen or in a book.

The truth is God so loved the world that [They] gave [Their] Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believes on Him should not perish but have Eternal Life. (Emphasis added.) Every moment of our lives They are condescending to be with us, to help us, to bless us, to teach us, to speak to us, etc. They willingly come and walk with us through Hell. Are we willing to do that for one another? Am I? Are you? THAT requires HEART.

Jared, I care about you and yours. I don't know you, but want to know you and understand you. I need help with that, and the questions I have asked of you in previous comments were sincere and not meant to be jabs or "counsel." I still support you and stand with you, though I will not always agree with how you express yourself or interpret something.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

That is kind of you to say, Lisa. This is hard for me. There is so much that I do not understand about why this is such a huge struggle for us all. What is wrong with me? What is wrong with us? What choice could we make as a body of brothers and sisters that would reflect Heaven itself?

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Thank you for responding. It sounds like your suggestion is to try what has already been done before with another committee and another vote. I believe it will still end up rendering similar results. It seems a fruitless endeavour to me. I don't mean to be a negative Nancy or heckler in the sidelines. I am appreciative of the fact that you are trying to help us all resolve what has become a painful task. I just do not have the vision to see how taking the same steps in the same direction will lead to a new destination.

- Log April 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 07, 2018

Lori,

You said: "He is my yardstick by which the love of others is measured against."

I understand that you would like to weigh my heart.

I am not submitting to this judgement.

Truth is what matters.

I didn't say "accept my proposal."

Jared L.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

I can offer you nothing further than what I in my weak and fallen condition am able. If it is not enough, it is not enough. I do not require you to do or be anything beyond what you are able to as well. Thank you for all you have been willing to share. Adieu.

- Log April 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 07, 2018

Before you go, consider the deep truth to this - in 1844, Joseph told the Saints they never knew him; they never knew his heart. After 14 years of living with him, speaking with him, visiting him, eating with him, listening to him, and so on, they didn't know what motivated him, and did not understand his feelings.

Joseph also told the Saints around the same time that they would probably reject Jesus if he came among them preaching the same doctrine he taught the Jews.

The implication of these statements: relationship-building doesn't work in the pursuit of truth.

Relationship-building does work, however, in sales, where it is called "rapport-building."

Jared L.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

No worries. I will seek no further to engage in "relationship-building" with you. I won't be making that mistake again. Lesson learned. Ouch. Fare-thee-well, good sir.

- TwoCents April 07, 2018

Brian,

You mentioned a couple times Adrian's post so I went and read it. Adrian pointed out that there are factions, but what he doesn't point out is what those factions are. He blames these factions as preventing the unity required for Zion. What factions is he talking about? Who created this "us" and "them" identity?

Is Adrian saying I need to let go of my First Nation Identity because it creates a faction? He alludes to what he thinks are factions but isn't clear; therefore, I am left guessing and I am guessing he is talking about my culture, because I identify with this. But he is not clear as to who he thinks is creating factions.

This same message was given to a group of "Lamanites" back in 1995, by Elder Oaks. I was there as a member of "Lamanite Generation." Rob and I were part of the last "Lamanite Generation". That day he changed the group's name to "Living Legends." The message that has been told to us by many religions is to let go of our identity to become one with their group. This is not a new concept. In fact, this concept has been used time after time to discredit our culture.

Why can't I be First Nation and a child of Christ? Adrian seems to suggest my identity of being First Nation is Babylonian, because it creates a faction or division. I don't think so. What is Babylonian is thinking my way is better than your way. Jew is better than Gentile and vice versa. Instead of thinking that these identities create a faction how about looking at them as something that could create unity. I believe the house of Israel has remnants of their culture or a piece of a puzzle of a greater picture, and when they are put together they provide a complete picture. These pieces of the puzzle could help us understand His ways better, helping us become children of Christ.

Any time a named changed it was because the people changed. They turned to the Lord and actually lived the ways of the Lord. Adrian seems to believe our name has changed. He believes this group has lived and completed all the requirements necessary for the name to be changed. He can believe that if he wants, because maybe he has met all the requirements. But that doesn't mean this people as a whole has.

Adrian can believe that "in one the children of Christ and heirs to the kingdom of God" is represented by his and many other's interpretations of this epigraph. He has every right to believe that in order for unity to occur it would be best for the individual or faction to submit to the group. But his interpretation can be wrong. I do believe in the next excerpt he quotes: "if you will hearken to my words I will make you my people and my words will give you peace." I believe this is what creates unity.

It is my belief the work He is doing right now is purifying our hearts. The focus of the Law of Moses focused on ritual purity. Christ is replacing earlier ritual based purity with internal purity.

When internal purity was accomplished by an individual and/or group they obtained a name change: Whenever names changed in the Book of Mormon, it was because the people changed internally and their actions proved they changed.

Q

- YourFriend April 07, 2018

To love, suffer long, sacrifice, serve, endure. We are not all listening to the voice of the Lord and His Servants. We all may think we are, but the Lord doesn't swing in such wide paths. See Denver's latest post. Maybe it will cause some introspection within the group. Something needs to happen. I'm with you, this is way harder than it needs to be. Hang in there, sometimes it's good to take a breather. God bless! Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet April 07, 2018

Thank you again, Lisa. Denver's post does give me much to ponder. How easy it is to fall into making an idol of God by creating an image of Him according to our own thinking; the result of not really knowing Him. A breather is indeed good. Gracias Chica.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 07, 2018

Hi Q. I don't vouch for everything in Adrian's post. It is a quick reference to a known source among us and it served a purpose for me to reference so I could contrast what God's people should be like vs. how the US Congress acts with contention. Congress makes provisions for an unruly fighting rabble. I suggest believers put away contention in the waters of baptism, or they should. Peace.

- YourFriend April 08, 2018

It would be nice if we could take heed of Denver's last post and put away our own images (idols) of God and get on the same page. I was hoping he would chime in. It's hard to keep beating your head against the same walls. I have received correction from him in the past, given through one of his posts. I openly repented, and got back with the program. I hope others will do the same if they feel so convicted. :) Love, Lisa
Thanks Denver!

- YourFriend April 08, 2018

I am putting this here for lack of a better place. We really need our own blog so we can discuss our commonalities and not always our differences. After Denver's talk on Heavenly Mother, I searched out Margaret Barker for any additional information, not to idolize Heavenly Mother, but to study a little bit more in that area. Denver quotes Margaret Barker quite a bit. I found some great youtubes from her on Heavenly Mother as well as this interesting one.

https://youtu.be/nOnHDQgIoCU

I would say to take with a grain of salt as always and pray about and discern carefully to find truth. But this thing is bigger than any of us individually and more important than any of us right now can conceive of.

We need to get over ourselves.

Check out the youtube and search her name for other pearls if wisdom. I ordered one of her books, as if I don't have enough to read with all of the new scriptures coming out. (Smile emoji)

Love, Lisa

- etluxentenebrislucet April 08, 2018

The work of Margaret Barker has added much light to the work of Christ, I believe. I will watch the YT video you've suggested and see what I may discern.

It would be wonderful to have a place for simply sharing our studies and things we have in common. It is too easy to become hyper-focused here, which also increases my emotions. I feel like I have developed a form of tunnel vision, ya know?

And Denver's post. I keep reading it. Last night I began looking up the words he put in quotes in the glossary of the T&C. I'm still studying and pondering. I feel a spirit of humility and correction this morning, an impression of "this is not me (Lori)." I don't know if that makes sense to anyone else, but I understand it. There is much in that post for me to consider.

And also on Denver's blog I saw a previous post and was reminded of something Spirit showed me before but forgot in the tumult of this blog. :o

Have a blessed and beautiful Sabbath, Lisa.

Lori

- YourFriend April 08, 2018

That was a beautiful sentiment, belonging to a soft humble heart. May we all reset and begin a new, as you have set the example I plan to follow.

Denver's post did have some depth. I go back and re-read as well trying to understand all of what he has written. MB's material is the same way, every sentence is worth spending 10 minutes pondering about. I'm glad I don't have a 40 hour work week! Once you have seen the yt video maybe we can discuss. Let me know. You have a blessed Sabbath as well! (Heart emoji) (Smile emoji)

- Sarah April 08, 2018

No way! You were part of Lamanite Generation? I have fond memories of listening to “Go My Son” as I was growing up. Love that song.

- MichaelBurke April 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke April 08, 2018

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil. Wherefore be not unwise, but understanding what is the will of the Lord is...submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."
Paul to the Ephesians (Restoration Edition.)

- tyler April 08, 2018

Lisa this one is a really good one to.
https://m.youtube.com/watch?t=280s&v=ilF9NXEl6Xs

- etluxentenebrislucet April 08, 2018

Hi Brian. I think I finally understand what you are saying about keeping an idea for its merit but setting aside the conduit through which it came. It's like studying out the importance and place of the Sermons and Doctrine of Christ
in/as a G&S, but not focusing on who pointed out their importance to begin with? Am I understanding your perspective?

- Anonymous April 08, 2018

Hey Tyler, I can’t the link to work. Can you take a look? I would love to check it out. Thanks! Lisa

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 09, 2018

Yeah, you're understanding me correctly. I think a peaceful proposition is to offer an idea to the body. At that point, the peaceful member of the body releases ownership of the idea. They can clarify if asked what they originally meant, but by no means force the body to consider their idea without modification or at the expense of all other ideas. If the body doesn't handle the information correctly, it is not the individual's fault. They have persuaded and they leave it at that. If the body fails, then the group is judged. An individual doesn't have to contend all day long for their proposition or else. And, I would go further to say that we don't set aside individuals as conduits, but we set aside the tactic used in advancing it as a stalling tactic. We can reject contention and keep individuals and ideas. This isn't a legalistic maneuver, it's choosing as a body to reject contentious filibustering, per the doctrine of Christ. We basically say to any member: You are always welcome to say your two cents, you are just not allowed to use it as an ultimatum.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 09, 2018

In fact, my propositions and the call for a vote are less important than us deciding as a

body that everyone agreed when they said they believed in the doctrine of Christ, that nobody would contend and use ultimatums to force decisions upon the body. We agreed to that in advance. We don't need to debate that point. We can reject ultimatums and move on, whatever proposals get advanced, whether my 6 and the modified doc above, or some changes to my ideas, or different ideas altogether.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 09, 2018

Think about the precedent we are setting. This is not about any individuals here. This is about the idea that mutual agreement means unanimous voting in every circumstance and decision, coupled with the idea that nobody can decide when a person's vote doesn't count. This would mean that as we expand, any atheist or anti-Christ could claim baptism and claim taking the covenant, say their vote counts and can never be thrown out, and decide to stop every decision we try to make every time. We will never get anything done together. On the other hand, if we all say we believe that contention should be done away, as Christ's doctrine suggests, then we can do away with contentious methods. We keep people, we keep the proposals themselves for consideration, but we all reject contentious methods and we refuse to be held up as a body by contentions.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 09, 2018

So, let me lay it out one more way. For any decision we have to make, first we decide who has the right to vote. This is the tricky suffrage question. It could be anybody who is human gets to vote. It could be those who have their names on the baptism roll. It could be those who have said yes to the Boise covenant. I am not arguing one way or another, just listing the options. Next, we can all decide beforehand whether we want to vote with a requirement for the vote to be unanimous or a majority, or some other hybrid stage process. We decide that second. Factors that weigh in are whether or not the decision is a light one or a heavy one. Last, we decide what type of voting behavior will be labelled contentious. We could say the decision is so important that even one vote should stall things because it's life or death, and we need to be right. We could say this is a light decision and we can't stop our progress and will not allow voting that stalls things indefinitely. We get to decide as a body all these particulars. If we don't get them right, we can't make decisions together, and ought to leave all decision to individual fellowships, and not for a large unified body.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 09, 2018

Although I am using terms to talk about legalistic forms of decision making, overall I am simply talking about being on the same page whenever we come together to decide anything. That is more important, and I am not advocating any particulars except one. Let me explain. First, it will be hard for us to even agree upon who should vote, what type of vote it should be, and when individual votes should be cast out. Should it be a unanimous vote for whether or not we vote on the G&S by unanimous vote? It's like the chicken and the egg. I am suggesting Jesus solves this start-up problem for us by saying the minimum requirements for fellowshipping are the doctrine of Christ. We choose no contention. Then, beginning with that foundation, we can decide on process for each decision and see eye to eye. Then, we can discuss and make the decision based on the chosen process. The only fixed idea is no contention. Friendly debate and negotiation is much more than the LDS Church is used to. We don't want the majority to bully the minority (as many of us are former LDS, we are sensitive to that), but neither can we let a minority bully the majority. If I am correct on my interpretation of the doctrine, Christ may be drawing the line that saves us from the latter scenario.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

I understand and appreciate the way in which you are segmenting a process to come to agreement into smaller steps. That is something I had once thought we could try as well. Agree on a single matter, then discuss the next step until agreement is reached, and so on.

What I have come to understand about contention is that I ought to be cautious in who or what I label as contentious, contending, peaceful, disputatious, agreeing, etc. It is a difficult matter to discern a person's heart and intention. I am passing judgments then, which means that will be the judgment with which I am judged. I'm creating division in my mind and heart rather than just being open and listening. So maybe having no contention is a private matter of the heart? I won't consider you as bullying me, and you should not believe I am bullying you. You are simply trying to do your best to fulfill Christ's commandments. I still have choice to stand still or join in. Right?

My understanding is that I am the only one who can take offense or feel like I am held hostage or forced to comply with an ultimatum. I can choose to feel bullied and focus upon that, or I can choose acceptance and respond with love, compassion, mercy, etc. Christ chose not to accuse, even when he rightfully could. It is a hard thing to live out. We are so used to having a system of justice and protecting our rights.

I have never felt because someone said he disputes everything but Christ's Doctrine and Law, that he is somehow forcing me to choose his idea. I don't have to agree or accept it.

I could understand questioning and push-back of a statement of principles a person or persons claimed was the result of a weekend fast sitting atop a mountain butt-naked while surrounded by she-wolves howling at a blood moon.

But we're talking about the Doctrine of Christ and His Sermons. I do not understand what anyone feels forced to accept when they already agreed to and accepted both in any/all the proposals?

Anyways, I guess we will see how we progress from here. Having no contention starts in me, by my choosing not to view others as contentious (threatening) and blaming them (attributing motives) for what is really a private struggle.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 10, 2018

You're right about the private struggle. In this post we're talking about group dynamics. I'm not talking about contention in the sense of getting offended or judging someone's heart. It's about the process being deemed as a disputation: A process that disagrees relentlessly without allowing for the body to reject it is a dispute. A dispute can be rejected outright, or we can bring disputes to the Lord for his part in the matter. We don't know how to do the latter as a group without Denver. We can either try to figure out how to do that, or take a light matter and decide on majority rules. We can judge processes as a group without judging people's hearts. The A&C says to "pursue judgment." There is no need for any emotion in the decision making process of a group. It's all a matter of light and truth. It's either technically a dispute, or it's not. Nobody has to get upset about it. The devil does stir up the hearts of men to contend with anger, which is another form of dispute we ought to reject on an individual level. I am suggesting one way to read the doctrine is to have no disputes in group decision making. In this post, I am not upset at any of the disputes. I simply suggest we ought to do away with them on a group level and ignore them in the voting process. In future times, all sorts of disputes will stop every decision if we allow ourselves to be held hostage by stubborn and unchanging

votes to the contrary on everything. It is a last stage effort to judge a vote as stubborn and contrary. It is not rejecting initial opposing votes. It is rejecting a pattern of repeated and stubborn refusal to have anything other than what that vote says should happen. It could come from an individual or from a small group. Rejecting someone's vote doesn't label them with bad intentions. It merely points out their voting fit the pattern of what we all agree to reject as a stubborn disputation. Remember the kingmen in the Book of Mormon. They were a contentious small group who rejected the vote of the majority to avoid having a king. In that instance, everyone agreed to majority rules, then since the minority was upset, they went back on their word. I'm glad you've figured out your individual commitment to avoid contention. I think, however, it doesn't fully relate to what I am trying to say. Again, the Sermon and Doctrine acceptance is a wonderful idea on its own, like you say. You said you understood what I meant about separating the idea from the stalling tactic. That is what relates here.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 10, 2018

If I am right about the Doctrine and its application to voting in the group, then we reject the Doctrine by allowing disputations in our decisions as a group. It doesn't matter if the disputation is correct. It's done in an incorrect way. It's not by persuasion. That's the only tools we choose to use when we say we agree to the Doctrine of Christ. As a group, we may expect nothing less in how the members of the body are expected to behave in a vote. They already agreed to it vocally before being baptized. That is, if I am right. I have come to this conclusion from the doctrine. It remains for everyone else to either be persuaded or reject it. If they are persuaded, they should confirm the interpretation with God. I offer it as a study aid. You'll have to ask in faith. I'm not putting it out there as what God said was the correct interpretation at this point. It is my own conclusion.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

I do get that you are talking about a group process rather than a personal process. My personal take is that the group is only going to be as vibrant, strong, and blessed as the individuals of whom it is made. And given the very real struggles we continue to have in just talking to each other and discussing, the group will not come along until we each begin choosing new thoughts toward one another.

I had the funny realization that the process you are talking about is probably supposed to be found in the G&S, which originally was called "governing principles." Maybe. LOL

I'm not 100% but it sure did feel that way reading through your thoughts. A G&S ideal for the individual, family or fellowship ought to work on a larger group scale, yes? And that is prolly why so many feel strongly about having fellowship deets in a statement.

Where some of us differ is in how we think Christ's Doctrine and Sermons impregnated with guidance from the Holy Ghost should be sufficient for all other extraneous needs. I would include in a statement His counsel on having no contention as well. But we need work in identifying what is contention, what is disputing?

And then I circle back to how I feel, at least for now, choosing not to define the words or actions of others in this group as contentious or disputatious or as using a "stalling tactic," kinda like giving the benefit of the doubt. It won't go over well to tell someone they are being contentious, which ironically is itself a contentious thing to say, no? Even if someone is intentionally being a butt, does that really have to change me or my responses?

Anyhow, good convo. I do like your thoughts. Maybe we can still find a way to do

something with them.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 10, 2018

Yes, well said.

- doug April 11, 2018

Hey Rob could I press you to provide your email address? I would like to send a few thoughts your way. I was in the outdoor discussion circle after the Saturday session vote (no i wasn't one of the 'shush' people). Thanks!

- doug April 11, 2018

Speaking in general after reading alot of these posts-- I've been listening to Merrill Bailey and like his idea that we tend to make our journey to the Lord a head trip. Jesus, or Yeshua or whatever you want to call him, hailed from a nonlinear eastern culture and his thinking is still nonlinear if you believe Denvers comments. We tend to think in western hellenistic terms of logic, straight lines, cause and effect. The cultural effect of the statue Daniel saw is still with us in this regard. Perhaps instead of a logical head trip of asking what will Zion *look* like, maybe we should be asking what will it *feel* like. I suspect joy, love,and gratitude figure prominently. By way of extension to the formative stage we're in, I pray we can foster those feelings among us.

- doug April 11, 2018

Here's an excerpt from Pastor David Brisbin's book The Fifth Way the says alot better the concepts I was trying to express. Sorry it's a bit long but I think it's good.

"As the West tends to see the universe in straight lines, as discreet segments that can be pulled apart, rearranged, strung together as desired, we as Westerners tend to think in straight lines as well. We understand life in terms of cause and effect, logical conclusions proceeding from logical premises. At the bottom of our wells, we look for straight lines to be thrown down to us, segments of rope to grasp that will directly pull us out of the darkness and into the light. But what we're missing here is that while such direct methods work perfectly well in pulling physical bodies from physical wells, they have little traction with spiritual bodies and mental wells. When the student is ready, the teacher appears. If you analyze the teaching of Yeshua, you realize it's not straight at all, but curved. You see him not so much teaching as simply making students ready. Yeshua rarely, if ever, answers a direct question with a direct answer. When questioned, he typically answers with another question or a story or an image. "Who is my neighbor?" and Yeshua tells a story of man attacked by robbers and a Samaritan, of all people, who helped him. "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" and Yeshua brings over a child and puts her on his knee. "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" and Yeshua wants to know why the questioner calls him good in the first place. Yeshua knows that just by virtue of asking such questions, the student is not ready, is not looking in the right places for truth, and so sends him off in other mental directions. Like a Zen master, Yeshua answers questions with questions or complete non-sequiturs—non-linear responses designed to force straight-line thinking into curved paths. He knows it's not the answer that is important; it is the ability to begin a journey, to think in new and indirect ways that is key. Stranded at the bottom of our wells, we ask for a line to be thrown down to us and what we get is a shovel full of dirt dumped on our heads. What an insult. We ask again; another shovelful. Why won't he answer? Another shovelful. But if we don't stop asking, if we're willing to keep shrugging off shovelful after shovelful, we eventually realize that the floor of the well is now several feet higher as the

dirt piles up, and we begin to see the nature of things. It's not a direct reaching down that lifts us to a new vantage, but an indirect layering up. The experience of working through images and stories, parables and symbols, of watching spiritual principles being acted out in real life, living through joyful times and painful times speaks to our subconscious spirit in a way logic can never reach."

- TwoCents April 11, 2018

Doug,
"the shush people"-hilarious!
his email is adolphorob@gmail.com
Q

- ShaneGuymon April 15, 2018

Log,

You asked, "What is 'this standard' being referred to?" The answer is clearly given in the second part. It says, "Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?"

No where does it state that this "guide and standard" that we are working on, is what is contained in any of the 4 questions. In fact, it is a separate work that has been asked of this group. It's not part of the covenant, but it is something the Lord has asked us to do.

But, it's only a work that the Lord has asked us to do, IF you believe that the answer to the prayer for the covenant are indeed the words of the Lord. Which, you have already publicly declared that you don't believe that those are the word's of the Lord. Instead you believe they are the words of Denver Snuffer. So it appears it is a work that you actually don't need to participate in, because you don't even believe the Lord has asked it of us, instead you believe it is a work that Denver Snuffer has asked of us.

The Freedom to Disagree

Saturday, April 07, 2018

In the many genuine efforts by the body to move forward with the instruction to write a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of the Lord's people, and then to be added as a guide and standard for His people to follow, there is a common theme. The common theme, or understanding, is that we need to reach agreement to complete the task. We have discussed this "agreement" in terms of either a majority agreeing, or in some cases complete unanimity of the covenant body. This suggests all or a majority need to agree on a specific statement for it to be added to the scriptures. Without agreement, we cannot move forward, a statement cannot be included in the scriptures, and our efforts seem frustrated. We believe until we can convince those responsible for the scriptures being published to include a statement in the publishing process, or convince those dissenting from a statement to agree with the prevailing statement of choice by the body, completion of this task seems unreachable at present. Why is this happening? What are we to understand by this process? Have you noticed that it seems to be in the apparent contradictions we face that the Lord can provide

greater understanding?

What if we as a people cannot see what the Lord's definition of "mutual agreement" is really about? Is it possible we don't understand or know how to apply it? Possibly because there is nothing to compare it to here. What if His definition of mutual agreement has nothing to do with agreement at all? What if it has to do with the freedom to disagree, and yet remain together as His people, as bothers and sisters in deed? We should reconsider our definition of mutual agreement and replace it with His words. If we did, we may realize something. The Lord has given us His meaning of the term:

"As between one another, **you choose** to not dispute."

Where is the word "agree" in the above definition? There is no agreement found there, because it's not required. Why do we think agreement is required? Where does the idea come from? Which being wants to force, or require others to agree? What if it has nothing to do with agreement, and everything to do with the freedom of choice? The freedom to choose for ourselves. What if it simply is describing a choice made by the individual, that they choose to not dispute. According to recent teachings and light provided to us, it takes strength of character to make this personal choice. It takes the strength that is reflected in our Mother. It required great strength of character for Christ, being in possession of the truth, to make this personal choice during His mortal life—to not dispute, although He was right all along.

Given this idea, why couldn't we disagree respectfully about a statement of principles and yet have the Lord's definition of mutual agreement with one another? We do not need to agree. The Lord has provided the freedom for everyone to disagree respectfully, by maintaining our unique views and understanding. Perhaps over time, individuals can be persuaded one way or another. Persuading others to our view is not required to obtain mutual agreement. All that's required is for a certain number of individuals to make the choice to not dispute concerning their disagreements. At that point, for those individuals, they'll have mutual agreement with everyone that they've chosen not to dispute with. As others make this choice, they'll also have mutual agreement with everyone else. No percentage or vote of agreement is needed for that group of individuals, large or small, to take action based on their belief and faith. Disagreement is ok, it's good to have and maintain the freedom to disagree respectfully about many things, including a statement of principles. It's our right and freedom to have independent thought. That comes from God. Our uniqueness comes from Them. If others believe a certain statement of principles has been accepted by God, even though you may disagree with it, as long as you have made the choice that it's not worth disputing over, then you have met the Lord's definition of mutual agreement with them. Everyone will have the freedom to continue to persuade each other while having respectful disagreement. The Lord's "mutual agreement" protects respectful disagreement, it allows for the freedom to disagree. We believe respectful disagreement can go all the way into heaven.

There is a second theme within the effort to write and add the statement of principles to our scriptures. It is not as prevalent as the idea that we must agree in order to move forward, but it's just as powerful in sowing fear. That theme is that if you disagree, or even dispute a statement of principles that is acceptable to the majority, then you are not abiding in the covenant and risk being excommunicated from the covenant body. At times this theme has not been stated directly, although it has been implied. It's a powerfully false idea in our view. It suggests that, even as a body of equals, some have power over others. If this idea is true, then we ask: who has the authority to excommunicate another covenant brother or sister with who they are equal? What organization will they be tossed out of? Which permission slip granting access to a place of worship, signed by a presiding brother, will they be stripped of? There is none.

In our current state of blindness and ignorance, we're not convinced we even have the ability to judge one another as to whether we are abiding in the covenant. Only God

knows that. Only He has the authority to enforce the covenant. This was to be a “light thing” for us; it certainly should not be worth separating ourselves from the body over, nor should anyone suggest another be cast aside for not coming on board. Our commitment was that we would assist all others taking the covenant to accept the scriptures as the standard to guide their lives, and to lighten their burdens. We are to assist each other to abide in it, not cast each other out. Many of us have passed through the humiliation of being thrown out of our former religious organizations, for simply disagreeing. There was no freedom to disagree in those former institutions. Let’s not bring those false ideas with us. Joseph Smith, Jr., was right when he described the freedom we have to disagree, “I want the liberty of believing as I please, it feels so good not to be trammeled.”

If you are convinced that these two ideas should be discarded--forced agreement in order to move forward and the threat of being cast out of the body if you disagree, or even dispute a statement--and replaced with the idea that mutual agreement allows for freedom to disagree respectfully and even disputing a statement’s inclusion may have no consequence to someone’s covenant status, then we would like to extend the following invitation.

First, we would liked to express our view about one of the statements that has been written. It’s not necessary that you be persuaded by it, this is simply one couple’s view. We would have accepted many of the documents that were written from the start of this assignment. One of us was at the meeting on August 5 th , and we accepted that document. It’s our opinion that had the August 5 th document or other previous documents been taken to the Lord, He would have also accepted them. He is easy to be entreated. None of those previous documents were taken to Him at the time for various reasons.

On November 21 st , 2017, the Lots Group did take their statement to the Lord to seek His word. It’s our belief that He responded to their prayer through Shalyce, the only women in their group, with the following revelation:

“Shalyce, I am here. And I can hear you. I know you’re scared, and it’s ok. But I love you, and I’m grateful for your effort. I am grateful for all of your effort. What I ask of you is not always easy, and sometimes it’s quite a sacrifice. But I will labor with you through all of it, so long as you come unto me, and listen for my words. This document that you’ve presented is sufficient for my needs. You have filled the measure in which I have called you. Your work has been valiant. You are correct in saying that there are many ways in which it could have come about, and there are many ways that it did come about. And I am grateful for all of them. At this point, you have a unity with the body. They agree with these words, and this document will suffice. Heed the words contained in them, heed the words contained and referenced in the footnotes. All of those words were mine. I want you to come to me. I will come to you, and we together can be one.”

We believe and recognize these words as coming from our Lord in response to the prayer of faith by the Lots Group and covenant people. In it, the Lord states that the statement of principles written by the Lots Group is sufficient for [His] needs. It’s not necessary that you agree with this belief. We have the freedom to disagree about this. We can continue to try and persuade each other. For now, we are persuaded this came from Him to the point that we feel impressed to take action to further demonstrate faith—in the belief that He will respond to our attempt in spite of our weakness.

This prayer has been provided online, together with the Lots Group’s statement of principles titled Revised Guide and Standard, for several months now. The latest version of the Restoration Edition (RE) of the scriptures has also been provided for purchase since March 2018. We believe it is wisdom in the Lord to provide the means for this statement to be “added” to the scriptures by any individual that so chooses. No one would have to wait before proceeding. The power is within each person to take the individual step. This has already been done by some, and suggested by the scripture

committee. It can be accomplished by simply printing out the Lots Group statement and adding it to your physical set of the RE scriptures.
We believe it is important to take the physical step of adding the statement to your set of scriptures in order to be obedient to His requirement. It's a small thing, it would be done by very small means. The heavy lifting has already been done by those you produced the RE scriptures and the many individuals that contributed to the effort to produce a statement of principles—about which the Lord said He was grateful.
To those who are persuaded to choose to not dispute this statement, whether you agree or disagree with the statement, we invite you to join together with others in approaching our Lord in prayer and fasting on April 14 th , 2018 to seek His word in determining if He accepts this step as fulfilling His requirements. To those who choose to dispute this invitation, we only ask that you also add your faith in prayer to ours that day, that our Lord will provide us with more light, or correction, to better understand His will for us. If we are wrong, perhaps approaching the lord together in humility, as a covenant body, will persuade Him to tell us His part. It is our belief and hope that He will respond.

Russ & Teryn Ellersick

Comments

- ZionSeeker — April 07, 2018

I support this. Well said

- Sarah — April 07, 2018

I support this proposal and will plan on joining in fasting and prayer on the 14th.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily — April 07, 2018

I think this proposal sounds fine, too, if it's what people want, but the revelation to Shalyce sounds like it contradicts the Answer and Covenant, in which the Lord said he was not pleased with our disputes, and we were taking his name into all our fights, and we weren't unified. That's the conclusion I come to in reading it, but I'm always willing to ask God for correction. We still have seconded motions from the last post to negotiate and vote through, if the body will take them up. Maybe this one can be on the list.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily — April 07, 2018

On Shalyce's revelation, help me out. Because, I can't reconcile the statement that the Lord was grateful for all of it with the statements of the Lord in A&C. That's not saying the Lots doc isn't good, because I advocated for it in the last post.

- JonSaunders — April 07, 2018

We agree with Russ and Teryn and are happy to join in fasting and prayer. We support this.

Jon and Tina Saunders

- LynneMcKinley — April 08, 2018

"All that's required is for a certain number of individuals to make the choice to not

dispute concerning their disagreements. At that point, for those individuals, they'll have mutual agreement with everyone that they've chosen not to dispute with."

This is beautiful, peaceful, and written with much wisdom. It is logical, it is also loving. I don't know Russ and Teryn, but feel a bond of kinship, of family. I, too, will join in prayer and fasting on the 14th, with gratitude for their kind articulation of renewed hope, and with the confirmation of the Spirit to align myself with the peacemakers in this movement.

- JohnDutson April 08, 2018

I made this comment last week somewhere in this bog and so here it is again for the record.
John Dutson April 4, 2018 at 5:10 PM
I was impressed to say. "I choose not to contend any further" and have therefore printed off a copy of the Lots G&S and put it in my scriptures.
This isn't about the G&S. This is about "CHOOSING" NOT TO CONTEND!

- SuziesViews April 08, 2018

Thank you for this proposal. I have chosen not to dispute. As a sovereign individual I choose to love, work, and fellowship with those I do not know as of yet. I hope to receive charity in my heart so that really and truly someday I can say without doubt that my fellow brother and sisters in this covenant are most precious to me!

I will join you in prayer and fasting on the 14th.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 08, 2018

Thank you for the spirit in which you wrote this. My husband and I will join you on the 14th in fasting and praying.

- Sarah April 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Sarah April 08, 2018

Hi Zang Family,

Here is something to consider that may or may not be helpful to you. The Lord also said this in the Answer and Covenant, "I commend your diligent labor, and your desire to repent and recover the scriptures containing the covenant I offer for the last days. For this purpose I caused the Book of Mormon to come forth. I commend those who have participated, as well as those who have offered words of caution, for I weigh the hearts of men and many have intended well, although they have spoken poorly. Wisdom counsels mankind to align their words with their hearts, but mankind refuses to take counsel from Wisdom."

I was surprised when I first read this. I didn't understand why God would "commend" those who had "spoken poorly." But I believe He does, as He says, "weigh the hearts of men." Shalyce's answer doesn't say He is grateful for all our jarrings and contention. But perhaps "all of your effort" could reference our efforts in seeking to do His will. It is possible He is grateful for "any person who labors on an errand seeking to do [His] will."

That last quote comes from this part of the Answer and Covenant, so you may see it in its proper context: “It is not enough to say you love God; you must also love your fellow man. Nor is it enough to say you love your fellow man while you, as Satan, divide, contend and dispute against any person who labors on an errand seeking to do my will. How you proceed must be as noble as the cause you seek.”

- DevinFausett April 08, 2018

My wife and I will join in fasting and prayer on this matter on April 14th as well. Thank you for this wonderful suggestion.

Devin & Krista

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

1 of 4

To: The Movement

There is an illusion that appears throughout our online dialogue, that “disagreement” is disputation, and disputation is anti-mutual agreement, and therefore any who think differently than the mass majority disagrees, are considered disputing, and are labeled “contentious.” Using multiple word bridges, disagreement has become equated to contentious. In that game, the only way to avoid contention is to never disagree with the majority.

Some have regarded themselves high and lifted up above others by God, …claiming all the while that their hearts were right. They use, as their justification, their passive & temperate online conduct, relative to those who appear to be aggressively “froward.” They take the time to study how they are “perceived” by others, editing and re-editing their words, before posting, …so as to remove all evidences of aggression. They use their passive words to mask their aggression, so as to protect their “perception” of purity and election. They are not lambs, but they wear lamb’s clothing, when within they are ravenous wolves, a good scriptural description of “passive-aggressive.” In reality, their love is feigned, as their actions are different than their words, laced with hypocrisy and guile. According to John the Beloved, they have been duped in this illusion, as they are in fact wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked (Rev 3:14-17). These cannot survive even a glance from God’s all seeing eye, yet they pretend to share the same vision as God, when in fact, they don’t.

The condition of our condemnation is that, as a people, our hearts are not pure, and must undergo the necessary sanctification and purification process, requiring nothing less than work, conversation, understanding, clarity, and waiting on the Lord to help us work out our differences. However, the work of sanctifying and purifying our hearts continue to get cut short, by opinion polling, rallying, politicking, promoting, and voting. As a result, our conversations have become too low, too mean, too vulgar, too condescending to be called of God. The hearts are more damaged, and the illusion increases in magnitude, making people certain that going with the majority is the only way to resolve our differences, because we are now convinced that disagreement is contention.

Because of premature and immature voting, people have divided into camps, like unto the tribes of 3 Nephi 7. People are forced to prematurely group with those who they think are of “like minds.” And since most of us are all merely acquaintances at best, we have not spent sufficient time to converse and connect, knowing each other as friends,

enduring through the difficulty of sanctification and purification. For this reason, our relationships are prematurely severed, due to it's immaturity in nature, having had little time to develop any relationship worth sacrificing for. However, those who side with the appearance of a majority (the illusion), …these would be satisfied with, and justified by, an "alliance," …to claim the task done.

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

2 of 4

Concerning an "alliance," Isaiah was counseled to not trust in or fear an alliance (Isaiah calling it a confederacy). Instead, Isaiah was told to sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself, and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread. If Isaiah did so, the Lord promised, that the Lord will be a sanctuary. The Lord promised to be a stumbling stone and a rock of offence against the alliance, and many among them would stumble, fall, be broken, and be snared and taken. Given this counsel, Isaiah chooses then to bind up the records that contain the testimony of the law among the disciples, and wait upon the Lord (Isaiah 8). We too can use Isaiah's words to advise us in this project. Rather than putting on the appearance of temperate conduct, studying how we are seen by others before acting, and trusting the alliance of a majority vote, …we should speak the truth, and wait upon the Lord to justify us, making the Lord our sanctuary. Those who fight against people in the Lord's sanctuary will certainly stumble and fall.

Nephi followed the same pattern of Isaiah, and was rewarded when the Lord declared to Nephi (paraphrasing): Blessed art thou Nephi, because you have with unwearying-ness declared my word, not fearing what man would do to you as a result of what you have declared, you have not sought your will, but have instead sought my will. Therefore, I bless you Nephi, making you mighty in "word and deed," in "faith and works," even that all things shall be done according to your word! (Helaman 10:4-5). Nephi would not trust in the alliance of men, declaring the truth, and waiting upon the Lord to justify him, making the Lord his sanctuary. This is a pattern throughout the scriptures for those who would be sanctified and purified in the sanctuary of Christ. It comes with the promise of the Lord's protection, that they who fight against Zion shall not prevail.

Compare the conditions of all of God's blessed who followed the same pattern as Isaiah and Nephi, …and then consider the idea of replacing the pattern of the examples of Isaiah and Nephi with opinion polling, rallying, politicking, promoting, and voting, …and you will recognize that the latter can never sanctify and purify our hearts, nor provide sanctuary in Christ. Making the Lord our sanctuary comes when we talk/preach/rejoice/prophecy of Christ (2 Nephi 25). Not only does this describe the subject matter (Christ), it also describes the method used for our sanctification and purification, …beginning with talk, or conversing, engaging in dialogue. Opinion polling replaces and is a poor substitute for talking. Rallying, politicking, and promoting short-changes the need for more conversations. Voting ends all dialogue, sealing the decision and the people's fate. The work of sanctification and purification must be done within the sanctuary of Christ, and where two or more are gathered in Christ's name, He promises that He will be there also, making the "conversation" a sanctuary of Christ. We are also promised that He and the Father will make their abode in us, making us a sanctuary. These are all prerequisites to physical temples, and far more important, making YOU GOD'S TEMPLE (sanctuary).

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

3 of 4

The conversations among us are not easy. They are difficult, as emotions, ignorance, impurities, and unbelief get exposed. That is a necessary part of the process. We cannot sweep things under the proverbial carpet, only to trip, and fall, and break our necks. Exposing allows us to address the issues in the sanctuary of Christ. If we fail to address the issues, we will remain naked and afraid. If the difficult dialogue is permitted, to expose our impurities, …then, within the sanctuary of Christ, more light can be added, until we escape our condemnation, to be filled with light, becoming a city of light (Zion).

Most recently, I have engaged with Jared Livesay. I have watched many of you get angry with him, and for that reason I have stayed clear of him, until I was impressed upon to consider his view. Although, in the end we do not agree on a final statement of principles, …within the sanctuary of Christ, I have come to see eye to eye with him regarding the Doctrine/Law of Christ, and the necessity for me to be governed by it. He has not tried to control my opinion, and I refuse to control his, but both of us have gone through the process of engaging in online conversation, to be more sanctified and purified than we were before. He only desires Christ, and I only desire Christ, …and when two are gathered in Christ's name, there He has promised to be. We are currently in a holding pattern. I am waiting for further light and knowledge from messengers sent from our Father. Mutual agreement awaits more light between us. Many of you have engaged and had similar conversations that have also produced sanctification and purification. According to the description of their experience, the Lots committee has been more sanctified and purified for going through the process they went through. In the July 2nd meeting, with Jeff Savage, Kelly and Troy Ericson, Taggart, Jeff and Janeen Carter, Whitney Horning, and Q and I had a sanctifying and purifying experience. All of these, done in the name of talking of Christ, being temporarily gathered in Christ's sanctuary of conversation. More is needed.

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

4 of 4

In our sanctified and purifying conversations, light seems to increase. However, when we use compulsion, opinion polling, rallying, politicking, promoting, and voting, …light atrophies, division occurs, and anger persists. Rather than pushing for another method that will certainly produce more atrophy, division, and anger, …and only an illusion of unity amongst those who are forced to take the view of the majority, …why not take advantage of having more dialogue that sanctifies, and purifies our hearts, until God makes us one in His sanctuary? If mutual agreement is required, God will not give a commandment without also providing a way for us to accomplish it. He has prevented the finalizing and publishing of the Governing Principles in the September Boise Conference. He has done so again in the Arizona Conference. Our hearts are still yet not right, but they can be through our efforts to be sanctified and purified by having our impurities and unbelief's exposed, and replaced with light, through open, safe, conversations.

Good-lookin'-out, LATE!
Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson April 08, 2018

Rob
I agree with the majority of what you have said here.I would LOVE to sit and talk about all things gospel with all the covenant holders but that just isn't a realistic way of making decisions at present in my view, to many covenant holders would be left out of the process.

Zion isn't about YOU!
It's about US!
Hopefully that includes you and me!

- YourFriend April 08, 2018

I have approached the Lord with the question of whether or not to place the Lot's document in my scriptures. I was comfortable that I had His approval. I believe that Mutual Agreement was had by those who would be defined by "His people" and the decision was in favor of the Lot's document. I have persuaded myself blue in the face with those who disagree who want to be included but insist on having it their way or the highway. And that is cool.

I would have agreed to any document the majority of you wonderful people had selected. I trusted you to have good judgment. I'm not trusting anyone but Jesus with my Salvation, but I trust you guys to collectively make a good decision for creating a Guide and Standard, after all you have been at this a while. I haven't been able to be in a Fellowship, so I don't consider myself knowledgeable or an expert in the process, but I felt love and kindness as we worked together on the Lot's document, and I felt peace and love as the Lot's folks guided us through the process of finishing it up. I want to work in the Spirit of unity whether I get my way or not, it does not matter in the least to me. I apologize to anyone whom I have hurt or angered due to my direct way of communicating. I call it like I see it and I am not much of a politician.

I will fast on the 14th because we need be unified in whatever we do. I support those who are working for each other. And I love you whether I have spent any time or had any conversation with you at all. I even love those who disagree, even though they may not believe it. It's just a bit frustrating. I think it has been frustrating for most all of us.
Thanks for continuing to push ahead! (Smile emoji) (Wink emoji)
Love, Lisa
I choose not to dispute, and I apologize and repent for any disputing I have done up to this point. (White flag emoji)

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

John,

No, I disagree with you, but for good reason. Zion is not about YOU or US, it's about CHRIST! While you seek to finish the process with a "decision," ...perhaps you haven't been around this long enough, ...going for a "decision" has never produced anything more than bitter fruit.

Those who want to partake in the Zion movement, must wear the garment of the laborer of Zion, and that (in my view) is sanctification and purification of our hearts, within the sanctuary of conversation of Christ. That was my point above, although looking back, I could have said that and not so many words.

The illusion that you seem to be caught in is that this thing could be easily done if we would all just say the same thing; which is the effort of the united-vote-order, the Lots-majority, or the get-along-with-the-ruling-committee. What about preserving the individual?

At the Saturday session of the Arizona conference, if you didn't already know, I was the loud opposition, saying "NO" in my native Hawaiian language. People boo'd me, told me to shut up, told me that I was evil, and that I was the source of darkness that made

things gloomy, casting a shadow over all that was good, ...simply because I have a different opinion, ...even a unique opinion. It was a slap in the face, that the very next day, upon hearing Denver celebrate uniqueness, to hear the very same voices cheering as if they loved the idea of uniqueness. Pushing a uniform decision is precisely the same scenario. We like and cheer on the idea of one heart and one mind, when it comes to the definition of Zion. But, when push comes to shove, and mutual agreement eludes us, ...you would prefer a majority uniformity?

The work of being one heart and one mind may not be accomplished in this task alone. But the same driving spirit of Zion's one heart and one mind must be exactly the same. And the ideas I have read that you prefer to promote, in the absence of something better, is the Lots majority, ...and I simply cannot accept that as true.

Rob Adolpho

- AndEva April 08, 2018

Rob, brother,
I never heard anyone boo you, or tell you to shut up or that you are evil and a source of darkness? I was there, listening intently. Is this really true? If so, I am ashamed at that behavior and apologize to you.

- JohnDutson April 08, 2018

Rob
I guess I will agree and disagree with you.
Zion is and will be brought about BY CHRIST! But without US it isn't Zion!
I've been involved in the movement since 2014, I know what's going on.
But why do you judge others heart? That's for God not. I know there are those in this group right here who have been told by the Lord they are pure in heart.
Judging some of your comments it comes across as though you have a dim view of the people here? I hope not and that your just frustrated?
And yes, in the end all that really matters is well Christ vouch for us.

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

Eva,

No need to be ashamed. We all make mistakes, and I have made more than I care to remember. You may have been there, but the view is very different when you sit with the majority. I wouldn't say it, if it were not true.

John,

We do agree that Christ will bring this. But we disagree on the fact that without US it isn't Zion. Christ can bring Zion with another people, meaning without US, if we choose not to be sanctified, and not to be purified. Christ will do what He needs done, to get a people who will be His. The question for us to answer is, "Will it be me?"

You've made an inaccurate accusation, that I have judged the heart of others. I have not. I simply disagree with their opinions. Their heart is only known by themselves and Christ. They may be weak, foolish, and error prone, but if they intend to do right with God, only God can measure their heart and decide whether they are approved. I suspect that some are looked upon as deluded and even evil, but the Lord views them with

compassion and understanding. He may find their hearts to be perfect. Like in the case of Jared Livesay, I have been given a view into his intention, and I judge his heart as pure, ...where you have accused him, and now me, as not.

While you portray me having a dim view of the people, I disagree, as I am so optimistic that this is nothing less than Zion, the stone cut without hands. Though a person may misunderstand a great deal, still if they love their fellow man, relieve the suffering, give patience to the foolish, and give water to the thirsty, they can still be perfect in their hearts in my view.

To add, you have not heard a word of complaint from me about frustration towards this project. Granted, many have complained, saying that this is taking too long, ...or that we have been at this for eight exhausting months, ...or can't we just be done with this so that we can get on to bigger and better projects? I have not even thought the idea. If intent can approach perfection, as Denver said it can, then I intend to follow God, even life makes it seem impossible to do, like this project. We may not know how the Lord will resolve the conflicting interests developed, due to this commandment for a Governing Principles, ...we may even be making a mistake, but if our intent is right, the process of sanctification and purification will finally make those who will endure it, into HIS PEOPLE.

Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson April 08, 2018

Rob
I stand corrected, I'm glad to hear of your optimism. And yes, he can find another people to establish Zion, when I say us I mean humans.
I did NOT judge Jared's heart or yours, but I can judge your words and if I have read your words poorly I apologize. But like has been said here countless times the written word is very tricky to communicate real intent. AND YES I have failed miserably at it many times.
My bet is, and I told Jared this, if we could sit down and talk of the Gospel of Christ and His great work in our day and we would find we agree on most all that matters.
Your brother in Christ!

- AndEva April 08, 2018

Brother, I have embraced and reached out to you time and time again in love and understanding. Maybe you forget that I have agreed with you and asked to labor with you. I am not with the "majority"... I simply just be and try to do. I support all efforts and have written my name on all proposals.

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

John,

I do remember you writing that. This is great, we now know that none of us in this conversation are judging the next. It's a good conversation.

Rob

- JohnDutson April 08, 2018

As you know I have accepted the Lots G&S and also submitted one of my one so no I'm

not what you would call "the majority" either.
So, in addition to the G&S now in my scriptures I also have this there and in my journal.
MY PERSONAL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
I, as a disciple of Christ, seek to “equally walk truly” in His path back to the Father by abiding the teachings contained in the scriptures and revelations provided for our day.
“What do we need to do to enter God’s pathway of endless progress? Jesus answered and said, The pathway is before you in me, I teach and display what the Father wants you to witness and believe. In the name of Father Ahman I testify to you, He who hearkens to my testimony, and trusts him who sent me, there is no end to his potential progression. His progress will not cease, for I demonstrate the pathway of eternal lives.”
Therefore, I seek to become His disciple filled with faith, hope and charity. To be a part of a people of one heart and mind. A person whose life can reflect the two great commandants.
“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself”.
A life guided and maintained by virtue, by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned, by kindness, and pure knowledge, without hypocrisy, and without guile. I seek His presence, to be His disciple, to abide His covenant, and for the establishment of Zion in preparation for His return.
I in faith receive the scriptures, current revelation and in particular, “The Book of Mormon” to correct myself and to guide my words, thoughts and deeds. From these I have adopted the following as Standards to Guide my daily walk.
1.The Answer and the Covenant as given by the Lord to His servant. Link Answer and Covenant
2.The Doctrine of Christ as given by the Lord at Bountiful. See (3 Nephi 11:32-40) see also (2 Nephi 31:2-21, 32;2-9)
3.The law of Christ as given by the Lord in the Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful. See (3 Nephi 12,13,14, Matthew 5,6,7) See also (Mosiah 2:9-40, 3:2-24)

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

John,

Respect! I got nothing to offer by way of correcting how you choose to govern yourself. I have common beliefs just the same. However, the project requires us all to mutually agree. And that seems elusive. The work of conversing will be difficult, as we are all far apart. But despite its difficulty, if it is done by way of the ecclesia, as independent people within a fellowship, or with individuals, we can approach a “reasoning” and then a document that is mutually agreeable, to complete the assignment, NOT ONLY IN WORD, ...but also in deed, the way it was produced, without compulsory means, without hypocrisy and without guile.

Thanks for sharing your journal entry,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

Eva,

You are making an accusation out of my response, when there was none. You stated that you never heard booing, …you never heard anyone saying shut up, …you never heard anyone call me evil. You said you were intently listening, and none of what I expressed as what happened really happened, according to your memory of the circumstances. And then you asked if my experience was true? Then you concluded

with, if it was actually true, then you are ashamed and apologize.

How can you apologize for something you had no involvement in doing? If you are trying to apologize for what others have done, but have professed that none of what I said happened actually happened, then what are you apologizing for? I mean, I get that you mean well, and appear to be harmless, but you're sending mixed messages when you try to discredit my experience as not happening, because you didn't experience it as I did, …and then you apologize for something that you claim never happened. That's the mixed message I responded to. I only said that you may not have experienced what I did, as you sit with the "majority." This was a way to allow you to have experienced what you said you experienced, without trying to discredit that I experienced what I experienced. That way you aren't a liar, …but neither am I.

I have never said anything about you not reaching out to me in love and understanding. That's a red herring, an argument no one made, but you. I did not forget that you asked to labor with me, another red herring, as no one questioned your expressed willingness to labor. You have claimed that you are not with the majority, but you also claimed that you have written your name on all proposals, and that is contradictory. If you have written your name on all proposals, that also includes the majority proposal, so you are with the majority. You were certainly not with me in opposing the vote, …and those who stood with me can vouch for the response from the crowd, not only during the meeting, but after the meeting as well.

I honestly don't know why you have chosen to take any offense. I have no objection to you choosing to float with everyone, yet no one. You write as if I somehow am being "froward." As I am totally new to the word, I'll own it, but it surely was not intended, …and I'm not going to feign an apology as I have no clue how it applies, what I am to repent for, and how it is that changing (repenting) how I responded would help. If you were looking for something to be offended about, I'm an easy target.

No hard feelings,

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 08, 2018

The Lord, regarding our inability to complete the assignment: "you hinder and delay", "this could have been accomplished long ago".

Matthew 6:7 "for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking."

Are we really "sanctified" by continued, endless discussion?

Christ "condescended" to provide ALL of the teachings through His servant. (Read Denver's July 8, 2017 post AND his last post). Denver clearly stated that ALL of the content from the 10 Lectures was from Jesus Christ.

How can a wonderful compilation of important teachings which help any people to know of His work now underway and to keep pure the ordinances and the purpose of tithing - NOT be "light" and truth worthy of sharing with ANYONE in the world?

- HuhWhatda April 08, 2018

Anonymous,

Feel free to disagree! It doesn't impress upon me to do as you're doing. I trust that God is with you in your efforts. Yet, I too depend solely upon Him. And like I've stated before, what we are required to accomplish in mutual agreement, the Lord will get, even if with a few. He will be the one who approves. All we can do is be connected to him, and trust him.

If you wanna support, sustain, vote, insert, and add your preferred document, without my mutual agreement, without Jared Livesay's mutual agreement, without the mutual agreement of the minority, ...by all means sista feel free. That is certainly your prorogative. The difficult part is not choosing what words represent you. The difficulty is doing as you say. Despite how we choose, we will be required to prove the words, by the fruits we produce. So while you might be with the winning majority, you are to produce fruits with the winning majority.

For me, I'll wait and work with those who will not only say, but do as they say. In my most recent engagement with Jared Livesey, I would prefer his company over lukewarm any day. Perhaps I'm a prickly pear, but I hear even prickly pears have sweet nectar.

Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson April 09, 2018

Rob
A quick FYI, Eva is my sister take it easy her, consider her heart, I think it's a good one.
Here are my thoughts on this topic currently.I have accepted the Lots G&S and placed it into my scriptures. Now the way I read your words that makes me the silly spineless sapp going along with the "majority" and you that "poor minority". I think that's is a wrong way to see it.
I think, until we're all under one roof so to speak, eye ball to eye ball, heart to heart, shoulder to shoulder our communications and decisions will be very challenging and require much compromise. Even over what we feel is best, to acquiesce to what will work for now to have agreement and peace.
Maybe Zion is where we find a people CHOOSING NOT to contend and dispute.
Free interchange of ideas is critical to Zions establishment. But beating others endlessly with our own prized perspective is destructive and is contentious I believe.
"Be of one heart, and regard one another with charity. Measure your words before giving voice to them, and consider the hearts of others. Although a man may err in understanding concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. I can bring him to understanding and knowledge. Therefore if you regard one another with charity then your brother's error in understanding will not divide you. I lead to all truth. I will lead all who come to me to the truth of all things. The fullness is to receive the truth of all things, and this too from me, in power, by my word and in very deed. For I will come to you if you will come unto me." (A-C pg. 8)
Maybe for now, as it says here, we should just view each other in charity and the Lord will bring the person failing in understanding to the truth of all things.
Maybe it's that simple for now, for us to get the task of preparing for Zion moving forward?
And there's this of course.
"I would rather submit to the decision of the group than insist that my view be followed. For me, harmony between brethren is more important than getting what I think best to be followed. I believe harmony can lead to much greater things than can merely enforcement of even a correct view. I know how difficult it is to have a correct view, because of how often I have been corrected by the Lord. Sometimes I am humiliated by my foolishness when the Lord reproves me. Humiliation can lead to humility, but my experience is that the humiliation is accompanied by shame, whereas humility can

proceed with a clear conscience. My experience with others leads me to conclude that if we can have one heart first, eventually we can likewise come to have one mind. But if we insist on having one mind at the outset, we may never obtain one heart together." — Denver Snuffer

Maybe for now the PRIORITY is setting aside our conviction regarding a certain matter and applying wisdom and charity to our circumstances which just may include subordinating our will and our precept to that of our neighbor?
Well, that's where I'm at regarding the G&S and why I placed a copy in my scriptures, along with my personal Statement of Principles.
Hopefully you understand my position, I think I understand yours now better also.
Your brother, a new creature in Christ Jesus!

- Teryn April 09, 2018

Hi Rob,

I haven't personally met you yet. I hope to one day. I would like to focus on the end of our proposal. We are asking all of our covenant brothers and sisters to join in our effort to know our Lord's will. We hope all will approach him in meekness and if correction needs to be made, it is our desire he will make that known to us. We've been following the process and at some points directly participating since the beginning which isn't saying anything more than our desire, like you and many many others is to fulfill the Lords commandment. In our hearts we believe the revelation that came through Shalyce came from our Lord and that is why we choose to act in faith by adding it to our scriptures and ask the Lord if he accepts it. However, we feel strongly that if ALL are united in prayer and fasting together that day (whether you agree, disagree, choose not to dispute or choose to dispute the inclusion of the lots document) that the Lord will tell us His part. He will not upbraid us. In our current situation we just seem to keep going round and round. We feel it's time to, as a group, go to Him. We need his Light in this thing. But if correction needs to be made, we would make it in a second. If we are wrong and He didn't accept the Lots document, we would admit our error and chalk it up to a lesson in discernment. We need your prayer of Faith even if it's just that we can see the error in our way. I don't know how it will all come about, but believe He will respond to us. My heart reflects back to these words in the answer and covenant:
"Be of one heart, and regard one another with charity. Measure your words before giving voice to them, and consider the hearts of others. Although a man may err in understanding
concerning many things, yet he can view his brother with charity, and come unto me and through me he can with patience overcome the world. I can bring him to understanding and
knowledge. Therefore if you regard one another with charity then your brother's error in understanding will not divide you. I lead to all truth. I will lead all who come to me to the truth of all things. The fullness is to receive the truth of all things, and this too from me, in power, by my word and in very deed. For I will come to you if you will come unto me. Study to learn how to respect your brothers and sisters and to come together by precept, reason and persuasion rather than sharply disputing and wrongly condemning each other,
causing anger. Take care how you invoke my name. Mankind has been controlled by the adversary through anger and jealously which has led to bloodshed and the misery of many
souls. Even strong disagreements should not provoke anger nor to invoke my name in vain
as if I had part in your every dispute. Pray together in humility and together meekly present
your dispute to me, and if you are contrite before me I will tell you my part."

We are trying to apply this standard in our own conduct towards even those whom we strongly disagree. We are praying for charity from others if and when we are the ones in error. Please add your prayer and fasting with us on April 14 that we may know His will. I really believe no matter what our differences of opinion, He will judge our hearts and know that we are all desiring the same thing, fulfilling His commandment.

Teryn

- Jeremy April 09, 2018

I support this proposal. I think being one is the destination we seek, but I think it is not done overnight or in one step. It has been said, that before we can be of one mind we must be of one heart. We must tie our hearts together first in love before we reach a point of intellectual agreement. I think we may have all skipped this step. I think that this assignment was given us by the Lord to help us become of one heart. Our Lord can work with us if love and acceptance abound, regardless of the words contained in the guiding principles. Jeremy and Genevieve

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

1 of 3

John,

You have not said anything I haven't heard from you or others, what if the Lord only wants us to decide to agree? You think that turning the minority over to "simply agree" will be easier than turning a majority. Good luck there.

Regarding your sister, what's her point? Regarding your name calling, I have no idea what a "silly sapp" is, so don't accuse me of calling you or your sister a "silly sapp." And I would proudly wear the title "poor," …and "minority" fits also, …however let's distinguish that when you put them together to label me "poor minority" it sounds like you think I want or need your pity. I don't. You can wrap up your pity and share it with your sister Eva. She seems to need it more than I, as I have no idea why she tried convincing me that no one at the conference said as I claimed, as if I wasn't there, and I was creating this all in my head, C'mon! She claimed if it was so, she is ashamed and apologizes. Use your pity there.

You think it only possible to work out differences face-to-face. I get that you prefer that, but that ain't the case. We have what we have, and God saw fit to require what He required. So, rather than describe the conditions that would have been optimal, why not simply work with what we have instead?

Regarding your "go along with it" advice, NOPE! I'm not a go-along-with-it person, otherwise I would be in good standing in the LDS church. You are recommending a similar scenario as the LDS. They think that I should simply sustain and go-along-with following the prophet. How is your recommendation to go-along-with the majority any different from the LDS argument to go-along-with follow the prophet?

I, like Denver, would recommend no one follow me, or any individual/strong-man for that matter. I would even prefer them choose "group think" over following one single individual. Above all, I prefer to be judged by my own choices, to be fully accountable for what I think, feel, say, and do. From worst to best, follow me is the worst, "group think" is better, but a personal connection to heaven is best. And that's what the epitaph, everyone keeps mistakenly quoting, is saying.

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

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Following an individual is the easiest to corrupt. All you gotta do is corrupt one person, and the entire thing falls to peices. “Group think” is less corruptible, because the corruption must be distributed throughout. However, when a single group, like the quorum of the 12 are in cahoots, and have control over the public relations of the church, they use “perceptions” to corrupt the whole. So “group think” is only preferable over following an individual, …but still corruptible as the LDS have proven. The “majority claim” produces the same threat to the movement, claiming “group think” that cannot lead men astray, when countless times in history they have; most recently the LDS Q12. However, individuals? It is impossible to corrupt an entire movement by corrupting one individual at a time. You would need to corrupt every single individual, and that doesn’t even consider more who continue to pop up, unaffected by the next person’s corruption. Thus, no man need say know ye the Lord, refers to an individual conversion and an individual, personal, one-on-one relationship with Christ. That is the only way for Zion to ever exist, and that requires personal conversations, preferably in person, if not in person then on the phone, and online. Although the digital tools we must use are sharp and can cut and injure, the Lord commanded the assignment, therefore He has provided a way to accomplish it.

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

3 of 3

The “epitaph” everyone has referred to doesn’t say what you folks have claimed that it says, which to sum it up is “group think is the best.” I too prefer harmony than to be followed, but peace cannot be won at the cost of truth. And it is not truth that holds the majority together, it is opinion polling, rallying, politicking, promoting, and voting. The reasons each support the majority vary drastically, from I don’t care so I’ll go with the majority, to I’ve signed my name to all of them, to God gave Shalyce the answer, to it doesn’t matter because I’m never going to look at it again, to this is not a big deal so let’s be done with it so we can do bigger and better projects, …and everything in between. I don’t believe that people set out with the desire to do evil. However, when an assignment is given, and they see no other way out, people will cut-corners, steal, cheat, justify, rationalize, even combine secretly, …rather than wait upon the Lord. We cannot be that. Harmony is my desire, but not at the cost of truth. I will work for harmony as best as I can, stopping short of challenging another to control their actions, …and then when we cannot go any further, I will wait upon the Lord.

You have your agency, but you do not have my agency. You may PRIORITIZE setting aside your conviction to subordinate your will and precept to your neighbor. I don’t see how that is any different than trusting in the arm of flesh, or making flesh your arm. I gotta go with my direct connection to heaven alone, and I also must trust that you’ll do the same. But, when I’m being advised to go with the crowd, to submit to my neighbor, or harmonize with “group think,” …because I desire to belong to Zion, I walk away from that mentality, desiring not to be corrupted by the idea.

Rob Adolpho

- JohnDutson April 09, 2018

OK Rob, “my brother” per your request I will not pity you, although I never have, I’ll make sure I don’t start. I will however be merciful, patient and not accuse you or judge your

heart!
As difficult as it may be, when trying to have success with others we need to keep in mind “perception is a form of reality” even if others perception isn’t what you believe it should be. Now we both know the only “reality” that really matters is how the Lord views us, because He knows our hearts, our past, present and future.
I truly wish you the best in all you seek from the Lord. And as I said before, in the end all that really matters is if Christ will vouch for you and me.
Your brother in Christ

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

1 of 3

Teryn,

I recall that Sam Vaughn and Ewin Wilde both recommended the same fasting and prayer, weeks before the conference. The difference between what they recommended and your recommendation is, they requested a clean slate, whereas you recommend keeping the majority document and merely editing it to cut and paste.

Prior to the Arizona conference, the majority Lots proposal was up in the opinion polls, so those who supported that document weren’t interested in fasting and prayer for unity, based upon putting documents aside. However, after the conference, where a vote was attempted, but unable to be finalized (although we all know who won the majority), now you are suggesting a fasting and prayer. But, not without strings attached to the successful outcome of what? The majority Lots document? Shalyce called me in November 2017, asking me to pray for their success, after I expressed my disapproval of the method and the document. I asked her how that was possible for me to pray for the success of something I am in opposition to? I ask you the same, how is that possible? I support the efforts of Sam Vaughn and Edwin Wilde, seeking for a clean slate. But, I cannot pray a lie, by sincerely asking God for another edit to the Lots document. If you sincerely believe that Shalyce’s answer was God’s answer to you, then all you intend to do is to get me to believe the same.

I find it futile to get you to believe like I do. Like Jared Livesay said, that’s the job of the Holy Ghost to get you to correct belief, and I agree. Using a united fast and prayer as a tool to support an argument is a bad idea. Controlling another to do what is right was what Satan promoted. I would never use compulsion on a homosexual to stop doing what they are doing, even though I know that it is wrong. All anyone can do is to speak the truth, and allow the Holy Ghost to enlighten them to choose a better way of life, away from homosexuality. However, how many parents of homosexuals have fasted and prayed for their child to stop, and get straight? I think your proposal is far more than the scenario I just painted, but little difference in concept. If you sincerely believe that Shalyce’s answer is from God, then the Holy Ghost should be able to convey that to my heart independently. No one need say to me, know ye that this is God’s voice. I intend to be judged by my openness, and willingness, to do precisely as the voice of God commands, and in order to do that I am responsible for knowing His voice. Your effort to recommend a fast and prayer, in unity, for hearts to soften, …expecting others to see as you do is futile, or incapable of producing a useful result, or pointless.

You may not be aware of this, but Jeff Savage went through the same process earlier. I say this to show that what you are recommending is repeating the same action, expecting a different result. Jeff had multiple conventions, produced a pretense that all was on the table, when all we were allowed to do was edit his document, and very little at that. A vote was forced upon the movement, and when the vote was not acceptable, a request was made that we all fast and pray for it’s success. A creative prayer-watch was

scheduled for every hour of the day for a distinguished, symbolic period of time. The efforts were framed in language of love, but a clean slate was not permitted. The same pattern exists in the proposal you are suggesting.

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

JK 2 of 2

If unifying our hearts was the only objective, as your proposal suggests, and not continuing to promote more Jeff Savage, more August 5th, more Lots Majority, or more something else with votes and compulsion, …then your suggestion would be what Sam Vaughn and Edwin Wilde suggested. I can safely say that I agree with their (Sam & Edwin's) proposal. But yours is a loaded proposal.

The same pattern you are recommending, to propose a harmless fast and prayer, was used to get us sucked into being perceived as supporting the lots program. I was involved in the meeting at Steve Van Leer's home. We found peace agreeing that we all mutually agreed to the A&C. Suggestions were made to cast lots to move forward. I disagreed to choosing lots as opposed to hearing the voice of the Lord, but I was satisfied to allow the others to do as they pleased. Days later, my name was attached as supporting the lots program. I had been sucked into a program that I was clear to all in the meeting that I was not in support of. I had to verbally separate myself from that effort, having been sucked into being associated with the lots simply for attending the meeting. I tell you this, not to bring up the past, but to point to the potential relationship of that event with your loaded proposal. Because of your proposal, fasting and praying for unity has been tainted with supporting the lots majority. If we start right, it's far easier to stay right, …and I think that your proposal isn't starting right, so it will be difficult to correct it later (something I have learned through sad experience).

I am not against fasting and praying. I know that fasting makes humility stronger and stronger, and produces more and more firmness in faith (according to scripture). However, I am against proposals to fast and pray to uphold something I disagree with, producing stronger and stronger pride, and not humility, …and more and more firmness in unbelief, rather than firmness in faith based upon correct beleif.

Sam Vaughn and Edwin Wilde's proposal to unite in a fast & prayer, based upon a clean slate, would express a sincere desire for the unity of our hearts, as they neither promote, market, or seek the strengthening of a winning document.

I realize that my response probably does not sound good to you, and probably seems hurtful, aggressive, and unkind. Do not permit yourself to believe it, as it is not intended that way. I think that your perspective is well intended. I do not think you intend to promote. It's difficult to express openness to a subject when your view is not an opened view, having already established that the Lots majority is God's chosen document for you.

Take it as you will,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Thanks John Dutson,

Rob

PS: Where are you located? Anywhere near Utah County, or Alberta Canada?

- Anonymous April 09, 2018

It would seem that if the Lord has said that he will tell us His part - what if we all trusted in the Lord, Mutually Agree (by withdrawing dispute), and then submit the Lot Guide and Standard to the Lord to see whether or not he accepts or rejects it. If those who have been disputing this document as not acceptable are correct, then we should expect the Lord to reject the document, rebuke us and tell us to go back to the drawing board and work together until we get it right. What if the Lord is pleased with us compiling his words and teachings to the world as to how to begin Christian fellowships as were anciently practiced? Of course, the question regarding this fast and prayer proposal is - who is appointed to receive the revelation on behalf of all of the people? Are we going to ask Denver to reveal the Lord's part in this dispute?

- AndEva April 09, 2018

Please forgive my weakness in words. I meant no harm or accusation. I was simply apologizing for hurt received and reminding that I desire to labor with you all. But I confess that I lack the capacity, intelligence and knowledge to complete this task. Therefore I return to wait on the Lord to seek His forgiveness and to know His part. What would HE have us do?

I will not contribute by adding my weakness here again. It was not in my heart to do so.

I'm sorry for confusion.

- Teryn April 09, 2018

Hi Rob,
I think you misunderstand my and my husband's intent. We don't believe we all have to agree on or even accept the lots document. We don't believe anyone should feel any compulsion in any way. Perhaps re read the original post? We personally believe in supporting the lots document, just as you personally believe in not supporting it. I do not judge your heart in any way. Our proposal is not intended to be "loaded". We are trying to show faith by acting on what we believe God has said and we invite anyone else who also feels the same way to do the same. However, if you or anyone that opposes our belief about this document, unite with us in prayer, even if it's just that you offer up the desires of your heart which seems to be that we all completely discard every document that's gone on before and continue to reason together for a new/clean slate document, then perhaps my heart or anyone that agrees with me will be the ones that are softened and that's what our Lord will tell us through revelation to the body. I think keeping an open mind to what He may say is good for all of us. In my mind, the difference between our proposal and the one earlier, is that there is action behind it on including a document and presenting that to the Lord to see if it fulfills his requirement as we believe it does. This has not been done yet. I guess I think, "what does that hurt?" If we do this and he tells us NO, this does not fulfill my commandment, but thanks for asking as a group and now I've got more light to divulge concerning this matter or even other matters... I would be so happy to receive it. I would discard the lots document if he tells us we are in error. Why? Because my desire, as I believe yours is as well, is to fulfill His commandment. I don't have a stake in which document will fulfill it, I just think it's time to act on what I believe and invite others to do the same. But there is absolutely room in my heart to accept my error... this path is hard...sacrifices are great, and at this point I just want to do what the Lord is asking. That's it. Again, you don't have to pray with us. I respect your

choice, I just wanted to reiterate that all are invited to do so, whether you agree or don't agree, whether you choose to dispute or not to dispute. There are no expectations from us. Just sincere desire to fulfill this commandment. I think we all have a different definition in our heads of what he means by mutual agreement. I'll leave it there and don't feel to debate it any further. I just hoped to clarify our intent if at all possible.

Teryn

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Anonymous,

The Lord didn't stop the early saints from D&C 20, all the hierarchical designs, etc. Why would he stop us, reject what our hearts desire, or correct us when we don't want to be corrected? That's not the Lord's method of operation.

"What if..." is a common theme for those who press to move ahead with the Lots majority. But it's not a good foundation to build upon, because whatever you say, can be reversed, and provides no rock to build upon, only sand. What if the Lord did accept it? What if He didn't? What if this was only a practice to simply agree? What if it isn't? What if we present the document and the Lord rejects it, correcting us? What if he accepts it, knowing it is in our hearts to lord over others, and it will lead to overall apostasy? What if this, what if that, what if up, what if down? None of "what if" offers any certainty. Why be so certain, when everything about you is so uncertain?

Denver being removed, rests the responsibility on each individual who are defined as "My People" to receive revelation themselves, removing any necessity for a vote. You and I are appointed to receive the revelation. And no one is to receive revelation on behalf of all the people. Just because Denver presented truth, he never received revelation on behalf of any of us. His alignment with the truth simply made him trusted. Thus, we are all required to align with truth, so no man need say to us, because we already know for ourselves.

That is the work continually going missed, undone, and short-cut.

Rob Adolpho

Rob Adolpho

- Teryn April 09, 2018

I think it's however God wants to answer. Which is not all the comforting because we can't predict it. But my hope and prayer is that he will make himself known to us and we can receive it.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 09, 2018

This morning I gained some understanding about *me* and what I need regarding "the freedom to disagree." I share this with you all so you will 1) know I support anyone who feels a desire to fast and pray this weekend about the stated purpose outlined in the op above, and 2) know what my husband and I will be seeking ourselves.

We have not added any statement to our scriptures. There is still much we are struggling to understand about all that has happened and what we are to accomplish. Sorry, I tend to be as slow as a snail, maybe because I overthink things or just lack sufficient light. I

am sincere in trying, however. My husband and I need more light from Christ, we don't know which way to go from this point, other than the doctrine of Christ and law of Christ are a foundation.

I recalled this morning what Denver noted about the answer he was given concerning how Christ defines "mutual agreement." We all know the definition so I won't repeat it here. But Denver stated that with the definition came understanding about Christ's life and how He approached interacting with people, especially those who disagreed with Him. He didn't dispute everyone, though He could have disputed all day every day. Did I rephrase that correctly?

Well, I realized this morning that whatever Denver understood from the answer *he* was given has not readily transferred to me, apparently. I equate it to Nephi's experience:

"And it came to pass after I, Nephi, having heard all the words of my father concerning the things which he saw and heard in a vision, and also the things which he spake by the power of the Holy Ghost, which power he received by faith on the Son of God--and the Son of God was the Messiah who should come--I, Nephi, was desirous also that I might see and hear and know of these things by the power of the Holy Ghost, which is the gift of God unto all those who diligently seek him, as well in times of old as in the time that he should manifest himself unto the children of men, for he is the same yesterday, today, and forever." NC 1 Nephi 3:5, p. 304

One missing key for *me* is that I still lack understanding--the understanding Denver was given because he asked Christ and received an answer. I still just feel perplexed.

So, for my husband and myself this will be our desired focus this weekend as we fast and pray, seeking to know His part and to receive greater light and understanding concerning this whole task.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 09, 2018

PS--I have been listening to the YT video my friend Lisa posted recently on the last post's thread and have been astonished at what I am hearing. "Theosis & Divination -- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOnHDQgIoCU&t=3208s

Margaret Barker begins by detailing how much the Deuteronomists changed the Old Covenants. One important truth they removed was that we can see God face-to-face and talk with Him.

I have begun to understand why Christians are in the state we are in--of blindness, deafness, unbelief, hardness of heart, etc. We have lost light from God's word. The compass used by most Christians has lost calibration, so even one degree off leads into mists of darkness and to strange roads. As a result, we truly do not know Who and What we worship.

I can understand now something of what the Adolphos have been trying to express, how the proposals thus far still lack something that First Nation (and probably others) would see and recognize immediately it came from *their* God.

I have been reading a book titled "He Walked the Americas." In it is account after account of Christ's interactions and teachings with those who lived on the American continents. It is my understanding these are stories First Nation tribes know; these are their legends and histories.

What if we were could write a statement of principles that brings in the light most of

Christianity has lost? Light that many tribal peoples will comprehend and recognize and be drawn toward because the source is the God their fathers knew and spoke of and taught about?

Anyhoot, these have just been my thoughts since yesterday. Feel free to disagree, to ignore, or help sort them out. :)

- etluxentenebrislucet April 09, 2018

Eva, I totally understood what you meant with your first response to Rob. It would be like me to say the same thing. Please be okay with yourself, what you meant, and how you said it. :) And don't you dare stop contributing here. We are all needed, even a crazy, fiery, passionate gal like me. Rob's a warrior, and he speaks as a warrior. We don't want him to stop contributing either. :) *hugs*

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Teryn,

I got that that was your idea the first time. All you want is a united fast, right? That's what Sam and Edwin proposed, but when they proposed it, unlike you, their proposal wasn't laced with the explanation of why they chose a specific document. It's kinda hard to separate the weaving of your reasoning from the proposal, as it removes the emphasis from a simple "united fast for answers." I read you correctly, but what you add is what makes what you write confusing.

You ask, "What does it hurt if we do this and he tells us NO, this does not fulfill my commandment, but thanks for asking as a group and now I've got more light to divulge concerning this matter or even other matters?" The Lord already knows what's in our heart. And if we want the Lots Majority, the Lord will not stand in our way. He will allow not only the document, but the precedent set through compulsory vote, a democratic modus operandi, and a "group think." He will not stand in our way, but give us more of what we want, ...not knowing that what we want is precisely the problem. If our hearts were right, points directly at our desires being the issue.

Regarding a debate, you have an opposing view, put forth in a public forum, yet you claim to feel not to debate it further, after debating? I don't quite understand what you are saying. Are you saying that you want your words to be the last word regarding this? I got no issue with your fast, and do not wish to debate further. However, you engaged me, remember. I am simply responding to you. Did you just want me not to respond to you any further?

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Teryn,

Huh? Were you talking to me, or anonymous? Not sure what you mean by "I think it's however God wants to answer."

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Lori,

That is correct. My wife and I have been talking about "other sheep." If the Lord told His apostles of "other sheep" and then told the Nephite people of more "other sheep," ...and I suspect he taught yet "other sheep" the same subject he did those in Jerusalem and America, then the Doctrine/Law of Christ would be a common familiarity to those who are the "other sheep" indeed.

Both our Native American/Hawaiian cultures have been scattered because we have failed to be obedient to the commandments we were given as a people. Thus, we are only left with remnants of the truth in our cultural background. But within those remnants, the Doctrine/Law of Christ resonates, along with ascension, and a personal connection with both the heaven and the earth. So, rather than give into the mass majority, I will repent for the mistakes of my ancestors, by remaining true to every degree of the Doctrine/Law of Christ I have been given, ...even when I am portrayed as the antagonist.

I appreciate your ability to understand. Good luck on your choices.

Good Lookin-out! PEACE!

Rob Adolpho

- Teryn April 09, 2018

Rob, I think you and I were responding to anonymous at the same time, I didn't see your comment until right now. So I was responding to anonymous here. Sorry about the no more debate comment on our other thread. I perhaps used the wrong word. I only meant that I didn't think it worth continueing to go back and forth on. I felt I had said what I needed and it seemed you had as well and I was just ready to move on. You're free to continue to engage how you want. I was just trying to express that I was done. I don't really like online communication and regret getting involved. I think so much is lost in translation when dealing only with online forums.

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Oh, ...ok, I totally get that. We can move on, having understood the perspective of both views. Online communication is difficult, but for some it's the only way to engage. Lots get lost in translation, like you said, so we gotta take everything with a grain of salt, ...salt that has not lost it's savor:)

Rob Adolpho

- YourFriend April 09, 2018

Rob, I don't know if this is possible, or if you would agree to it. Would it be fair to all of us if you wrote an addendum, I guess that is the word, to the Lot's Document that would supply the missing portion you are looking for. You have to admit, we are different, we have different cultures and backgrounds. I have noticed you and Q value your heritage greatly. You have seen the inequities of your people as they have struggled for a place in this world. Maybe I have it wrong, I don't know. I would be happy to accommodate you, but not want to throw everything we have done away. Would that be a fair compromise to preserve unity? I don't have the right to offer anything without agreement from the others, but the thought came to me so I figured I would throw it out there. Can we have a chapter for each heritage eventually? Nothing says we can't add to it. We already have the basic essentials. So what would you say to that, just curious?

Love, Lisa

- HuhWhatda April 09, 2018

Lisa,

I recognize your effort to create type of peace, and value your intention. Without knowing, you have repeated the pattern from Jeff Savage, only he recommended we write an intro/preface in the beginning, while you recommend an addendum in the end. What goes misunderstood is that cutting and pasting, or writing a collage is precisely one of the problems I have with the Lots document.

Thank you for trying to identify with our culture, and recognizing how very different it is from your own. This is a fact that we have dealt with all our lives, finding space in your culture. The house of Israel were scattered because they have abandoned the law of the King of this land, Christ. Therefore, their scattering was a result of being outside of the King's law, or in other words for being an outlaw (the true origins of the word). We are working on the process of returning to the law, and all who join with us within the law can be numbered among Israel, as an in-law, if they too accept and keep the law of the King of this land.

As good as your heart intends to be, I don't want to be accommodated, and must stand on the Doctrine/Law of Christ, the rightful King of this land, and of all of creation. The work you prefer not throwing away makes it sound like a huge investment gone to waste, but little work has been done in the creation of the document itself. The massive amounts of time and energy was spent in the gathering of opinions, polling, rallying, and voting. The same effort of Jeff Savage was tossed out and replaced by the Lots majority, so why then can the Lots majority not be easily put to the side, to start fresh? Nothing really has been done that would be wasted, as the experiences we have aggregated has made us all the more wiser.

I have said it before, and I'll say it again, I don't compromise. To me, compromise represents giving up truth, in exchange for opinion. If I only relied on opinion, then changing one opinion for another opinion would not be compromise, just a change of mind. However, I do not stand firm upon an opinion, ever. The only time I stand firm is when I know it is truth, and then I can never compromise, giving up truth, in exchange for opinion. The best I can do, in a deadlock, is remain still, and ask for more light, ...never sacrificing truth for peace.

We are currently in that precise position of deadlock. So I am standing still, until I am given further light and knowledge, to move forward again. I recommend this process for all. As the Lord adds more and more light, we move more and more forward, and those who were unable to receive more light are left in the dark.

Thanks for the gesture Lisa,

Rob Adolpho

- Dani April 09, 2018

Just a reminder to no particular individual: “We do not wish to impose this particular proposal upon anyone” (Lots Proposal, p. 5).

Did you mean it?

Fawn Livesey

- YourFriend

April 10, 2018

To Rob,
The Lord told me last night you would not accept my attempt to bridge the gap, to connect you, to help you to become one with the body. This isn't about the G&S. It is about coming together. We, if things go as I hope, will be gathered together to live among each other, relying on God and each other for food, water, shelter, protection, and everything else we normally need, spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Our kids will marry each other's kids. There cannot be any contention, nor disputations, nor jarrings. We will have to contribute everything we own to each other, if there is a need. The upside is we will have a Temple where we can go to experience God's real presence, not just pretend as we have been used to doing in the LDS church.

I think we have been seeing how easy it is to dispute. We need to be people who can get along each other. One person cannot draw a line in the sand and tell people they won't move beyond it. I was trying to move toward you. You will not try to move toward me, nor will Jared. In my view, you are both listening to the wrong God, as Denver has written so keenly about in his last post. He said, how can two people who have two such varying views about God expect to be gathered? Now there are some awesome people associated with this group. Their hearts break at the thought of losing even one of us. They would stand by you, just so you would not be left behind. Well I had to lose the person I loved most in this world at the time, because she could not find the right God. I could have chosen to stay with her in her errors, my life would have been happier, but then I wouldn't be here. Someone has to build the Temple, someone has to achieve the prophesied ways in the scriptures to help the Lord have some fruit in the vineyard when all this is said and done. Time is up. I have given up my life, whoever goes up to the mountain will have to do the same. If you can't give up a few words or even your own heritage, you will never find the true and living God, nor will you make it up the mountain. We can try to carry you, but (like Cain you love Satan more than you love God. That is what the Lord told me when I prayed about this last night.) We all have a choice to make. I am not disputing or contending. I am simply telling the truth, if you can discern it. I pray God will provide answers in our fasting that will allow us to move forward to help Him accomplish His work. I still love you Rob and Jared. I love you enough to tell you the truth. God be with us! Love, Lisa

- TwoCents

April 10, 2018

Lori,

During this past year I have learned a great deal. In many ways, it feels like 10 years have passed by. About 6 months ago I complained about this process and wanted to be done but the good Lord had different plans. I had a friend that taught me that I should be grateful for all my experiences, even the horrible ones. I learned from my friend and the Lord that in order for me to overcome the natural man in me I must be grateful for all that has happened to me. I am grateful for all that I have gone through this past year and in many ways, wish it to continue, which may sound odd. The reason I feel this way is due to my realization of the unbelief I have and this past years' experience has helped me overcome some of my unbelief. Being taught by the Holy Ghost and the Lord has help me overcome my unbelief. But I needed to lend myself to the process, like riding a wave.

One of the things I have recently learned is due to Jared's persistent message of the Doctrine and Law of Christ My experience this past year taught me that it is the Holy

Ghost and the Lord who can heal my unbelief, like the BOM testifies. For this reason, I have come to understand that it is the word of the Lord that will heal all nations (3 Nephi 14). The message he gave to my ancestors was the same message he gave to the Jews and to the other sheep: Doctrine and Law of Christ, which helps a person discover who God is.

For many years, we have had many religions come and teach us the Doctrine and Law of Christ and we believed it and accepted it until they utilized God's ways to abuse us. One of the biggest abuses that has occurred, and still occurs to our people, is when a group of people express that they are somehow God's chosen people and our people should hear their message because they know God and their understanding of God is better than our way. For this reason, I thought using the Doctrine and Law of Christ only, would deter my people from even listening. Then it dawned on me that it won't be the words that will be spoken to them that will cause them to take notice but it will be by way of actions by a people. It will be the light of the people that will draw God's people in. The only problem is that there hasn't been a people who actually lived the Doctrine and Law of Christ on this land. There certainly have been individuals but not a people. It won't be by way of word that my people will come to accept this message but it will be by way of how a people act. When will a people ever come to us to learn, instead of to teach?

It will be the light or actions of this people that will entice others to want to know about the message. It will be when a people actually live the Doctrine and Law of Christ that my people will be persuaded, because it will be the Great Spirit that persuades not words of a man. The words of our Savior, Jesus Christ can and will wake my people up to what has been promised to them. The Lord became the Word because he said and did what God commanded.

Take Care, Q

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Lisa,

Be careful how you judge, because how you judge is how you'll be judged. Meaning, if you want a majority go-along-with-it judgement, then you will be judged with those who seek a majority go-along-with-it judgement. The LDS are all being judged by their majority go-along-with-it judgement, ...and I wouldn't want that judgement.

I'm satisfied that you choose to judge me as you have, exercising your agency to separate. If we were to live together and rely on each other for food, shelter, clothing, ...given the comments about all the work you've done on this, ...I would be better off, as I have never seen any of your work except to comment on just do what I tell you to do. I would be enslaved to provide you food, shelter, and clothing, ...as you tell me more of what I should do. Why would I ever want my children to marry yours. Your children would only tell my children what they should do, and have you as a mother-in-law manipulating their relationships, rather than allowing them the freedom to choose.

I really don't like you Lisa, and if you don't like me, at least we mutually agree on something. I don't think it necessary for us to like one another. But I do think that if this is going to work out, you must contain yourself to govern only you, and leave me to myself to govern me. I think that's fair.

Your comments are only a reflection of you. How you react, claiming me similar to Cain, loving Satan more than God, is a judgement you can freely make about me and my character. You are free to make it. I take no offense. If you wish to have nothing to do

with me, you may forge ahead without me, I will not stop you. If time is up for you, add your principles to your book, unite with those who agree with you, and produce your fruits. I do not want any part of that.

If you change your mind, that's just fine too.

Aloha Oe!
Rob Adolpho

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

Lisa, this is MY OPINION - not going to pretend to pass it off as "truth" - but your passive-aggressive crap where you ACCUSE Rob or Jared or anyone else that they "love Satan more than they love God" is just that...crap! It's an accusation, pure and simple, yet you try and pass it off as truth because you "prayed about it".

Obviously, you think you have all the answers. You've got your document. You don't want to work on this any more - you pretend you want to - but since you have all the answers and have supposedly fulfilled the Lord's assignment - go for it. Please don't ever accuse any of us who want to continue working on this assignment as not allowing you to "depart in peace". You've got it. Go for it. Good luck with that!

- YourFriend April 10, 2018

The words I gave you were revelation given from the Lord and from a servant of God, Denver. I am not disputing. I choose not too. Judge me as you will. I still love you! The truth is always the truth. Love, Lisa

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

LOL

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

Wait...what? The revelation received about Rob loving Satan more than God is from Denver? Huh? Then you try and negate it all by saying "I love you"...come on. This is what is meant by being passive-aggressive.

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Lisa,

At least you're honest. Props for that. You are probably saying to me what many only want to say, or they say anonymously, so that they don't look bad. At least I know where you stand with me, and I with you.

There's a fear of people to converse and be honest. I am not afraid of your opinion of me, despite how ugly you think I look. You will never have to wake up next to me, nor I you. But if my wife thought the way you think, that would concern me. Lucky for me, she enjoys waking up next to me (TMI).

Too bad I don't have a credit card for all the guilt trips I've been forced to take, I'm sure the air miles would accumulate fast in this forum.

Lisa, we're good, so no worries mate,

Rob Adolpho

- JimORullian April 10, 2018

I'll respond to this Fawn.

Yes of course we meant it. That is why we took the time to first ask permission of the main body of believers to move forward with the LOTS proposal before taking any action. That involved weeks of reaching out to individuals and fellowships to explain what we were trying to accomplish and why....because previous efforts to just start something without the voice of the people had resulted in major push-back. We then called for the voice of the people on the matter and 87% of the 450 people who participated gave their consent. I think many people have forgotten that we did all this first before assuming it was OK to move forward.

With that we proceeded, as outlined in the LOTS proposal, to gather the names of those willing to serve and draw 7 by lot. These folks then collected all of the documents that had been drafted up to that point and amalgamated them into one document representative of the whole. That document was then presented back to the main body for a sustaining vote which roughly 93% of 500 people consented to. Following that, the Lotsters labored for another 40 days to personally contact as many covenant holders as they could find that did not participate in the vote to be sure they were at peace with outcome.

Many have argued that this entire process was done in haste because it only took a week to complete. I disagree for three reasons. First, the lots proposal proceeded carefully and slowly for weeks before launching making sure that everyone was informed and notified of what would take place with the drawing of lots done publicly on video for all to view. Second, the actual work of writing the statement of principles was completed by the main body in the 8 months previous to the LOTS process; a process which had as it's aim the simple assignment to bring them all together in a unified statement of principles. Third, the fact that it only took a week for the Lotsters to come together in peace without disputation among them and present the completed document to the people was evidence to me that it was a light thing indeed and could be done if our hearts were right from the outset.

I understand that many do not agree with either the LOTS process or the document or both, and I respect that. But what I don't respect is the unfounded and oft repeated accusation that any part of the LOTS proposal was an act of dominion, forced imposition, coercion or compulsion. Rather, it was conceived in peace with the best of intentions, went forward in peace with the overwhelming consent of the people, and completed in peace with the 7 who served willfully disbanding once their labor was finished.

I fault no one for their opposition to the document for any reason. But to date, the LOTS process was one the most beautiful experiences I have had yet with the movement and was a perfect example to me of how a people can accomplish great things together when their hearts are right.

Thank you Fawn for the opportunity to set the record straight.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

Rob and Q, yeeesss!

I began writing out some feelings, but will leave those things for a time when we can meet in person. I will instead simply say that is right, what you have said. It tastes good to my sensibilities and makes my heart sing, as so much of what you both have been saying all along has.

I still have some sorting out to do within myself, having a stronger tendency to be a whiny baby than being all growed up. I have much to learn, not the least of which is faithfully walking the talk of the Doctrine of Christ and His Sermons on the Mount and at Bountiful. I am a poor example in every way.

But I trust Christ to do His work in each of us, and hope He will find me useful in bringing many souls to Him as the dispensation of the fullness of times continues to unfold. I genuinely do look forward to the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning the remnant of Jacob on these lands being brought back to the knowledge and presence of the Messiah they faithfully embraced and worshipped generations ago. It will truly be glorious, and oh I wish to see Jacob "flourish in the wilderness and the Lamanites...blossom as the rose." (T&C 35:8)

The prophecies, they are so great, why do we languish in the traditions and philosophies of men when there is so much of light and love to prepare to receive?

Thanks, y'all.

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

I read Lisa's reference to Denver as only a reference to his blogpost. The one about Every Man's God. I didn't read it as though Denver and Lisa had a private conversation in which Denver was an additional source of the comments about Rob and Jared. That, to me, doesn't appear to be what she was implying.

However I'm not involved in that conversation so will let them sort it out/clarify.

- Dani April 10, 2018

Jim,

I'm a little sad right now. I just spent the better part of the last two hours responding to you, only to have my post disappear when I hit 'Publish.' That's what I get for being a fool and not preparing for that possibility.

The gist is this: God commanded that we find mutual agreement. We have not as yet done so; therefore, we have not as yet met the requirement of the Lord, which in the end is the thing that matters if "the path to Zion is to be found ONLY by following God’s immediate commands to us" (Boise Conf. Sunday's Opening Remarks, emphasis added). That means we don't get there by breaking His commandments. Of course we don't.

God did not ask that the "voice of the people" or "the main body" have power over others in ANY aspect of the assignment or in ANY degree of decision-making. I'm sorry there are so many people who do not believe Christ when He says, ""...with God, whatever things I speak are possible” (Matthew 9:23), but I am a believer. I am weak, but I believe He is strong and will help us accomplish all He asks of us.

And here is what He is asking: "I require a

statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people..." (A&C p. 8),and here is why it matters: "...for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands" (A&C p. 8).

At the end of the day, I cannot sign my name to something that is false for me such as statements like "we agreed to the methodology" (Revised Lots doc. p. 1)and other statements. That would make me a liar.

Please understand, I am not saying that anyone who DID agree to the content and methodology of the Lots document is a liar. If you agree, you agree, and you will, I believe, be bound by heaven to what you've agreed to. That doesn't mean we've met the Lord's requirement.

A lot of people seem to be at peace with the idea that they can add whatever they have agreed to to their scriptures. Of course they can, but no percentage of some subset of the much greater number of people who have accepted this covenant can be claimed to have mutual agreement unless that percentage is (1) not just a subset and (2) is 100%.

Anyway, the first version had much more grace and much greater Spirit, even testimony, but c'est la vie. Maybe God did not will me to share that part.

God bless all who seek the face of the Lord. Here is a lovely scripture with which to close:

(Old Covenants) Genesis 5:22:
"And this is my everlasting covenant that I establish with you: that when your posterity shall embrace the truth and look upward, then shall Zion look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy."

Hallelujah!

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

Geez guys! I was in a hurry this morning so I didn't have a chance to explain very well. No, the part about Rob and Cain came from a revelation from the Lord to me. Denver had a point in his post about believing in 2 God's from opposite ends of the spectrum, I believe it to be related. If one is the true God, then the other must not be. I am explaining it poorly. Read it, I hate cutting and pasting. Denver sometimes weighs in on things through his posts. He also said just because someone speaks something that produces a negative reaction, doesn't mean it is not true or good fruit.

I promise you that none of what I wrote was written with any guile at all. I don't have any guile in me. Someone labeled it passive aggressive. Well the passive part comes from not having guile. The aggressive part is your own reaction to what I said. I didn't say it with any aggression or guile at all. I said I loved you Rob enough to tell him the truth.

Here is the logic. There is Christ on one side with truth, light, spirit and on the other side there is Anti-Christ with error, darkness and no spirit or evil spirit. It's our job to find the true Christ, listen to Him and to receive truth, and light. Christ is hard to find. Sometimes it takes going down the wrong road a bit then receiving a prompting or recognizing the Spirit departing to figure out. It is a process we must all learn. But the test is truth. Can we receive a true prophet as opposed to fake ones? Can we discern the condition of the Spirit when we react negatively to others? Can we discern the actions of others when they are always in opposition? I have had the Spirit strongly throughout the revelation and posting. The only time my spirit was impacted was when I read your harsh comments. I felt oppression, not unlike many have felt in conversations with you over the

past months. That is the truth as well. Hard to take maybe, but true.
Continued below— from Lisa - sometimes I use two different devices, so one comes up Anonymous, one comes up Your Friend - Sorry

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

I went to the Lord last night. I was praying that we could all come to a unity in this thing we are about. I was hoping you (Rob) would take the olive branch and work together with the bulk of the group. I honestly thought you would. The request seemed fair and equitable. However, in my prayer the Lord said to me that you would not agree because you were listening to the wrong God, like what Denver wrote about. The Lord then gave me impressions of Adam , Eve and Cain, how Cain started listening to the wrong God. He probably did it because of his natural man tendencies. That's why we need to repent of them an purge them out. Scripture says Cain loved Satan more than God. Well when you listen to Satan over God, I think you probably love Satan more. It just means you are listening to the natural man. Maybe that part of the post sounded bad, but anyone who is not listening to God is listening to Satan. It is easy to do. I'm sure he justified his actions by saying everyone else was wrong. He may have engaged people along the way and tried to convince them he was right. He may not have even known he was on the wrong path. And then the real God showed up. And he was too prideful to admit he was wrong and didn't repent. And we know what happened then. Incidentally, I wasn't calling you (Rob) a murderer.

The Lord is proving us with truth. Can we discern it, even if it conflicts with our own desires? I am nobody's boss. I don't want to be. I am not over anyone. I am however a person that hears from God. That is sometimes a double edged sword. The message is sometimes not popular. Look at what happened to those that heard from the Lord in ancient times. I have also had revelation about the times we are in, and that Denver is the Servant David. You don't have to believe me. You don't have to heed anything I say. You can discern it and if you believe it to be true then good, if you don't then good.

We will be divided by our ability to discern truth. I'm just trying to be a good servant. If no one calls you (Rob) on your error, then how will you know you have an issue? The Lord told me because he knows how much I wanted it to work out. I told you because I felt led too. My responsibility is over. And true love is when someone will put themselves out, and endure not nice comments for each other. Do you think I wanted to read your response. I has messed up my whole day. It was hard to read, but I don't think you meant it and I forgive you. Even if you did mean it, I forgive you. We are all learning here. I still love you, I just want us all to be together, that is all I have wanted from the beginning. I am sorry if sharing my revelation hurt you in any way. I felt I had to deliver it. It was not from me. I wouldn't have come up with that.
God Bless! Love, Lisa

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

Just to be clear. Denver and I have not had any conversations. He had a post recently that I believe relates to what has been going on in our conversations. Sometimes he tries to help us in our failings by giving us little clues. I believed my revelation was in line with what he had written about. That is all. Thank, Lisa

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Lisa,

If you need to purge me out, you are free to do so. I get that you have an opinion that I

love Satan more than I love God, and you are free to have that opinion. If you are a good representation of the LOTS majority, I am certain I don't want to be a part of that, as your words are your fruits, and to me they are bitter. But feel free to consume them and govern yourself by them and prove them now herewith. Feel free to depart in peace into that good night. I will not stand in your way. We must all act upon the impressions we receive. If you get the impression from your God to judge me, then go with your God, for it surely is not my God.

PEACE OUT!
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Jim,

You wrote three reasons why the Lots document wasn't written in haste, but the only thing you addressed about the Lots document was the eight days, reportedly seven, but eight days it took for them to write it. The first two points had nothing to do with the Lots document. How they were called had nothing to do with the Lots document. The months of preparation had nothing to do with the Lots document either, as you are claiming all the previous efforts to write a document, which were all done in haste as well. You are proving the hastiness of the document, not clarifying that there was no haste.

Agape?

Rob Adolpho

- JimORullian April 10, 2018

Rob if you read my comments again, I explain how the PROCESS was not done in haste and then I provided three reasons why I don't feel that was the case. All three reasons pertain to the PROCESS and not the document itself, which I have taken no issue with regarding those like yourself who do not approve of it.

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

Rob,

You atttibute to our Lord, things that exist only in your own froward and argumentative mind. He has not prevented anything, either in Boise, nor in Phoenix. Those who CHOOSE to dispute, have done the preventing. It will be shown in time that those who CHOOSE to dispute, and be froward, are those who have prevented the Lord’s will to be done. Attributing actions to our Lord that do not belong to Him, and do not come from Him, is all done in vain, using His name.

The key, that the froward and argumentative cannot see, is so simple. It is simply that it is a CHOICE to not dispute. It does not require agreeing to anything. It requires a choice to not dispute. The froward, and those who love, and live, by every opportunity to argue, are living by so lesser a law, that they may never know the one who Redeems them. When peace and unity is established among Gods people, when they finally agree to not dispute among them, then He can then guide and direct His people. Not before then.

The great illusion of unanimous agreement may finally be the great separator. In this deception, there will be great division among the people. (2Nephi 30:9-10) A remnant of the remnant, will survive the coming calamities.

“Now it’s also possible, in fact it’s probable, that at some point what the Lord will do is gather out a remnant of the remnant, gather out a few, and how many are essential in order for the promises to be fulfilled? I’m certain there is a minimum and I’m fairly confident that the minimum can be counted on your two hands, but there is no maximum. We’re not going to just have eight people on the ark; there can be more, there can be many more. The upper number is practically limitless.There is a minimum but heavens, why would anyone want that?” (That We might Become One” Page 8 Denver Snuffer)

- TwoCents April 10, 2018

Lisa,

I get it, you are righteous and I am not. You are going to make it to Zion and I am not. I am satan like and you are God like. Does that sum it up? Thank-you for trying to create unity. I wish the unity you and the majority have flourishes to your liking. Go forward in peace Lisa.

Q

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Anonymous,

I do not dispute you leaving me behind. I do not dispute you. Go for the gold. Your anonymity is weak. Strong words said by someone who wants to remain anonymous.

Toodles,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Jim,

The process is the marketing, the sales, the rallying, the politicking, the voting. That's where you invested the time, not in the document. The document was in absolute haste. It has been that way from the beginning, and continues to be in the LOTs. What you wrote was about the LOTS not being hasty, but all you refer to is the process to make it into the scriptures. The document is what I was referring to.

Go on, and do your thang. Hele on, and continue to go in peace, but don't act as if you take no issue with me, while you use a majority to enforce your judgement. Those who want this as their document should paste it in their books, and let the rest of us continue to work in peace.

Rob

I read it just fine JIM!

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

You fear the truth in the words of truth when they are spoken. It does not matter who

speaks them. Those who freely exercise the choice to, “CHOOSE not to dispute among them,” are doing God’s will. Many mutually agree because of this simple choice. They may each disagree about which document they might prefer, but they mutually agree, and express that by CHOOSING not to dispute among them. You see, it’s peace, and unity that matters to our God, not every person aligning behind one document or another. The refusal to dispute is the higher law. And that is a simple choice. They, “CHOOSE to not dispute.

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

You consider anonymity to be weak? It will never be as weak and offensive to God’s spirit as froward and argumentative is.

Love to you

Your Sister

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

Guys, guys, guys. May I ask that we please stop this...whatever it is we are doing?

Maybe if we try to ignore whatever we think is being said or has been done, we can move into a space where love and the Holy Spirit can freely move around? What do you think? Can we try? Or is everyone okay with their connections to heaven?

How can we stop this foolishness? Is it not foolishness? If I am not enjoying the company of angels and messengers from the Lord is it not because my thoughts, my desires, my words and actions are not drawing them to me, as depicted in Denver's tenth parable? Are we still continuing to have conversations too low and too mean and too unbecoming whose we claim to be?

I feel like if I will apply Christ's covenant to "receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern [me] in [my] daily walk in life...and to use the scriptures to correct [myself] and to guide [my] words, thoughts, and deeds" then maybe I will be enabled to not see the faults, failings, and weaknesses of my brothers and sisters so readily. Goodness knows I've got enough sins, weaknesses, and issues to bring the whole group down.

Can we try to maybe simply govern ourselves and not seek so much to correct or "teach" others? Can we choose to follow Nephi's wisdom and apply the scriptures to ourselves individually rather than to everybody else?

Like, even if it is Roman soldiers who nailed us to a wooden cross, ought we not to ask ABBA to forgive them? Even if something is said with malice or ill will, ought we not to return good for evil? We say we follow Christ, but are we found doing as He did?

I want to learn how to do this. But it seems we are continuing to repeat over and over all the things YHWH condescended to counsel us to stop. Is that possibly true?

Shall I ignore my own eyes blinded with beams while I think the motes in others' eyes render them more blind?

Or shall I choose to forgive and repent of my own follies?

Please? What will it take to get us to stop running on the insanity treadmill?

- JohnDutson April 10, 2018

WOW
Well, the way it looks to me right now on this G&S debacle, (although it probably has very little to do with the G&S) we can continue to argue for or against any G&S all we want but at this point, in my opinion, that would be a waste!
We don't have anything close to mutual agreement under any definition! And bucket loads of disputation.
But this whole us poor minority and your big bad majority OR you obstinate/froward minority horseshit needs to end!
I DON'T BELONG TO EITHER GROUP. I belong to the covenant group!
How about we START, by STOPPING with all the labeling?
And I printed off the Lots version less than a week ago and put it in my scriptures as a show of unity and a desire for the contention to end. Obviously, that didn't work. But, it will remain there until something better is produced.
So, I recommend we all take a big deep breath and hit the PAUSE button on the G&S.
Those who wanted a G&S done "NOW" have one in the Lots document that was partially agreed upon.
Those who "REJECT" that and aren't in any hurray to have one can take all the time they want to get what they are after.
Maybe we want to use the fast this Saturday as an opportunity to recalibrate, let go of all the poison and spend some time doing as Christ did?
WE NEED TO START OVER!
However we should probably wait for a period of time for emotions to subside before looking at the new permanent mutually agreed upon G&S.
For what it's worth, that's how I feel at this point.

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

I chose not to dispute you. Go, be free to be you. Or were you waiting for me to agree with you?

Anonymity is weak.

Rob Adolpho

- Dani April 10, 2018

Anon,

It is a strange idea to me that you believe a perfect God would use the word "agreement" when he really expects, as you suggest, that the assignment "does not require agreeing to anything."

I understand that many people are under the impression that choosing not to (vocally) dispute (when you actually do) is somehow the higher road. That is a plan that cannot endure because when the rubber hits the road, what you agree to you agree to FOLLOW.

Then there are those who really choose not to dispute because they are tired or hurried or just don't care. But if you agree, you still bind yourself. Therefore, maybe people should read more carefully what they are saying they agree to. It DOES matter.

You are right that the choice is simple. Find the document to which we all agree and adopt it. Then no one is imposed upon. The Lord did not say, to my understanding,

"Choose not to dispute." He said (paraphrasing) that you will know you have mutual agreement WHEN people no longer choose to dispute (because they agree). He was giving us a way to know when we've gotten to a place where we can add it, not a directive to accept anything placed before us.

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

To Rob & Q:

Hey guys, I feel like I need to do some interpretation here for you, because you are OBVIOUSLY NOT 'GETTING IT'. You see, because I am a Gentile I speak 'Gentilese' and since I'm married to a Polynesian and can speak that language too, so, hopefully, you will get it if I 'break it down' for you…

Here's my effort to translate for you– in the simplest terms:

"You love Satan more than God. We are white, you are brown. We are pure, you are not. We are smart, you are dumb. We pray more than you, therefore can receive more revelation than you. We are big, you are small. Remnant does not mean 'you', it means 'us'. Our document rules, your 'non-document' sucks. We have Denver on our side, you don't. You need to change, we don't. We love, you don't. We are kind, you are mean and full of 'frowardness' (our new favorite buzzword). We know Wisdom, you don't. We have the Authorized Servant, you don't. We worship the true God, while you worship the 'false' God. We will make it to Zion, you will not.

Now that you understand clearly what we are clearly saying, hopefully, you will stop DISPUTING and get in line with the rest of us, because we have prayed for YOU to change. It's all your fault there is a division; otherwise everyone would see things our way and we would have 100% mutual agreement. We realize that this may seem like a cow-pie sandwich, but we will sprinkle some sugar on top and it will taste just like a donut. We hope this doesn't offend anyone because we are only speaking truth and because we love you and want you to be with us. Adios suckas! Or in your own language "Aloha oe!" from the ha'ole ("no breath") people…."

So, anyway, that's my best efforts at translation. If I missed a few words, I've at least shared the sentiment of the majority with you. Hope that helps!

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Oooooh! Now I get it!!! Thank you for the translation. I totally thought that you just didn't like us, but now I'm certain.

Chris,

You-da-man! Way to bring fun-back!

Mahalo,

Rob

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

Your fruits speak volumes about your hearts. Choose not to dispute among one another. All the sarcasm in the world, how ever clever (I guess?) will never change the truth given by God. Disgraceful comes to mind. Perhaps pitiful?

- Anonymous April 10, 2018

Dani,

He does expect us to agree on something, that's the very point. It's not a document however. What He wants us to agree on, is, as between us, we "CHOOSE NOT TO DISPUTE." Who cannot see? Who cannot hear, that what the Lord wants from His people is peace and unity? Despite any and all of our differences. CHOOSE(ing) not to dispute is His direction about what we ought to agree on. We will always disagree on one thing or another. However, we ought never dispute and argue among one another. To do so is offensive to God. He has asked us to mutually agree, or in other words to CHOOSE not to dispute. On this we should agree.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

Lisa, you okay? Sometimes...it helps to not take all this too seriously? Or at least not forget how to laugh at ourselves? Things feel pretty intense right now. Be okay, ok? Lori

- Dani April 10, 2018

"On this we should agree."

Unfortunately, Anon, no. I will choose to believe the words of Christ as they were given. There really are principles behind all of this that need to be upheld. Unity for unity's sake is not a principle of heaven. Charity and mercy, however, are as is non-compulsion. You would ask me to lie. You would ask me to compel others. You would ask me to trust in men. You would ask me to disbelieve the scriptures. These things I cannot agree to. Take care.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

For all, or those who might enjoy some beautiful, gentle hymns. <3

Abide with Me, Hayley Westenra
https://youtu.be/1_z2EQSZVLU

Amazing Grace, BYU Noteworthy
https://youtu.be/X6Mtpk4jeVA

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

John, you and I have communicated before and even though we disagreed, I don't believe either of us were "disagreeable". In fact, I've been looking forward to meeting sometime with you face to face because I have appreciated our online conversations.

Honestly, I would, in fact, be agreeable to fasting and praying with the group this weekend were it not for the fact that what is being proposed is another way to get the minority to stick the Lots document in the scriptures. I do not agree with it.

Most people keep saying "it's not about the Document, so stop choosing to dispute". That is NOT true - It is totally and completely about the Document. It reminds me of that short movie on the internet: "It's Not About The Nail" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4EDhdAHrOg) "It's Not About the Document"….really? It is totally about the Document, but so many cannot or do not want to "acknowledge" it.

Before the Lots document, people were not “disputing”, but there was actual dialogue taking place. It wasn’t until the marketing campaign for the Lots got into full swing that there became an issue – not only with the document, but the entire process.

The definition of ‘mutual agreement’ has changed dramatically over the last 6+ months. What people mean NOW (ie. today) when they say ‘mutual agreement’ is: “choose not to dispute [the Lots document]”. Sure, they don’t add that last part, but that is what is meant. Otherwise, there would be no dispute. We believe in nearly all the same things. Again, there would be no disputations among us if the Lots document were not trying to be pushed down the minority’s throats.

The minority DOES NOT HAVE A DOCUMENT that we are marketing, campaigning, or promoting for. We acknowledge freely that we don't have all the answers. We are wanting to work together and get our hearts right. Once that is right, then writing the document should be much easier. The majority want us to stop disputing, accept their document and then work on our hearts. It puts the ‘cart before the horse’.

Here’s an idea: Why won’t the majority STOP DISPUTING and put down their document? I mean, seriously, completely let it go. Instead of asking us to stop disputing, and agree with their document why don’t they lay down their document and start over???

Lastly, I agree and would love to reset this whole thing. However, some people cannot seem to let go. They have too much at stake – their reputations, the idea that Lots must have been chosen by God, all of it.

Now, I believe there will either be a dividing with those in the majority wanting to leave behind the minority who have not seen fit to “stop disputing”, or there will be a reset and a desire among people to seek to get our hearts right first and then we can work together on a document without anyone trying to control the outcome…except God.

- JohnDutson April 11, 2018

Jeff
I absolutely agree people can disagree without being/acting disagreeable.
On the G&S, I still do not believe “all this” is about that. You apparently do. I think many of the proposed documents would be good enough before the Lord, my belief is that’s why so many feel the Lords hand involved in their documents, He probably was. You don’t?
Most likely however in the Lords plan for us to do this without Denver, even though it in of itself is a light thing, has brought to the forefront the REAL CHALLENGE”. HOW TO SELF-GOVERN!! How is it to be done? Well, now we know we need to figure that out before we will be moving forward, TOGETHER!
But this continued labeling of people and assigning them a “party” is wrong and needs to end. We’re to be the sons and daughters of God, His covenant people, not political opponents fighting for OUR AGENDA at all costs right or wrong. That evil “majority” and the hapless “minority” that keeps getting thrown around here is an allusion and meant to pit us against one another. Those two groups DON’T EXSIST. They’ve been created, they cause division.
We’re do be Gods covenant people, trying to accomplish something that hasn’t worked but two times in recorded history. Obviously, it’s a big challenge. But we "together" need to seek further light and knowledge on the matter.
And no, I didn’t mean fast this Saturday to get “those people” to agree with “those other people”!
I said to fast and pray for the ability to let go of the poison, soften our hearts “before the

Lord” so that we, as a people, can receive that direction we desperately need. My suggestion was and is though, that it not have anything to do with the G&S this Saturday. But how we move forward in a whole new way of self-governance together as one, a covenant people.
Chances are we spent some millions of years prepping for this very hour, lets not blow it now!

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

"Chances are we spent some millions of years prepping for this very hour" - indeed.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Actually it is. If you do indeed choose to believe and follow the words of Christ as they are given, then we agree that unity trumps the false notion that we must all agree on a document. Our agreement to CHOOSE not to dispute with one another, but rather choose to unite, is among the highest of principles.

(D&C 105:3-5)

3 But behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I required at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh saints, to the poor and afflicted among them;
4 And are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;
5 And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

- JuliusQVernon April 11, 2018

Lisa,

I have to be honest. This kind of thing is a huge turn off to me. It is comments like this that make me want to have nothing to do with this movement.

I'm sure your heart was in the right place, but I think when you go back and read that in the future you'll be embarrassed.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Could someone who opposes the Lots document - which contains the teachings of Jesus Christ given in our day to correct our errors and establish more fully ancient christian worship - please take time to explain to those who believe it is a wonderful blessing to those who know nothing of this work now underway - why you are so opposed to it?

Everything in that document contains the light of pure teachings of God through His prophet in this New Dispensation - all of which brought ALL of us to the point of accepting a Covenant through Denver. How is it that it is such a horrible representation to those who know nothing of Gods work now underway?

That is what we cannot understand. The intent is to help us keep the ordinances pure and give guidance on how we can fellowship like the ancient Christians. It is not a rule book or handbook and cannot "bind" anyone. I think we should be "bound" to live the teachings the Lord has given us in our own day through His servant, no?

Help us understand the dogged opposition to the contents of this document.

- Dani April 11, 2018

You pervert the words of the Lord for your own ends.

As I said, I get that many people believe that "unity trumps" the document, but the Lord said "mutual agreement." I will follow the Lord.

Great scripture. And?

Are we following the law of the celestial kingdom to impart of our substance and to keep ALL of God's commandments?

As other people have stated, if we will do what God has asked with pure fidelity (even when it is hard, even when it seems impossible) and not insert our own minds of what is what, then we can become pure in heart and of one heart and one mind because we will give our will to what He has precisely asked. We will give our minds and hearts to be governed by His will, His mind, His heart. And unity can occur as a result of unifying with Christ. This is the unity that matters.

- Log April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- JohnDutson April 11, 2018

Well Okay then, I'm taking a break from this debacle and I wont be coming back to this place, the Lord has actual work taking place out there that needs attending to.

- userHL April 11, 2018

John,
I agree with you about leaving this place. I don't think that the loudest voices on here have bothered to notice that most people in this movement have already walked away from "the barn" that this place has devolved into. At this point, there are probably less than 10 people posting and posting and posting, as if they are the center of the universe. I'm not going to pretend that there is anything worthwhile or noble being accomplished in the online interactions at this point.

- Donald April 11, 2018

I understand HL (and others)...sometimes the things I read here can be pretty jolting...harsh...even startling. I keep reminding myself we are all made from the same clay and what's it going to take to get more peace and love? I hope you and others who may be giving up on this group will stay and help us move towards our goal...unity, hope and peace and love.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Dani:

"Anyway, the first version had much more grace and much greater Spirit, even testimony, but c'est la vie."

Are you saying that you had a testimony that the Guide and Standard proposal offered by Jeff Savage was inspired of God?

Then why haven't you supported that proposal instead of supporting Jared's and offering one of your own?

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Log:"As of 11/27/18, this assignment has been simplified for you all to the point where all you have to do to succeed is to cease your dispute against [disagreement with] The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles."

It's only April.

November isn't here yet.

So don't you mean 11/27/2017?

- Log April 11, 2018

Why yes, yes, I do. Thanks for the catch.

JL

- Log April 11, 2018

She's saying she spent a lot of time composing a response to Jim that disappeared when she hit the "post" button that had much more grace and much greater Spirit, even testimony, than the replacement comment to which you are responding, Anonymous.

JL

- Log April 11, 2018

Reposted to correct a typo:

As of 11/27/2017 this assignment has been simplified for you all to the point where all you have to do to succeed is to cease your dispute against [disagreement with] The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

You literally cannot succeed at this assignment, nor fulfill the Boise Covenant, unless and until you do so.

By all means, fast and pray - but remember that unless you really do what is required to get an answer from the Lord, you have no promise that he will answer. And if you have no promise that he will answer because you do not fulfill his stated conditions, and if you are answered, then it may not be him who answered. Therefore if you do not know your answer comes from him you may well be deceived. Either way, nobody should trust your revelations, for that would be to trust in men.

Here are the conditions the Lord has set forth for you to be answered by him.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?

If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

If you do not keep his commandments, you have no promise that the Lord will answer you. Here are five actionable and specific commandments you must keep to be assured the Lord will answer you.

1. If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
3. Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
5. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

If you are not doing these things, you have no promise from the Lord that he will answer you, and whatever answers you get are suspect.

There are lying spirits that answer prayers, and even testify of true messengers, as we can plainly see from the scriptures.

This is the guide God has given, and we have claimed to receive by covenant, for obtaining answers from him.

LDS D&C 82:10 I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 11, 2018

"If your hearts were right" = If you actually wanted to do what I say
"it was a light thing I have asked." = then it was an easy task I asked you to do.
"You hinder" = You block others from doing the task
"and delay" = and you wait without a reason to
"and then you say I require too much of you" = and then you say the task is too hard or impossible
"and do not allow you time," = and you say I don't give you enough time to do it
"when, if your hearts were right" = when if you actually wanted to do what I say
"and you prepared yourselves" = and you had prepared yourself through keeping my commandments, study, fasting, and mighty prayer
"you could have finished this work long ago." = you would have had power to complete this task a long time ago.
"Do you indeed desire to be my people?" = Do you really want to be obedient to my law and commandments and become one with me?
"Then accept" = If so, then accept
"and do as I have required." = and do what I have commanded you.

JL

- Log April 11, 2018

Of course, if we were keeping the law and commandments of the Lord, we'd have been done a long time ago. For if we had taken his law and commandments for our principles, we would have agreed upon them as our written guide and standard. That we do not agree upon them is evidence we do not keep his law and commandments.

Instead of repenting and keeping his law and commandments and accepting and doing as he has required of us, we propose procedures, each one with the clear goal of evading the Lord's clear requirement that we adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement.

And we justify ourselves crying "precedence! The minority should be made to submit to the mob, not the mob to the minority!"

As if we had not all ought to be submitting to Christ by diligently keeping his commandments - the stuff that's in The Rock of Jesus Christ - but actually doing those things seems to be exactly what we don't want to do.

And we revile and backstab and accuse and throw childish tantrums all the while.

JL

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

You're welcome.

Now may I ask you another question?

I believe you've warned everyone here that they can't be sure that they're personal revelations come from God unless they're perfectly keeping the commandments Christ gave in the sermon on the mount.

Do you keep those commandments perfectly?

- Log April 11, 2018

Ask God, who is my judge in that matter.

JL

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Jared: did you mean to include yourself here?

"As if we had not all ought to be submitting to Christ by diligently keeping his commandments."

Does that mean you still have to work on this?

And did you also mean to include yourself here?

"And we revile and backstab and accuse and throw childish tantrums all the while."

Do you still have such faults, and do you still fall short of pefection?

Please reply.

"confess your faults to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

- Log April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 11, 2018

I speak of and to the body generally, Michael.

JL

- Log April 11, 2018

Romans 14:4 Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

JL

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Scripture still tells us to confess our faults to one another, and the way it's worded, it would appear to be a commandment.

And scripture also tells us that we should judge ourselves.

So if you've been trying to tell us that we must perfectly measure up to the sermon on the mount before we can trust any personal revelations we've received (which I believe is the point you were trying to make earlier on this thread), please tell us if you perfectly measure up to that standard?

And please remember that the scriptures you covenanted to accept as a guide to live by tell us to confess our faults to one another.

Do you yourself perfectly keep the law of Christ, or are you still working at it (like the rest of us)?

Please reply.

- Log April 11, 2018

"So if you've been trying..."

And if I haven't been, aren't you falsely accusing me?

Jared L.

- Log April 11, 2018

And isn't "Judge not" a commandment, Michael?

Jared L.

- MichaelBurke April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed.

For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

http://scriptures.info/Scriptures/

Please tell us if you're above your own advice here Jared.

Can you honestly say that you're beyond deception because you perfectly keep the commandments of Christ?

Please reply.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Isn't that precisely your point here?

"By all means, fast and pray - but remember that unless you really do what is required to get an answer from the Lord, you have no promise that he will answer. And if you have no promise that he will answer because you do not fulfill his stated conditions, and if you are answered, then it may not be him who answered. Therefore if you do not know your answer comes from him you may well be deceived. Either way, nobody should trust your revelations, for that would be to trust in men.

Here are the conditions the Lord has set forth for you to be answered by him.

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with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

If you do not keep his commandments, you have no promise that the Lord will answer you. Here are five actionable and specific commandments you must keep to be assured the Lord will answer you.

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2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
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4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
5. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

If you are not doing these things, you have no promise from the Lord that he will answer you, and whatever answers you get are suspect.

There are lying spirits that answer prayers, and even testify of true messengers, as we can plainly see from the scriptures."

Didn't you say that Jared?

And isn't the point you were trying to make that we can't be sure any revelations we receive are from God unless we measure up to the sermon on the mount?

And if that was your point, how am I accusing you falsely?

Why do you accuse me?

And how am I judging you when I ask you if you measure up to that standard yourself?

I'm not saying you don't, and I'm not assuming you don't.

I'm asking you--do you Jared?

Do you perfectly measure up to that standard Jared?

Are you yourself beyond deception?

And if you still have any faults, please confess having them to your brothers and sisters here (as James told us to confess our faults to one another in the scriptures you promised to live your life by.)

It might encourage some poor struggling saint to continue the fight if they know you share their infirmities.

So please tell us, have you progressed beyond the apostle Paul, who said "not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect, but I follow after — that I may lay hold of him, who also I am laid hold of — Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have laid hold of but one thing: forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus."

Please reply Jared.

- Log April 11, 2018

Where did I use the word "perfectly," Michael?

And if I didn't, aren't you falsely accusing me, even if you cannily phrase your accusation in terms of your own belief about what I am saying, rather than what I actually said?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

That was meant to be a question, it wasn't intended rhetorically, and should have ended in a question mark.

Are you still reaching and stretching forward like others here, and can you please offer them some encouragement by admitting you share their struggle, or have you already

reached the mark?

Please reply Jared.

- Log April 11, 2018

Why do you persist in attempting to judge me, even though you claim to believe Christ commanded you to not judge?

Why do you persist in attempting to judge my service to God, even though Paul, said, in essence, not to do that?

Why do you not wait upon God for the answer to your questions rather than asking me?

Do you believe that "cursed is the man that trusteth in man?"

If you do believe it, why do you ask me anything instead of relying solely upon God?

"To the pure all things are pure."

Why, therefore, do you not assume I am pure?

Jared L.

- Log April 11, 2018

For if you assumed I was pure, you would not be inquirring (sic) as to what sins I may or may not be committing.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

"LogApril 11, 2018 at 4:09 PM
Where did I use the word "perfectly," Michael?"

I'm sorry.

I thought that was you're point.

So diligently trying to live up to the sermon on the mount is enough to be sure you're not being deceived by lying spirits, and your personal revelations are of God?

And you yourself are still struggling to live up to that standard, and share that struggle with others here?

Right?

- Log April 11, 2018

Do you not believe the scriptures?

JL

- MichaelBurke April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

I asked you if you were "perfect"'-is that what you mean by "pure"?

Should I assume you're perfect unless God tells me you're not?

And should I assume Adrian and Denver are?

Or was making such an assumption the very mistake you say you made in Boise?

Please just tell us if you struggle to overcome faults like the rest of us, or if you've already overcome?

If you have human faults I request you do as James told us to do in the scriptures you promised to guide your life by in Boise (and confess having them to your brothers and sisters here.)

Don't you believe those scriptures, and accept them as a guide in life Jared?

Please reply.

- Log April 11, 2018

So when you decide you believe the scriptures, and actually do want answers to your questions about me - if you still have them by that time - you have the means to obtain them.

Until then,

JL

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Unless you're faultless it would appear you've chosen to disregard the scriptures you swore to guide you life by in Boise, because you haven't admitted having any faults here, and those scriptures tell us to confess our faults to one another.

Also, if measuring up to the sermon on the mount involves granting every request made of you, it would appear that you've chosen to disregard that standard as well, because I've asked you to tell us if you have any faults.

Will you continue to disregard scripture?

I again ask you to tell us if you have any faults Jared.

Please reply.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Thanks Lori! I appreciate your caring for me. I can’t take too much of the oppression, it’s damaging to my spirt and heart. It is a proving process and Denver has given us clues in his latest post. The Lord will gather who he will gather. Purity is so important. I will find

myself repenting and humbling myself to hopefully be invited to be gathered. Hope to see you there! (Heart emoji) Love, Lisa

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

No Julius, I am used to putting myself in these situations to try and do what the Lord is asking me to do. I honestly followed what I was prompted to do, however the outcome. It's a proving process. I am sorry you disapproved. There was honestly no guile or contention on my part. We can't have unity among our group, there is just too much division. I guess proving is a way of dividing. Truth is a double edged sword. I cuts both ways. Thanks, Lisa

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

The Lord knows what He is doing. I do not pretend to know all the answers. I just do what He asks me too. I am sorry you were offended. Thanks, Lisa

- TwoCents April 11, 2018

Lisa, I was not offended, I was just acknowledging I understand your comment. I am glad you do what He asks of you. I was sincere in my wish to you and the majority. Take Care, Q

Questioning Ourselves

Monday, April 09, 2018

You are not excused from writing a statement of principles that I have required at your hands. I forbade my servant David from participating, and again forbid him. But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so, you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands.
When you have an agreed statement of principles, I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you.

Do not murmur saying, Too much has been required at our hands in too short a time. If your hearts were right, it was a light thing I have asked. You hinder and delay and then you say I require too much of you and do not allow you time, when, if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves, you could have finished this work long ago. Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required. – Answer to Prayer for Covenant
A principle is a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior. – Online Dictionary
· What exactly did the Lord require of us? · How much should there be in a statement of principles? · Should we be as brief as possible or should we elaborate? If a tree was required, would we need to describe the bark, the leaves, etc., or could we just say it needs roots, a trunk, branches, leaves and fruit or seeds? Can it be so minimal that everyone could have their own kind of tree and still be a tree? · What is critical for someone investigating this movement to initially hear? Are there things that are nice to

know, but that aren't necessary? What happens if we say too much? Or too little? Could Joseph Smith's Articles of Faith be a prototype of this required statement? · Are we required to explain how things are done (a statement of practices) or just state the principles? Does it need to be flexible enough to grow over time? · How do we "adopt by the mutual agreement of my people", or does having mutual agreement mean a statement is adopted? · Who are His people? Am I? · Is mutual agreement more than or different than what the Lord has defined it as? · Once adopted, where is the statement to be added? Does it have to be considered scripture? · If " therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them (others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway)," is it to be written for them as the primary audience? If it is also "for my people to follow," is it also to be written for us, or just about us? Is it still a replacement for D&C 20? · How can we be "kind in deed as [we] write what I require of you"? · "Do not murmur…" Are we murmuring? · If the Lord said, "… if your hearts were right and you prepared yourselves, you could have finished this work long ago…," how do we prepare ourselves? And is that the same as having our hearts right or does "and" mean that there is more to preparing that just having our hearts right? · "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required." Based on results so far, do we really desire to be His people? If so, how do we "accept" what He has required? · Should the statement point to where more information can be found than what is stated? · Is there anything implied by the Lord's request that we aren't recognizing? · If Denver noted in Phoenix that some of his talk might have been intended to help us with the guide and standard, what might he have been pointing out? Didn't he emphasize individual uniqueness? If the need to explain our principles varies greatly based on backgrounds, countries, languages, religions, etc., would it make sense to allow for that variety? If we are all the same, yet unique, can we preserve individual uniqueness while promoting unity and oneness? · Is there a way to minimally state the principles that are fundamental and critical for an outsider or newcomer or observer to know, that informs them of the "what" associated with this covenant people and where to find the how and why? Can it be done in a way to allow for unique perspectives and backgrounds to assist in sharing? Wouldn't a person from a Hindu background do a better job of explaining baptism to other Hindus than one of the Western ex-Mormon Christians? Couldn't someone, free to use their own unique approach, such as employing the Sermon on the Mount, do a better job of explaining our principles to their own friends than by simply relaying an elaborate, correlated explanation? If the spirit needed room to inspire and influence an explanation, wouldn't a lack of extensive, predetermined wording be preferable? · How can we say the most in the least amount of prescribed wording? · What does a statement of principles that meets the stated and implied requirements, that avoids the issues of previous attempts, and that allows for individual uniqueness look like? · If I found this statement of principles somewhere, would it interest me? Would it cause me to want more? · How would we, as a covenant people, adopt such a statement? How many would have to voice agreement? Can 93% of 465 voters (the outcome of the largest recent G&S vote – and roughly 27% of those who have registered their baptisms with the recorder) be characterized as "a preponderance" or "a vast majority of the Lord's covenant people"? Is that 27% sufficient for adoption of a statement? If so, why? If not, what is the minimum required? How do we know if & when we have the mutual agreement of all of God's covenant people? · Is the completion of this process being prevented by the scripture committee? Didn't they agree to include a guide and standard if one was adopted in Phoenix? If they are willing to publish something, who or what is preventing them from doing so? · Having heard in this last conference from those opposing any efforts to date, what are the primary objections that need to be addressed? Can they be addressed? If so, how? IF not, what do we do? · Is Christ involved in this process? · What are my motives? Is the problem everyone else, or am I the source? · Am I following the Lord's

example: “If men intend no offense, I take no offense…”?
Jane Doe

Comments

- HuhWhatda April 10, 2018

Jane,

I have answers to all the questions you proposed (JOKES!). I think that these questions have been quickly asked and quickly answered by those locking down a document. Where no answer was available, the excuse used is that the scriptures aren’t perfect either, and that God does not expect this to be perfect just as well. I like being put into question, as it represents to me fear and trembling before God.

I’m grateful for the questions,

Rob Adolpho

PS. Thanks for whoever posted the YOUTUBE on Margret Barker “Theosis & Divinization.” With the background on Wisdom from Arizona, I understood so much more. She’s really a great listen.

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- ChrisChandler April 10, 2018

These are great questions, many of which have been asked by those involved in the process almost a year ago. However, two questions that have recently come to me that have NOT been answered sufficiently, and that nobody else seems to be asking (possibly because we "assume" we already know):

1) WHAT IS THE PURPOSE FOR THE GUIDE & STANDARD ONCE WE HAVE IT?
2) WHERE IS GOD PLANNING ON "GUIDING" HIS PEOPLE TO?

Don't assume. Ask Him. I think the answers may be surprising.

Once we have those answers from HIM, it will facilitate getting the assignment done correctly. Hence, it requires us (not Denver) to get revelation.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

I really like these food-for-thought questions, Jane Doe. I feel like you have outlined some things we need to each consider. If I may, I have some thoughts to add. Hope no one minds.

1
Denver talked about “clamoring disorder” –the positive effect of being a body of equals. He talked about the importance of hearing contrary ideas and voices, thoughts not correlated or intentionally blocked from being heard and seen. He said “we want to know what others have to say because we might miss something if we don’t allow them the equality of ***standing and saying to us something about which we may disagree.***”

(*cough*Rob*cough*) Denver called that “healthy,” “normal,” and how “humans relate to one another.” Everyone seemed to like what Denver was saying, but are we perhaps struggling to live it?

Look at nature. Is it chaotic yet orderly? Now look at our yards. Would we ever be okay with allowing nature to grow as she will? Or do we apply our learning and reasoning to immaculate landscape designs with manicured lawns that have trimmed edging and perfectly placed flowers and trees? Do we label some plants as unwanted weeds and seek their removal and destruction? Is there a difference between God’s Way and our way? Are we to understand from the parable and prophecy about wheat and tares that we should hate tares? Is that what God said? Ought we to even determine what is tare and what is wheat? Or is that God’s call? We love labels.

Am I being contentious if I say I dispute with a proposed statement of principles?

Am I being contentious when I engage someone in a discussion that results in both of us understanding one another better?

Am I being contentious when I stand in a room preparing to take a semi-concrete vote and express a request to pause, discuss, and give me/us a little longer? To seek the Lord’s thoughts and ways? Would I truly be disrupting anyone’s ability and right to vote their conscience? Or is it possible I am more akin to the arms, lights, and bells at a railroad crossing warning of an oncoming train and potential disaster? Which would be the cause of a crash, the train moving according to natural laws, or the vehicle that did not heed the warnings?

Was Christ being contentious when He identified certain rulers of the people as serpents and a generation of vipers, which Denver equated to Him saying, “You sons of female dogs”?

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

2

Do we have a tendency to get so attached to an idea, a proposal, or an outcome that when someone suggests an alteration in wording, a change in steps, an addition or deletion of words/ideas, we are unwilling to accept and submit to one another? What if I receive a nugget of coal as an idea but need all you good folks to help make it a diamond of an idea? What if we have been missing out on gaining a lot of diamonds because we are not open enough to each other’s suggestions?

I wonder if we are not still attempting to recreate the only tradition we have ever known…rather than seeking earnestly to God for how to create something we have never known.

I desire to stop accusing or blaming others for my discomforts. No one is my enemy unless I accept him/her as such. No one is causing me indigestion unless I believe it so. No one is blocking *my* way to Christ. Ever. I am always free in my mind and in my heart, even if I am physically in bondage. I alone choose what to think, what to feel, what to believe. If I do not bother to test the spirits, in other words, question my thoughts and emotions, seeking to identify their sources, then I am the one with the problem, not anyone else. That is because if I have given my agency to another, I have given them the power to control and influence my mind and heart.

I do not feel held hostage because I choose not view myself as a victim and a hostage.

I do not feel held back or as though others have given me an ultimatum because I

choose not to view others as doing that. If you want to go vote, go vote and I will still be here waiting. If you want to add a particular statement to your scriptures and you feel the Lord is smiling upon that decision, then you go do that. I won't judge you or think less of you and hope you can offer me the same kindness. I won't expect you to wear the same outfit to church that I do.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

3
Part of our LDS traditions is that we are accustomed to correcting each other via Sunday talks and pre-determined lessons. If I'm doing such and such, then you probably should too, because I was told by the Spirit and that must mean it is what everyone else should think, say, do, believe. Right? Wrong. Who among us likes to be told what to do, how to do it, when and where? Me neither. I'm going to make mistakes, but that is how I learn and Christ corrects me. Not always fun, but honestly I would rather He correct me than someone else.

When Christ said in His Answer to us that we should use the scriptures to correct ourselves I took that personally, meaning I understood Him to mean *I* need to use the scriptures to correct *myself,* not others. I hope to learn how to do that well. Like "unconditional parenting" (book), I have a lot to learn about balancing looking inward to correct while looking outward to serve, bless, and love.

There is a lot going on in this world, even among us, that we must make ourselves aware of and learn who and what we are truly supposed to contend against. NC Ephesians 1:25 (KJV 6) Also study out the words "cast out" or "cast off" in scripture, praying for understanding. I believe we allow the adversary more influence than we ought. We literally make his work easy for him. Christ seeks for us to love one another and not to have contentions *among us.* If there are contentions, who is the source of that and what have we been taught we can do about it? Hint: We are not to cast one another out.

Some books I would recommend: The Marketing of Evil and How Evil Works by Mark Kupelian (Denver recommended in an early blog post), Mind Programming by Eldon Taylor, and Conquering Spiritual Evil by Doug Mendenhall. There is also T&C 147, Try the Spirits.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 10, 2018

4
There is also the issue of getting an idea and immediately acting upon it rather than taking time to study the matter out, try the spirit, and see if it is truly of Christ. Then one must also have correct understanding about the what, how, when, where, and who. I am still guilty of jumping before I take a good look, hence I fall down a lot. I appreciate Denver's teaching on the matter in "That We Might Be One" talk. Again, I tend to jump before looking so need help in that area as well. Oy.

Much of what is said here on this blog, maybe we could each make a more concerted effort to take a gander at and not take personally?

Do we perhaps struggle to listen to each other in a sincere, open, non-offended manner? (I'm at the top o' the list for this one too. Geez. Why am I here? Oh, must be to learn, which means y'all get to suffer through my lessons. I am so sorry!) Denver also addressed that in the "That We Might Be One" talk. Words only have the power we give to them.

Have we been so attached to an idea, a proposal, or an outcome that when someone suggests an alteration in wording, an addition or deletion of a step we are unwilling to submit?

I am in agreement with the idea it would be good to start anew, afresh. Maybe even have a big bonfire where we burn all that has gone before and make S'mores. I believe we could do that, but I am uncertain if all are willing to do that. My apologies for those of you who just cringed inwardly at the thought.

But I also believe in supporting a person where he/she is, just as I hope you are able to do for me. That's why I can support joining my faith in fasting and praying this weekend. I feel like the matter of a G&S has become so convoluted that I would have an easier time navigating through the sewer system of Paris (Les Mis reference!) than understanding exactly what we are to do at this point. God bless, y'all!

- BryceBartel April 11, 2018

Something to consider:
What is it that we are trying to achieve here? It is to produce a document that can have enough information to guide someone to what they need to do to follow God's direction and a standard to rally behind.

What we have found is that over the past year, these two things mean different things to different people. However, if you look at the dozen or so Guides and Standards they all contain the same ingredients. It is as if we are building a house and everyone recognizes that the house needs bedrooms, bathrooms, and a kitchen but we disagree on the color of the paint and the type of tile we should use. (This makes sense since we are all different people and see the world differently.)

Has the project change? Is the purpose now different? I would actually say yes. Since we all agree that we need a house (Guide and Standard) and rooms, bathrooms, etc. (details related to the doctrine of Christ, priesthood ordination, etc.), then the new objective it how to agree and be persuasive without being "like Peter and Paul." I came to this conclusion by reading Christ's words in the Answer to the Covenant. There are 10 pages of Christ speaking in first person, 3-4 of those pages are dedicated to contention and learning to speaking with kindness and wisdom.

What do we do now?

Perhaps we shouldn't be looking for what God is doing next. That can be addressed when he is doing it and when there is enough revelation to support it. Perhaps we need to simply create a Minimum Viable Product (MVP). This minimum viable product needs all the components; e.g., doctrine of Christ, etc. (the rooms, etc.). Since we agree on the minimum the document needs, perhaps we need to learn how to agree and better communicate with each other. It is like we are standing outside the frame of the house and are debating too much about the details to get the first version completed. We need to move into this basic, minimum viable product house and see how it works.

While we are in this house we can change carpets and paint colors as need arises. In your own room (your own personal G&P), you can change that all around to fit your needs and wants.

Hopefully, as we complete this "light thing" God will reveal to all of us more of His plan. This may instigate adding new rooms, accommodating a new reality or require us to build a completely new house. Or maybe it is not a house at all and something we've

never even considered. However, I believe there are steps to take and should consider the next one. Until then, can we agree on a minimum viable product?

Personally, for me, I don't see a lot of difference in all the G&S. The more that have been produced the better they get. As an MVP, I could support Jeff Savages, Aug 3rd, Lots version, the Adolphos, and probably all of them.

The question is, what does an MVP look like? Do we already have one (or many) that qualify? Is there support for one (or many)?

If you can't answer positively to these questions, what is your recommendation for remedying the negative response? Do you have a suggestion? Is there a pathway forward which would put mutual agreement as the main target (Since Christ spent 3-4 pages talking about that.) Since we agree on the components of the minimum viable product, perhaps mutual agreement is the most important factor now.

Bryce Bartel

- TwoCents April 11, 2018

Bryce,
Im not sure why you want to insist that we have a document. We don't. Are you talking about the document our fellowship developed before the June 10th meeting? If so, you are excluding others, when you call it the Adolpho's document. If you want to call it something, call it the BBPD.
Q

- Jay April 11, 2018

1 of 2
It seems clear to me that this dream that I had is meant for this group, so I'm sharing it here.

Morning of 11 Apr 2018 2:50am
I just woke from a dream. In the dream we (as fellowship members) had died (or transitioned). There was a female spirit and I had a guide (also female) who cautioned me about her. She could bring me down if I were not careful. We needed to be on guard or we could become corrupted by the darkness of her spirit. We learned that she had lost a finger, and when one of us loses a finger it indicates that they cannot progress as we do. We can move up but they cannot come along. One could regain their finger by cooperating in some kind of activity. We had compassion on this individual. There were several of us who had lost a finger. One of these was Lori (I've never met Lori, but in the dream she had dark hair and a round face). We agreed as a group to play a game of basketball. This would allow us to cooperate together and thus those who had lost fingers could regain them. Judging and accusing and condemning would keep one from being able to regain the finger and thus progress. Lori did not like basketball, she was not good at it. To her this was a stupid competitive sport. I, along with others, tried to work with her and persuade her to play along, as by learning to cooperate she could regain her finger. (continued...)

- Jay April 11, 2018

2 of 2
We tried to reason with her that It wasn't about winning the game, but about engaging in the activity and learning to have fun with it. Flow with it and you will soon learn to enjoy

the game. I observed her countenance was darker as she looked downward and I encouraged her by pointing out when I noticed that she was judging or accusing. We all mutually understood these were things that held us back, so she was not offended at being corrected. She understood these corrections as sincere attempts to help lift her spirits. It occurred to me that we could choose to find an activity other than basketball that Lori more enjoyed. The spirit of the dream had shifted from avoiding the darker spirits who could bring us down to cooperating as a group to try and encourage and uplift them. There seemed to be a balance between being cautious about engaging with a darker spirit so as not to become influenced by them and drag myself down, and trying to encourage them with love and lift them up.

I discovered that with my fingers intact I could raise myself up higher and that when I did I seemed to be immune from the effects of those darker than I. At one point, while interacting with someone who had lost their finger, I raised myself up to the ceiling and actually removed a ceiling tile and went up into the interstitial space above. It was dark and I had a sense that I did not belong there, and seeing the light below in another place above where the individual sat (who I had been interacting with) I descended back through the ceiling to where she sat to try to encourage her more.

I wish I could recall more. This dream seemed so informative.

When I shared the dream with my wife she suggested that when you lose your index finger, you lose the ability to point (as in accuse). I told her that in the dream the finger that was lost was the ring finger. She then observed that symbolically the ring finger is associated with connections to the heart.

Jay Ball

- Log April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- TwoCents April 11, 2018

Jay,
Are you referring to Lori AKA et lux? Lori out of all us has tried to be understanding and supportive. I guess your dream is confusing to me because I don't recall Lori ever pointing a finger or accusing anyone. Maybe you are talking about a different Lori.
Take Care, Q

- Jay April 11, 2018

In dreams persons can be symbols. I'm sure this isn't meant to single Lori out (et lux). My interpretation is that she represents the dialog that is going on here.

Lori, I do not consider you dark or accusing in any way. If anything I consider your presence in the dream a representation feminine wisdom of willingness to be open and help bring the peace of the heart to our dialog here.

- Jay April 11, 2018

I've always understood people in dreams to represent aspects of myself. Through our dialog here, in a way, Lori (as with all who have posted) has become part of me.

I hope posting the dream here is not pre-mature. I have not attempted to try to interpret

the dream. I just felt it came from a higher source and that if there is any insight it may give, it's worth sharing.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Interesting.

Was Jared (log) in your dream?

- etluxentenebrislucet April 11, 2018

Jay, firstly, I thank you for sharing your dream. I am not at all horrified by how I was symbolized in the dream. I do not feel a desire to defend or correct the portrayal of myself.

As I read through it the first time I was in shock, thinking it a joke. But then I began hearing a very loud thought, an interpretation, in my head, and understood why I was used in your dream. Then I didn't know whether to laugh or cry so I did a little of both. I will still probably cry more as I take in what is being shown to me.

Your dream is true and has light to teach those who will perceive it.

I accept the rebuke, the correction, and the representation. I am grateful for the Light by which I can see myself.

Christ is so good to us, to me. He is offering us something here in this dream. For my part, I am willing to face my sin and be corrected publicly. God forgives and God is willing to forget, but not without confession.

“Behold, he that has repented of his sins, the same is forgiven, and I the Lord remember them no more. By this you may know if a man repents of his sins, behold he will confess them and forsake them.” T&C 45:9; D&C 58:42-43

I am without a ring finger, not literally but symbolically. How could you have known that? I did not even know that before you shared your dream. And just as you saw in the dream, we can be made whole through Christ's atonement and a willingness to confess and repent, and as regards our task, work together. When Christ, in His Answer, said there were some who are easily persuaded, He was not talking about me.

On Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement, Ancient Israel was commanded to make an offering of two he-goats. One was to be sacrificed, to atone for the sins of Israel. The other was to be "blessed" with the burdens and confessions of Israel's sins, then sent out into the wilderness. The choice of which he-goat would atone and which one would become the "scapegoat" was determined by lots.

In this dream I am a scapegoat of sorts. Jay, you do not know my heart or my personality, but Christ does. He gave you the dream and knew exactly how I would receive it, respond to it, and understand it. I should feel horrified I suppose but my heart is swallowed up in rejoicing because I understand Christ’s mercy and condescension and willingness to forgive me/us.

I desire to let Christ carry my burdens and our collective burden, for He is the source of our Atonement and Purification.

to be continued...

- etluxentenebrislucet April 11, 2018

Thank you, Jay, for sharing this dream. There is Wisdom why you were given this dream and I was portrayed in it. We, all of us in this moment, are not supposed to be working singly or in segregated groups. We are to unite our hearts as one and go forward as one. Are we willing to do? We each have gifts to contribute that are meant to be used by Christ to create a beautiful tapestry made of many colours and intricate stitches, the final Image will be One we lack the vision and hearts at present to imagine. He will have it no other way.

We do not comprehend the level of meekness and humility required to be “His people.”

I have placed a copy of the Guide and Standard known as the lots document in the notes section of my family’s copy of the Teachings and Commandments.

My home has not blown up, I have not been struck by lightning, and I have not felt Heaven withdraw. Sorry, I don’t mean to be cheeky, but I have feared all along displeasing my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by “choosing” the wrong document and I had a laundry list of reasons why I should expect something “bad” to happen if I did. I feel a deep sense of gratitude and peace mixed with sorrow that I have wasted valuable time when there is so much of His work I desire to do. I pray He will find me willing and worthy.

To all of you who have cried tears over my contributions here or felt deep frustrations over my antagonism, I sincerely apologize. I hope you will forgive me and accept me with warm embracing. Like Olaf in the movie Frozen, “I like warm hugs.” :)

- etluxentenebrislucet April 11, 2018

We need to collectively confess our burdens and give them to the "scapegoat," Who will carry them off for us. Christ is willing to bear the burden of all negativity, disputes, disagreements, accusations, blaming, judging, etc. but we have to give them to Him--whatever it is that is preventing us from uniting our hearts--He wants us to give that to Him.

Love one another. Love one another. Love one another.
Forgive. Forgive. Forgive.

That is all.

- TwoCents April 11, 2018

Jay,
That makes sense, thank-you for clarifying. I do believe the work He is doing now, is an internal work and not an external work. The LDS church focused on the external (outside actions) and not the internal (heart). My experience has been that I need to "flow with it", allowing Him to refine me. Take Care, Q

- Jay April 11, 2018

Lori,

Thank you for your insights. I almost regretted having posted the dream, but chose to leave it rather than delete the comment. I am grateful that you were able to read it in the spirit that it was given. I posted it as it had come to me rather than changing what I had

written or removing your name from it. Again, I feel the dream is not directed at you personally at all. In the dream you symbolically represent each of us as we struggle with our own challenges of judgement and accusations (we all have these weaknesses). I loved how, in the dream, we all recognized this in each other and accepted the corrections from others without taking offense.

Another insight about this dream has come to me from a member of our local fellowship who has a gift with language and finding meaning in words. The word "game" comes from Old English and German root "gamen". Broken down, the etymology of "ga" indicates association or togetherness. It can also indicate completeness or wholeness. The second half of the word, "men" is associated with "mankind" that comes from one of the names of God, which was "Manis". Thus coming together or being strengthened together as children of "Man" or "Man of Holiness". Thus, "game", or "gamen", is where we all become one with each other or one with God.

There is another word that goes along with "game", which is "play". Play. Have fun. Be happy. That is what little children do. We are supposed to be like little children. In English that was the word for exercising and growth. Exercise is for what? In Old English "play" represented how we grow and learn. Are we having a good time? Is it a game where we are becoming one with God? Are we happy? A lot of times we're focusing on the darkness, but when you focus your mind on something you get what you look for (think James or Lance in the forest). What is it that we really want? We may need to walk out into the darkness but if our mind is full of light the darkness goes away and we can have fun. And we play!

The dream had beautiful imagery of these words woven into it. I was also struck with the imagery of the feminine in the dream where the spirit guide was female as were the main characters.

There are other insights I could point out, but I will close with my feelings of gratitude for your persistent expressions of love throughout the dialog that has taken place here on this blog.

Thank you, Lori. And God bless.

Jay Ball

- Jay April 11, 2018

Thank you Q. The dream has insights for me on many levels (see my response to Lori above). I'm sure you will identify with some of what I said there. God bless.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 14, 2018

"He defines mutual agreement, as used in the Answer to Prayer for Covenant, this way: “As between one another, you choose to not dispute.”

Is step one perhaps "[a]s between one another, [we] choose to not dispute[...ever?]

Perhaps that is the purpose of our task and why Christ wisely required mutual agreement? To help us see the need and importance of choosing no contention? If we never cast such a thing far away from us, how will we ever be able to accomplish future tasks?

Are we willing to let this be the generation that chooses to have NO DISPUTATIONS,

NO CONTENTION, NO CONTENDING, NO ANGER ONE WITH ANOTHER? Are we willing to lay such things on the altar as a sacrifice, understanding from Lecture on Faith Sixth we are to make a covenant ***by*** sacrifice? Is the world waiting to see a group of Christians who understand and show how to do away with all contention?

"And there shall be ***no disputations among you***, as there have hitherto been, neither shall there be disputations among you ***concerning the points of my doctrine, as there have hitherto been***.

"For verily, verily, I say unto you, ***he that hath***the spirit of contention***is not of me***, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger, one with another.

"Behold, this ***is not my doctrine***, to stir up the hearts of men with anger, one against another, but this is ***my doctrine, that such things should be done away***.

"Behold, verily, verily I say unto you, I will declare unto you my doctrine. And ***this is my doctrine***and it is the doctrine which***the Father hath given unto me***..."

- etluxentenebrislucet April 18, 2018

I recently discovered a newly published book titled "Everybody Always" by Bob Goff. You can download the prologue and first chapter for free at the link below. Here is an excerpt from the prologue, which if the book is as good as this, I look forward to reading the entire book. I thought about us here, and figured I'd share the author's message. It has the feels of what we hope to become.

"A number of years ago, a friend of mine quit the megachurch
he pastored in Southern California and moved to the inner city of
San Francisco. He wanted to build a community among people who had experienced tremendous failures and setbacks. He's a humble guy, is generous with his time, loves his family, and really loves God. Rather than spend only a few minutes each week with the thousands of people at the big church he pastored for years,
he decided to go deep with a small number of people who had faced some tough breaks. He and a few friends started a restaurant staffed by guys who needed a fresh start and also a home for women who have confronted some of life's biggest challenges with courage and hope.

"These amazing people spend their free time loving people in the housing projects near the restaurant. They give away love like they're made of it. Like my friend, they do this because they have developed completely unrealistic ideas about what their faith can do in the world when it's expressed in love. They decided to spend more time loving people than trying to game the system by just agreeing with Jesus. You see, they wanted to follow Jesus' example; instead of telling people what Jesus meant, they just loved people the way He did. The housing projects are difficult places. They're dark and scary and filled with beautiful, scary people. They are full of guns and violence and fights and theft. They are also full of love and compassion and generosity and hope.

"These brave men and women seek out people who have felt forgotten and overlooked. They pursue the wrongdoers and disadvantaged and discouraged, and they love them Jesus-style—
with extravagant grace."

--excerpted from the prologue of "Everybody Always" by Bob Goff

https://info.thomasnelson.com/p/everybody-always/#home

A podcast series from Joyce Meyer that I found quite good. If the links don't work, just do a search for her podcasts; they are easy to find, and are also available on itunes. Each one is less than 30 minutes in length. I recommend her others too.

Walking in Love, Part One
http://www.podbean.com/media/share/dir-p5h7v-3ed4643

Walking in Love, Part Two
http://www.podbean.com/media/share/dir-mzxmg-3eebb00

Taki - A Traditional Proposal

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

A Traditional Proposal:
I present a “taki” to the entire movement, using method of Traditional Proposal. In Polynesian culture, particularly Maori, when visitors come to their land, a ceremony was performed called powhiri (a ritual ceremony of encounter). It was a process of determining whether the manuhiri (the visiting party) were friend or foe to the tangata whenua (the people of the land). As the ceremony progresses, the tapu (or the sacredness) of the visitors is unveiled. If they are unveiled as friends, they become one with the tangata whenua (the people of the land).
The ceremony begins with a woman’s karanga (a chant from both parties), calling in a high pitched voice to each other to exchange information, in order to establish the intent of the visit. The one’s exchanging in chants use their conversation to weave a mat on Papatuanuku (Mother Earth), …or in other words to establish a land, binding the two sides together, covenanted to protect the land from war.
Next, a wero (or challenger) was sent forth to challenge the visitors further, to look into the whites of the visitor’s eyes, up-close and personal, to further establish intent. As the wero (or challenger) seeks the intent of the visitors, the tangata whenua (the people of the land) perform the haka powhiri, also commonly known as the haka.
Finally, the wero (or challenger) places a “taki” before the visitors, as a recognition and a challenge. The “taki” is a token, representing the conditions of equality, unity, and freedom, offered by the tangata whenua (people of the land). It is only offered when such conditions seem possible by the wero (the challenger). The offering is an invitation, and the total unveiling, and exposure, of the tangata whenua (people of the land). For the manuhiri (visitors), picking up the “taki” is to accept the terms. Anything else is to reject the terms. Thus, the final unveiling is their choice.
Depending upon the final unveiling, there would be a battle, or a feast. In the case that the “taki” was lifted and accepted, while the feast was being prepared, the mihi (orator of knowledge) would share their whakapapa (knowledge of genealogy, history, and records). Speeches are followed by waiata (song and dance), many times sacred songs and sacred dances. After knowledge and wisdom was shared by oration and performance, both parties would physically move together, and one at a time, they would press noses and foreheads together, inhaling, in hongi. Food would be shared by both parties. The eating of the feast finally removes the barrier between manuhiri (visitor) and tangata whenua (people of the land), signifying the binding together.
My wife and I, and our ancestors, have fulfilled the first portion of this protocol, unveiling our hearts, leaving you to show yourself. My wife used her high pitched voice, woven with many of your voices, in karanga (a chant from both parties), working to weave a mat, or

covenant land, to be bound on Papatuanuku (Mother Earth). A mat/land where we can be bound together, both manuhiri (visitors) and tangata whenua (people of the land), without contention. In this lengthy process of word exchange, the hearts of both parties have been partially unveiled.

I have fulfilled the protocol of the wero (or challenger), sent forth to look into the whites of your eyes, to discern your deep intent. I have been in your face, with my eyes wide opened so you can see me and my deepest intent, and I can see you and your deepest intent. My strength is not representative of my power, but the haka of those who stand with me (a visible minority), our dead ancestors tangata whenua (the people of this land), and my God.

Finally, I lay this “taki” (challenge) at your feet, for you to do the final unveiling of who you are (friend or foe), to be expressed by what you do with this “taki,” picking it up, or something else. It is a token, representing the conditions of equality, unity and freedom, offered by the tangata whenua (the people of this land), so that we both can dwell upon the mat/land which we have woven, bound together, without contention.

The “TAKI”:

The few instances where Zion succeeded at being gathered offers little information more than: Enoch/Melchizedek preached repentance, and “the people” repented. Over the year that the Governing Principles Project has been underway, many views have been shared, at varying times, about what is required of us. I suggest that what is required of a people who have been preached to, …is for “the people” to minimally mutually agree to repent, turning and facing Christ.

Given our varying degrees of understanding, mutual agreement (where people choose not to dispute) has eluded us. To some, “choosing not to dispute” has been defined as: put aside your view for another. To others, “choosing not to dispute” requires: something they agree with, and because they agree, they choose not to dispute. Since the only tool any are allowed to use is persuasion, neither definition authorizes anyone the power to tell another what’s right for them, …threatening their agency to choose for themselves. Relying on persuasion alone has presented a difficulty, as those who desire to graciously put aside their view for another have expressed frustration with those of us continuing to search for something that we agree with, and will not dispute.

The gospel or “good news” of Jesus Christ is repentance and redemption from the fall. All must be redeemed from their own fallen state, which process is extremely unique, personal, and individual. But the efforts surrounding the building of Zion requires the unity of a community of people. Therefore, this assignment must satisfy both “individual redemption AND unity.” Emphasizing one over the next produces imbalance, making completion impossible. For instance, individuality satisfies “my” understanding to be respected, but unity is often lost with an individual emphasis. Or putting aside your view for another can produce unity, but at the cost of possibly loosing individuality. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the only hope for redemption and Zion, providing both individuality and unity. Zion is the family of God, and it must return through the preservation of both the individual and the unit. Male and female is the image of God, requiring both individuality and unity to be preserved within them. Likewise, within a successful family, each member must have their individual identity, while protecting unity. And a community, like Zion, is no different.

In His mortal ministry, Christ proved all of His Father’s words by obeying the Doctrine and Law of the Father. He shared the fruits of His labors freely, healing the sick, restoring sight, and raising the dead. He was made one with the Father through His atoning sacrifice and triumph. These three components are of interest: Doctrine/Law, Fruits, Sacrifice.

After resurrection, Christ instructed those who were His sheep in Jerusalem for forty days. Christ referred to both His words and His works as the model for all to follow. The

record instructs that all who would be Christ's sheep must respond by going and doing likewise. They too must prove Christ's words by obeying the Doctrine and Law of Christ, both in word and deed. He counselled that by their fruits His sheep will be known. And the sheep that would be called the Sons of God would be persecuted for His names sake, as a willing sacrifice. Christ departed that fold of sheep, to tend to other sheep which were not of that fold.

The account of Christ's instruction to America, compared to the instruction in Jerusalem establishes a pattern. Christ taught on this continent His Doctrine and Law, produced fruits of mighty miracles among them, and interceded on their behalf, accessing His atoning sacrifice. Those at Bountiful were left with the Doctrine and Law of Christ, the responsibility to produce fruits, and to offer up sacrifices of a broken heart and contrite spirit, to bear one another's burdens, etc. Christ left those in America to instruct other sheep, which were not of that fold, or the fold in Jerusalem.

The Lord is unchanging. Those who are indeed His other sheep will resonate with the Doctrine and Law of Christ. They will expect to identify with those who produce fruits similar to the fruits of Christ's, recognizing them as His sheep. They will recognize a people who are willing to sacrifice all things for the Kingdom of God on the Earth and the establishment of Zion. Each of these other sheep have strayed (the LDS progenitors, the remnant of Lehi, and the scattered Israel). Each of them have fallen, broken the covenant, and must be restored, expected to produce fruits, and to receive a covenant by sacrifice, to be gathered. In an effort to not dispute, respecting that some are willing to put aside their view and others need a sufficient reason to agree and therefore not dispute, I propose that we preserve individuality and find unity, by mutually agreeing to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ."

Those who have written documents all include the Doctrine and Law of Christ, and a little bit more. If they will agree to this proposal, to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ," I will not disassociate from them if they choose on their own to do a little more. This is my proposal. Those who agree to this proposal can email their names to the recorders clearinghouse, and let Keith Henderson keep a list of names that match baptism records, and report his findings of matching however he sees fit (As Keith Henderson knows nothing of this matter, as of yet, if he refuses to participate in accumulating names and reporting, someone else may volunteer). Those who disagree simply need not submit their name.

Opposed to some opinions identifying me as froward, angry, obstinate, aggressive, …I seek only to be sanctified and purified within the sanctuary of Christ's presence. Conversations that talk, preach, rejoice, and prophecy of Christ provide that sanctuary, …because where two or more are gathered in Christ's name, He promises that there He will be also. Those who are unsure, who want clarification, or who need to talk it out, this would be a perfect opportunity to talk to you, either online, on the phone, or in person. Even though digital communications come with it's isolated keyboardist issues, the Lord's promise did not come with stipulations excluding digital communications. Where two or more are gathered in His name, was the only requirement. That can include a personal prayer, a face-to-face conversation between two, a fellowship in person, a fellowship via video conferencing, a telephone conversation, emails, …or even this online forum. Those who comment here, if they gather in His name, Christ promises that He will be there. His sanctuary "is" His presence. Gathering in Christ's name should not restrict any topic of conversation, whether you agree, disagree, or are indifferent. Each person commenting must answer for themselves if their comments are to gather in Christ's name, governing their own intentions.

In the end, it is Christ who will do the gathering.

The journey we have been on has fulfilled the first portion of this protocol. Our words are woven together in a weaving of a mat. You have seen my heart, and I have seen yours. I

lay this “taki” (challenge) at your feet, extending my heart. It is up to you to do the final unveiling of yours. It is a token, representing the conditions of equality, unity and freedom, offered by the tangata whenua (the people of this land), so that we both can dwell upon the mat/land which we have woven, bound together, without contention.
We desire to share our whakapapa (knowledge) and our waiata (wisdom), through the sharing of our words and our music/dance. We desire to share the breath of life in a ritual welcoming embrace. And most importantly, we desire to share the ritual feast that removes the barrier between manuhiri (visitor) and tangata whenua (people of the land), signifying the binding together.
Mahalo Nui Loa (Big Thanks), Rob & Q Adolpho

Comments

- Log — April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — April 11, 2018

The only statement of principles that shall be agreed to is The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

The acceptance, practice, and teaching of the law and commandments entail accepting all, even our enemies, not esteeming one above another, nor respecting men, thus removing the need to judge between friend and foe.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda — April 11, 2018

Not sure what you mean bro. I mean, I get you want acceptance/practice/teach, but not sure how you connect esteem one above another, or respecting a man, or judging between friend or fo.

Rob

- Log — April 11, 2018

Rob,

Understanding the law comes by revelation. Revelation comes by practicing the law. With revelation comes the obligation to teach the law.

"All are alike unto God."

Jared L.

- etluxentenebrislucet — April 11, 2018

Rob and Q, why the emailing of names and matching them to the book? I don't follow that. But I love your proposal and the understanding I have gained of your heart.

- HuhWhatda April 11, 2018

Agree, agree, and agree. And are you the revelator? I suppose you are not, and therefore, I'll let the revelator tell anyone how to practice, and teach.

All "ARE" alike unto God

Rob

- HuhWhatda April 11, 2018

No reason, except for a call to action. That's it.

Rob

- Log April 11, 2018

I do let the revelator - whom I have never claimed to be - tell anyone how to practice and teach.

I do, however, tell those who claim to be God's people by covenant that they have accepted the obligation to practice and teach (Question 3), leaving it up to the Holy Ghost to instruct them how to accomplish those things.

If therefore you wish to accept and do as the Lord has required pertaining to the statement of principles, then the only way open to you to do that is to agree to adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ.

But, again, you don't have to accept and do as the Lord has required.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

What did you say here Jared, and why did you delete it?

Please tell us.

- HuhWhatda April 11, 2018

That’s why I don’t like the idea, because I don’t want to be told. It offends agency to tell another.

Rob

- Log April 11, 2018

Then your accusation is against God (Question 3).

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 11, 2018

If God tells me, it is a commandment. But Jared telling me doesn't legitimize the

message. That was just kind of Jared. I rely upon the testimony of the Holy Ghost to do the telling. When the Holy Ghost then tells, I am not dependent upon Jared any longer, as he simply carried the message, and the Holy Ghost wrote it upon my heart.

As a messenger, you must be instructed by the Holy Ghost as well. So I have no accusation against God.

Rob

- Log April 11, 2018

Your accusation is against God (Question 3), and you cannot split the hair you're trying to split - to divide the Lord's words from my repetition of his words.

"Cry peace. Proclaim my words. Invite those who will repent to be baptized and forgiven, and they shall obtain my Spirit to guide them."

You and me and every other covenant participant has already agreed it was the Lord speaking (Question 1), therefore by your own words and reasoning it is a commandment to you to teach. By reminding you as well as every other covenant participant of your agreed upon obligation to teach by putting it in the guide and standard, I fulfill my obligations per Question 3. And you can too, if you accept, practice, and teach the Lord's doctrine, law, and commandments.

Jared L.

- Log April 11, 2018

As I said before, it seems you don't know what you agreed to when you entered the covenant.

"The time is short and I come quickly, therefore open your mouths and warn others to flee the wrath which is to come as men in anger destroy one another."

"...accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant...", Question 2, one of which obligations is this: "he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance."

"Teach your children to honor me."

"Seek to recover the lost sheep remnant of this land and of Israel and no longer forsake them. Bring them unto me and teach them of my ways, to walk in them."

Jared Livesey

- Dani April 11, 2018

This is a beautiful idea/proposal.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

Didn't we already agree to that when we took the covenant?

I don't understand how this fulfills the Lord's assignment that we adopt a Statement of Principles?

Or, is the proposal that our adopted statement of principles be - only: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law ofChrist"?

- EdwinWilde April 11, 2018

Jared nobody would be prohibited to teach by way of persuasion any other, only that each person must decide for themselves how they are persuaded by the Holy Ghost to apply the Doctrine and Law of Christ.

- Log April 11, 2018

Edwin,

I'm not sure how what you're saying relates to what I'm saying, which is that there shall be no mutually agreed document other than The Rock of Jesus Christ, and that the objections to it raised by Rob are invalid by his own reasoning.

Perhaps you could clarify your meaning?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 11, 2018

As we have seen all around the world - MANY people claim all kinds of funky religious practices by influence of the Holy Ghost. Many have corrupted the ordinances claiming guidance of the Holy Ghost. This is why the Lot document is so important to bless, benefit and INFORM those who know nothing of this work. Maybe if they know how to properly receive the ordinances then they have a chance of actually receiving the Holy Ghost. Does this make sense?

- Log April 11, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 11, 2018

No, it doesn't make sense.

The Lottery document teaches faith in Denver Snuffer, and to follow the Lottery document men must trust in and follow Denver Snuffer's words for their guide and standard instead of Jesus Christ's words. The Lottery document leads men astray.

O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh; for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is he that putteth his trust in man or maketh flesh his arm.

Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

[Thus saith the Lord:] Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

Therefore, let every man stand or fall by himself, and not for another, or not trusting another.

Jared L.

- tyler April 11, 2018

Two and half weeks ago I was led to this idea as well. The spirit breathed new life into the Doctrine and the Law of Christ.

Much of my unbelief which blinded me is now being shed. There are numerous principles found in both of these teachings. They are WORTHY of being a "guide and standard" to follow in my daily walk. I have been working on being more responsible in aligning my behavior with the Lords law and it has begun to bear fruit. However I still have a journey ahead of me.

The Answer and Covenant calls for us to “come together by precept, reason, and persuasion.” However that may take a great while. It is the “true points” of the Doctrine of Christ that has brought us together. I say why hide the light under a basket, when the doctrine us the potential of delivering us from darkness? The light in the doctrine of Christ, could shine forth as “STANDARD” for the Lords sheep to flock towards. What other people on earth right now know the “the true points” of Christ doctrine? (D&C 10:62; 3 ne 21:6). Or at least take it serious enough to attempt to follow it?

The Law of Christ lays out a “GUIDE” for how we are to behave once we have received the baptism of Fire and the Holy Ghost. Our fellowships and our fellowman provide us with opportunities each day to become more holy and sanctified by abiding by its (the Law) precepts.

With mutual agreement upon the Saviors two most important teachings it allows each person and fellowship the ability to govern themselves. Each fellowship could then be free to embrace other “statements of principles” for their fellowship to follow.

Tyler Kelly

- tyler April 11, 2018

The Lord stated:
“I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them.” (Answer and Covenant p. 8)
In the same revelation, the Lord stated that it was the scriptures we are to accept, by covenant, as our guide and standard:
“Do you […] receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words thoughts and deeds?” (Answer and Covenant p. 10)
It is clear the statement of principles we are required to adopt should be taken from the approved body of scripture the Lord has already placed us under covenant to receive and use as our guide and standard. All covenant makers have already unanimously voted and accepted by mutual agreement to accept the approved scriptures as their guide and standard.

Denver in his second Christian talk stated
“The Early Christians were very diverse but they agreed on two things: Christ’s doctrine […] and Christ’s Law […] found in the Sermon on the Mount. Once Christians have these two essential teachings in common you can have differences on other issues […]” (Talk to the Christians #2 p. 8)

If we bear the fruit of these two teachings it will bless, benefit, and inform those who know nothing about the work. They will recognize our “works” rather than just written words on a paper. The fruit could then testify of God’s work now underway. Taking these two teaching as a Guide and Standard accomplishes the following:

-It adheres to the guide and standard (the approved scriptures) already accepted by covenant.
-It emphasizes the teachings of Jesus Christ Himself.
-It is both the foundation and ideal of Christ’s teachings.
-It allows fellowships and individuals to maintain flexibility in their own cultures, beliefs, and circumstances.
-It allows for the heretofore proposed Statements of Principles to be adopted on an individual or fellowship basis as the revelation they were originally claimed to be.
-It focuses on Christ’s personal teachings to help followers displace trust in the arm of the flesh.
-It teaches those who know nothing of the work underway to focus on the most important teachings found in the scriptures, leading them to attain the Holy Ghost, without which none of the work underway will benefit them.
-It allows those who nothing of the work underway to independently search the revelations and teachings of Joseph Smith and Denver Snuffer for instructions regarding ordinances, priesthood, fellowshipping and conferences, marriage, and tithing.

Tyler Kelly

- AdrianLarsen April 11, 2018

Hi Rob,

I hope you'll indulge two sincere questions and a comment.

Someone else already asked how this fulfills our obligation to write a statement of principles. So I won't ask that one again, but I believe it needs to be answered.

I will, however, ask how a one-sentence statement referring to the law and doctrine of Christ will "bless, benefit and inform those who, as yet, know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway." Let me explain:

I received a baptismal request this week from a family that has been "investigating" Denver and the movement. They purchased a set of scriptures online and have been studying them. They now desire baptism.

I am sad that the set of scriptures this family purchased does not include the statement the Lord asked us to provide them as a blessing and a kindness. I feel heartbroken that we, as a people, have failed, thus far, in our duty to the lost sheep who are listening to the Master's voice and seeking to come to Him. This is a light thing he required, and He specifically required it to bless people like these who are seeking guidance.

And we failed them.

Even if I taped a statement into the back of my own set of scriptures, as has been

suggested, this does nothing to bless, benefit and inform this family who bought the new scriptures and didn't receive what the Lord wanted them to have.

Likewise, if there happens to be a one-sentence statement about the law and doctrine of Christ in the appendix somewhere, I submit this does nothing to give them any practical information at all. It does not tell them how to proceed. It does not provide true principles and their application. It does not tell them ANYTHING about the Lord's work now underway. (The law and doctrine of Christ have been around for thousands of years. The Lord asked us to tell them about the NEW things happening--NOW underway!)

When I heard from this family, it suddenly became much more real to me. This is not just some abstract set of ideas over which we can, or ought to, argue endlessly. These are real people, real lost sheep, to whom we were called to minister, and we have failed in that obligation.

If you'll forgive an obscure reference, these people are the man on the side of the road who has lost his load of drywall, and can't get it reloaded by himself. And we continue to drive by and make excuses.

One last point: The wording matters. The Lord did not define "Mutual Agreement" as "choosing not to dispute." Look closely. He defined it: "As between one another, you choose TO NOT dispute." Notice the word order is different. And I believe this matters.

If you choose to not dispute, this implies two things: First, there is disagreement, and even justifiable reason to dispute. Second, there is a proactive, conscious choice to not do that, even though it is justified. I just wanted to point that out because I think this adds a dimension that is lost in the mis-wording you have used. The problem is not that we need to be one or become Zion in one step through this effort. The Lord's definition tells us otherwise. In this baby step we simply need to make the active choice to NOT dispute, as did our master.

I pray the Lord will guide us all and help us to accomplish what He has asked of us, and soon, so we will not fail more families like the one that contacted me this week.

- EdwinWilde April 11, 2018

Well the good news Jared, is that the covenant offered in Boise isn't conditional upon me agreeing with your interpretations.
In His answer to the request for a covenant, the Lord said that as a people we are not excused from writing a statement of principles by mutual agreement.
I believe that He still doesn't excuse us in this thing. However if all I can offer to Him is my individual willingness to govern myself by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, and then display a willingnes to teach the same, then I can't see how that could produce anything worse for wear than being beat into submission to agree with Jared Livesay's interpretation of Christ's doctrine and law.

You state that the one will not produce mutual agreement (because you refuse to agree with it) and by your actions have shown that the other can not produce mutual agreement (because you can't persuade anyone else that they should abandon the guide of the Holy Ghost in order to only abide your interpretation of the doctrine and law of Christ.)

Therefore I will leave the right of judging what the Lord intended on asking for mutual agreement, up to Him, and in the mean time will seek to have the Holy Ghost guide me in how to apply it in my life.

- tyler April 12, 2018

Adrian although your adressing Rob, i'll engage you if you don't mind?
Keep in mind I'm speaking for myself and from my own perspective.

Although I believe this proposal needs more input on how it would look in the scriptures..the underlying intent is to agree to the doctrine and law of Christ.(Correct me if I'm wrong Rob).

My speaking up is not an attempt to dispute or contend. You are all free to do as you please. Rather, it is an effort to make peace and build upon the two most essential teachings of Christ.

If you feel the Lots document is helpful for ppl in your area then this idea would allow you to embrace it. However it would leave my fellowship the freedom to embrace the statements we feel drawn to. Some have claimed revelation for their parts in thevarious documents. This would allow them to still honor those revelations they feel come from God.

We are all aware of where the scriptures and information is found, that show the "practical" things as you say it. Rather, than continuously produce section 20 type documents and argue over the wording and explanations of those practices, each fellowship could agree to govern themselves.

I would never come and attempt to be a "presiding authority" over your fellowship. You guys probably have your unique way of doing and explaining the work now underway. Who better to help the people in your area than your fellowship. I trust that you know there needs better than I do.

Likewise I would hope others would not attempt to come in and "preside" over my fellowship.

For those who do not worship in a fellowship and want know "practical" things they could visit a website with various statements etc... This would allow them to learn how other fellowships practice.(Just an idea).

However with the above said, if you have LIGHT I would appreciate it. If you feel confident that how you explain the work now underway is filled with light please share it. If your passionate about the Lots document please share why. Over time LIGHT will cleave to light and we will grow in a unity of faith. For now however I believe it is wise to allow our diversity and freedom in explaining these things.

If one fellowship prefers the lots document then go for it. If another prefers the August document then they also could embrace it. If Jared wishes to only abide by the Doctrine and the Law then he is welcome to do so. Rather than attempting to compel each other to accepting our version of this remnant movement, we could be free and allow each fellowship to express itself. However each would be founded upon the doctrine and law of Christ. Over time as our hearts knit then we can come into agreement on these other things.

If we already have this much diversity amongst a number of former LDS, then imagine what it will be like when Buddhist, Hindus, and remnant sheep join us.

- Log April 12, 2018

Edwin,

It's still not clear what you think you are saying.

There shall be no document agreed to other than The Rock of Jesus Christ.

If therefore you wish to be one of the Lord's people indeed, you will accept and do as the Lord has required and cease to dispute The Rock of Jesus Christ.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Hello Everyone,

Part 1

In my prior post at https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/04/a-ground-rule-from-doctrine-of-christ.html I brought up the part of Christ's doctrine about not disputing. I'm persuaded by Denver's post at http://denversnuffer.com/2018/04/how-can-zion-come-from-this/ that "Any solution could be imposed quickly and would result in stabilizing everything–just by adopting a central command structure to compel order." But "that step would bring peace at the price of altogether losing the hope for Zion. For now it must be this gentle way." I mentioned that we could, as a body, allow for a minority of one to stall everything if we decided to. I was wishing for the opposite, where we could apply no contention as a body and not stall things, ignoring the filibusters. Perhaps I sinned in my wish.

Perhaps Denver's ideas are expanding my thoughts to lay down all weapons of war and let the movement be taken over and halted if our enemies decide to do so. The doctrine of Christ about not disputing then becomes an individual matter of applying justice internally while I, as an individual, choose mercy for all others. It is like the Anti-Nephi-Lehis who let their enemies slay them if they wanted, without resistance. I am not in control. Christ seems to be saying that he wants Zion and not efficiency. Remember this scripture? T&C 49:12. I am not saying the Lord has applied that scripture to us yet, but it's principles can apply to how we feel about options that hinder mutual agreement, whether the people advancing them have good intentions or bad.

Since I'm not sure if T&C 49:12 is the Lord's word to us yet, let me suggest something about the Sermon. 3 Nephi expands the Sermon to include Beatitudes about being baptized. He gives instructions on baptism. In 3 Nephi 8 after giving the Sacrament, he says "And I give unto you a commandment that ye shall do these things. And if ye shall always do these things, blessed are ye for ye are built upon my rock. But whoso among you shall do more or less than these are not built upon my rock, but are built upon a sandy foundation." In my opinion, although he pauses the Sermon at Bountiful before doing the Sacrament, this makes this part of the Sermon. This makes Jared's version of the Sermon incomplete. The Book of Mormon expands and corrects the Sermon, and is more correct.

Also, the Book of Mormon say men have made mistakes. Moroni fixed his father Mormon's mistake by including the Sacrament prayers that Mormon neglected to record. We know they are reliable because Mormon said the twelve disciples didn't vary in repeating the words Jesus spoke in the Sermon. Jesus also said to believe those disciples' words. These Sacrament prayers are also part of the Sermon as is the baptismal prayer. Oliver Cowdery came close to interpreting the Book of Mormon Sermon as the law for community rule in his first draft of D&C 20. We are replacing his

incomplete version. This is what the Lord is doing in our day, as the Book of Mormon is coming forth to go to the remnant of the House of Israel which halted in Joseph Smith's time.

I do not accept Jared's words pre-empting how we are to view the Sermon outright. They are his words, and by his logic of only using Christ's words and not paraphrasing, if I have understood him correctly, he fails the test. I think it is OK to paraphrase if the paraphrasing is accurate. I'm just pointing out that Jared's Rock is flawed by his own terms. If we want the Rock to be our guide and standard, Jared's version fails.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Part 2

This is my persuasion and my heart at the moment. I submit it as a modification of the thoughts in my post. Or rather, selecting the options in my post that fit better with wisdom than the possibilities I preferred before. It is still speculation on my part. I'm still studying these things out with all of you and willing to get light and knowledge as I come to better conclusions. I hope you all will be willing to do the same. My heart is willing to accept other proposals, too, but this is my heart within the confines of the most restricting set of mutual parameters based on all I've heard. Within those confines, that is what I think. I can't confine myself to Jared's contradictory confines, but I can to the idea of the Doctrine and the Sermon if we include what I think is the full information revealed at Bountiful.

I think this harmonizes with the Adolpho's sentiments above, but you guys let me know if not.

I would ask Jared to include the full Sermon in 3 Nephi and relevant parts of Moroni with the ordinances Christ mentioned, and the full Doctrine including language about no disputations. Christ called the Sacrament his rock as well in 3 Nephi. Christ mentioned baptism. His language is clear about what parts he says to his disciples and to the multitude. We can share with others that disciples are told to baptize in the manner he mentioned. It is part of the Rock that his disciples are so instructed and that the multitude hear the instructions to the disciples so they know.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Part 1: The Guide and Standard by Lots is nothing more and nothing less than the Law of Christ and the Doctrine of Christ. They are the same thing. I will illustrate below:
Lots Document in a nutshell and how it compares to Law of Christ and Doctrine of Christ:
The parts of the LOTS document is in italics then how it compares, if necessary for explanation is in regular print:
Jesus Christ
The Doctrine of Jesus Christ
The Law of Christ
Baptism- baptism is at the heart of the Law of Christ and Doctrine of Christ. When Christ first preached in Jerusalem it began with baptism, so also in America. Baptism was first before He taught anything else.
Sacrament-In both Jerusalem and America, Christ instituted and commanded that the Sacrament be performed for all those who repent and are baptized. Christ explains, "give it unto the people of my church, unto all those who shall believe and be baptized in my name. And this shall ye always observe to do, even as I have done, even as I have broken bread and blessed it and given it unto you. And this shall ye do in remembrance

of my body, which I have shown unto you. And it shall be a testimony unto the Father that ye do always remember me. And if ye do always remember me ye shall have my Spirit to be with you. And when the disciples had done this, Jesus said unto them: Blessed are ye for this thing which ye have done, for this is fulfilling my commandments, and this doth witness unto the Father that ye are willing to do that which I have commanded you. And this shall ye always do to those who repent and are baptized in my name; and ye shall do it in remembrance of my blood, which I have shed for you, that ye may witness unto the Father that ye do always remember me. And if ye do always remember me ye shall have my Spirit to be with you. And I give unto you a commandment that ye shall do these things. And if ye shall always do these things blessed are ye, for ye are built upon my rock." (3 Nephi 18:5-12 LDS)
Marriage and Family: In both Jerusalem and America Christ teaches the people that the Law of Moses allows for Divorce, He then teaches a higher way which is that if a man even looks at a woman to lust after her he has committed adultery in his heart and those who put away their spouse, except in the case of adultery, cause them to commit adultery. Christ teaches in the Law of Christ that marriage is sacred. The Lots document teaches that marriage and family are sacred and marriage is between one man and one woman. Christ in Jerusalem "suffered" the little children to come unto Him. In America Christ taught the children wondrous things. In the Lot document it reiterates how important it is for us to teach our children of Christ.
Priesthood: In both Jerusalem and America Christ taught the people how they receive power through him to baptize. Baptism is part of the Doctrine of Christ, therefore, if someone new to this movement wants to obey the Doctrine of Christ through repentance and baptism they must understand where the authority to baptize comes from.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Part 2:
Fellowships and Gatherings: In the Law of Christ, everything that Christ asks of us needs community. To be the salt of the earth we must interact (or fellowship) with others. To comfort those who mourn we must associate with others. To accept the Lords servants and give heed to their words we must associate with those servants. To be a light to the world we must associate with others so that they can see our light. Read the Law of Christ again with the perspective in mind of fellowships and gatherings and you will see that the entire Law of Christ cannot be lived as a single individual.
Tithing: The Law of Christ teaches that if a man compel thee to go a mile go with him two. Love your neighbor as yourself. If someone steals your coat give them your cloak also. Isn't tithing the same thing? Tithing is a way by which we can lift those around us (loving our neighbors as ourselves), if they ask for a dollar, give them two.
Zion and the Covenant: everything Christ taught in the Law of Christ and the Doctrine of Christ is preparing a people for Zion. In the Law of Christ He teaches, "blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth" (Zion, land). And as far as the covenant, it is the way by which we became His people. This is what the Law of Christ teaches, "blessed are all the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." The Law of Christ teaches the way by which we can be numbered as God's covenant people.

The LOTS document IS the Law of Christ and the Doctrine of Christ. There is nothing in the LOTS document that is not found within the Law of Christ and the Doctrine of Christ. Accepting the LOTS document is accepting the Law of Christ and the Doctrine of Christ, it is accepting CHRIST!
We have all been saying the same thing, desiring the same thing for months now, we have just perhaps not noticed before. I accept the Law of Christ. I accept the Doctrine of Christ. I believe that the LOTS document is both the Law and Doctrine of Christ and will help inform and bless those who know nothing yet of the Lord's work now underway.
*For those who believe that any guide and standard we adopt must only be Christ's words and none of Denver's. If you believe the Law of Christ, then let me remind you

that the Law of Christ begins with these words: “ Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you, and to be your servants…And again, more blessed are they who shall believe in your words because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me, and that ye know that I am. Yea, blessed are they who shall believe in your words, and come down into the depths of humility and be baptized, for they shall be visited with fire and with the Holy Ghost, and shall receive a remission of their sins.” The Law of Christ clearly teaches that we are blessed if we give heed to the words of the servants HE sends to us (Denver) and more blessed are those who believe in the words of those that testify that they have seen Him!

**sorry, when you add comments it doesn't' let you italicize, so, I hope you can figure out what I meant.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Part 3

So, to be clear, I am removing my proposals # 3 and # 4 about rejecting contentions at the beginning of the comments on my last post. I am doing this because Denver’s post causes me to ponder longer before I am willing to motion on that kind of idea. I am willing to remove the other proposals, but they are not bad suggestions. I’ll let them stand. You can vote on them as a body or not. What I have written above incorporates the same ideas which I think match the Adolpho’s post request.

In response to Adrian’s thoughts about providing something more than the Sermon talking about particulars from our time and Denver’s revelations, I can see that side of things and agree. I am of two minds. If we are restricted to mutual consent with others who only agree to the Sermon, I offer my thoughts within those confines to try to compromise. If the Sermon and Doctrine is the standard, perhaps what the Lord is asking is for us to clarify which parts of the Book or Mormon are the principles we adopt, like he asked Oliver Cowdery to do. In writing on golden plates, etching things in, they had a linear way of getting thoughts down and couldn’t compile them in a way people can understand in terms of where to begin. If we separate out all the Sermon principles scattered across 3 Nephi and Moroni into one document as our guide and standard, perhaps we complete what Mormon and Moroni couldn’t do on golden plates completely well. It also allows us to affirm their importance. Many of us started with 3 Nephi as LDS missionaries. If you’ve noticed Denver’s preaching to Christians, he really has just given better first discussions, etc. They are very similar. It preserves what was good.

We have put Denver’s revelations in the scriptures and it is easy to give newcomers a copy of the Guide and Standard (as Sermon and Doctrine only) and also include any other scriptures as follow-ups. But, it is exhilarating in a sense to be able to affirm that our Law is the Sermon and our Doctrine is from Christ.

I think this is the last of my thoughts.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

(I just saw Anonymous's posts after mine, and I agree with those sentiments, too. I can go either way. I agree with the idea that we are learning to accept more of the Sermon on Bountiful. If we want want those principles restated to include some of Denver's words, I am all for it. If we only want to reprint what is in the Book of Mormon and pull out the right principles and put them in one document, I am for that, too).

- Log April 12, 2018

Brian,

You ask: "I would ask Jared to include the full Sermon in 3 Nephi and relevant parts of Moroni with the ordinances Christ mentioned, and the full Doctrine including language about no disputations. "

I answer:I already answered why the answer to that question is "no" on my blog. See also here for additional clarification.

Adrian's sorrows can end just as soon as he ceases to dispute The Rock of Jesus Christ.

The power of godliness is manifest in the doctrine and the Sermon when they are actually put into practice, not when they are merely acknowledged with one's lips. When the words of Jesus Christ are not believed and put into faithful and diligent practice, they remain cold, dead words on paper, as they have been for millennia.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

1 of 2

Jared,

You are addressing the Boise Covenant as a whole, but I am addressing the Governing Principles Project at hand. Within the context of the Boise Covenant, I am responsible to practice and teach, and that is clear. However, within the context of the Governing Principles Project, all I can mutually agree to is how I will agree to govern myself.

You have expressed in the past your regret for following a man, and taking the covenant. You have expressed that you cannot unring a bell, and therefore your efforts to speak in terms of the Boise Covenant is your way of repenting of following a man, by making the Boise Covenant irrelevant. For that reason, you would cover the necessary requirements of the Boise Covenant, by stating the necessity for the Governing Principles Project to include “practice” and “teach,” in addition to “being governed by.” Doing so, removes the necessity for anyone to make the same mistake you made. That is what I have learned about your opinion. If I am wrong, and have mistaken your view, I’m sorry and would be inclined to be corrected.

If I am correct about your view, I was not instructed by the voice of the Lord to participate in replacing the Boise Covenant, but only to work on the Governing Principles Project. In that context, that is the reason I have come to conclude that to “Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ” is sufficient.

I did not do as you did, making the mistake of following a man, and taking the covenant. I received personal revelation, prior to going to Boise, that if the Governing Principles are not included in the scriptures (as the majority was pushing the Aug 5th document) the rest of the covenant would properly represent my connection to heaven. However, I was also prepared to do as I say, and not partake of the covenant because I could not agree with the principles laid out in the Aug 5th document. I had great anxiety going to Boise, and felt confirmed by heaven when I was permitted to partake in receiving the responsibilities of the Boise Covenant.

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

2 of 2

This past conference, I was one who vocally opposed, because I cannot see the Lots document as mutually agreeable, and therefore if it was voted into scripture, between God and I, I would not be able to accept the scriptures in that condition, and must again walk away. As I believe that this is All or Nothing, and that this movement is the prophesied rock cut without hands (the building of Zion), …I opposed as if I was loosing my life, as this is the very life of me. Some have advised me that I am making this more than it really is, but my heart just cannot believe their words. My heart vibrates that they're wrong, and that this, right now is everything, …it is All or Nothing. And that is why I spoke up. When the final vote was not cast on Sunday, the joy that filled my heart was the same joy and relief I felt in Boise when the Aug 5th document was not included, because that meant that I was not yet cut off, and could continue towards Zion. On both occasions I was forced to walk through a symbolic valley of the shadow of death, contemplating the dark abyss, wondering if my inclusion in Zion would be lopped off (like Laban's head). To express relief does not do it justice. It is as if my life was preserved, when I was doomed to certain death.

Jared, what I don't understand about your perspective is, you regret following a man, but recommend "telling" people to what to practice and what to teach. You have made yourself the man for others to follow, while regretting following a man. And you are recommending that the only thing mutually agreeable is for us to "be the man" with you. I would not have anyone make the same mistake you made. Therefore, if we could mutually agree upon something, without following a man, then it would be to simply: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ.

You-da-man,
Rob Adolpho

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

And just to be clear, I think the Lots document selected words from Denver that are the Lord's words and not his own, so I don't think "Denver's words" is an accurate term to use to match my own feelings. But, I am not willing to force people to accept them as the Lords. Also, in different fellowships I've been in as I've moved my home, some of them have not been ready to implement tithing or accept the covenant, even though I do. We have started just fine with baptism and Sacrament. It is easy to find the scriptures about tithing, covenant, and ordination after that. Or, there may be enough about ordinations in the Book of Mormon that are part of the Sermon like Anonymous mentioned if that really needs to be there. Still, ordination particulars are mentioned in the covenant. People can was the inside of the cup first and get the outside clean after.

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Anon.

I think Tyler Kelly's expression below represents how it fulfills the Lord's assignment. And, yes, the adoption of the Doctrine and Law of Christ, to govern ourselves, is what we can all mutually agree upon.

Rob

- Log April 12, 2018

Roughly 7 months after Boise, why are people still talking about putting the doctrine and sermon into practice in the future?

What has stopped you from doing it since Boise, when you agreed to do it?

Will whatever has stopped you from doing it since Boise cease in the forseeable future?

If not, then it may never be easier to do it than it is right now - so oughtn't you get started?

Remember - [T]rust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments. - Mosiah 23:14.

Those who do not walk in the ways of God, and do not keep his commandments, should not be hearkened to as teachers, nor should one accept ordinances from them.

That injunction might prevent much sorrow were it to be observed (Question 3).

Jared Livesey

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 12, 2018

Brian,

It's not an opinion. And you have misread the Lord's requirement.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Jared, I suggest your reasoning is preference and opinion when you stated briefly: "With respect to KJV Luke 6:20-49, the differences between the Restoration Edition and the KJV are not substantial. Using the KJV allows for a broader approach to Christians who are not from the Mormon traditions." That could be seen as rejecting the Lord's requirement to let people know what is going on in our day, including the more correct version of the Sermon in the Book of Mormon. I could be wrong, but I suggest that part of your post is not supported by scripture, but is a preference. However, because I accept accurate paraphrasing, and agree with your summary of the Rock, and the scripture in Luke, I already accept and strive to do that as a guide and standard. If others want compromise, I say it is the same thing to included the expanded version of the Sermon at Bountiful, and equally fulfills the request for a Guide and Standard by your own terms, barring the above preference.

- Log April 12, 2018

Also, Brian:

I remind you: there shall be no other document agreed to than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

There shall be no negotiation nor compromise on the contents.

As soon as all dispute concerning the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ ceases, the body can fulfill the Lord's requirement and requests concerning the G&S by adding The Rock of Jesus Christ as the replacement for LDS D&C 20.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

That part hinges on the interpretation of the word "kind" in the A&C. Kind does not necessarily imply long or short or non-Book of Mormon verses for the Law.

- Log April 12, 2018

I will also note that failure to do what is in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles is also to dispute it, for if you will not do what it contains you disagree with it in your heart, whatever you may say with your lips.

All dispute against The Rock of Jesus Christ must cease.

The Lord will have a people who not only says with their lips that they accept his doctrine and his law and his commandments, but who will with their deeds demonstrate they believe and will faithfully and diligently execute his doctrine and his law and his commandments.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

I'm fine with that, too.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

And to go the second mile with you, I'll advocate as well that everyone go two miles with Jared and accept his proposal. It is just fine and it is just as easy to copy other scriptures and hand them to newcomers on an individual basis. I'm completely fine with that. I think it fits fine with the Adolpho's proposal, and I think Adrian's concerns can be met another way. We can finish this G&S and start a new document that collects good scriptures into one doc for fun.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Adolpho's correct me if I'm wrong.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

There are at least two reasons why proposals for statements of principles that only include the Doctrine & Law of Christ fall short and miss the mark:

1) How can a statement of principles “also be added” (future) if it only consists of scriptures (ie, Doctrine and Law of Christ) that are already included in the scriptures and/or guide and standard? Do we think the Lord would ask us to “add” something that is already included the scriptures? Adding, at least to me, means it was not there before. In other words, the Lord is asking us to write something that was not there already.

2) The statement of principles is to help those who know nothing of the work now underway. The Law & Doctrine of Christ do not include the Lord’s recent revelations to us through a messenger concerning His work now underway. If we fail to include the recent instructions we have been given, and then fail to relay them to others that are new to the work now underway, have we met the requirements?

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Lori,

I failed to clarify what I meant by a call to action. When truth and light are offered, despite who God chooses to offer it through, if that is what you seek, you are required first to recognize it as truth and light, and then receive it. Belief is based on recognizing truth and light. However, action is required of all who receive it. Regarding sacred things being given, I call it a "taki" while others may call it a "token," all who desire to receive it must take an action, and arise to receive it. Likewise, those who recognize the Lord's hand moving again today are required to show forth a sign, and that sign is baptism. If mutual agreement is required, a mutual sign must be offered to express your mutual agreement.

However, that sign has no relevance to anyone but you and God. For that reason, I have designated the direction to send your name is to the clearinghouse. He set himself up as the clearinghouse, so he can do that part. Appropriately so, since a clearinghouse is defined as: an agency or organization that collects and distributes something, especially information.

People can do it or not, it doesn't matter to me. I simply know that saying that you believe and acting on belief are two different things. And in this world, we have an abundance of saying, and doing is altogether rare.

Thank you for asking this question and impressing upon me to provide reasoning.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

What our brother Jared is saying is that HE (for himself) will dispute every document other than The Rock of Jesus Christ. He will only support the contents of his own document which does contain truth. So Jared, I mutually agree to not dispute with your choice of statement. I support it and every time I see you and speak with you, I will encourage you and all others who support that document, in your walk and calling. I don't need to dispute The Rock of Jesus Christ. As for me, the Guide and Standard I choose needs a little more information so as to be kind and helpful to those who know nothing of Gods work NOW under way, it may look a little different but does contain the same truth. I will not force the document I am inspired to accept upon anyone, but just be and encourage all.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Rob and Q,

Thank you for taking time to write that proposal. I accept with gratitude and support with all my heart. Now, let's all go smoke a peace pipe together!

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

This is an excellent analysis.

I hope people will really ponder what this is saying...particularly, any who feel that all we need is to use the Law and Doctrine of Christ.

Using them alone lacks the necessary added context of knowing how to apply them within the bounds the Lord has set. I'm not sure why we, who have accepted the words of Christ delivered to us through Denver, continue to kick against the use of the further explanations and clarifications he gave us for our dispensation in how to properly handle the ordinances, etc.

Why is this so offensive to people? And how can it possibly offend any culture (or at least the people within that culture who are His Sheep)...if it is from Christ?

If something is from Christ (which the added clarification is) then it is and will be required of all His Sheep....NO MATTER WHAT CULTURE OR BACKGROUND THEY COME FROM.

Will the future Native Americans, HIndus, Muslims, etc. not have to be baptized with the correct words, by someone who has the authorized priesthood and partake of the sacrament properly or not? Will they need to follow the instructions for priesthood given in this dispensation and be sustained by seven women or not? Was the Lord just joshing us? Was He just giving us a suggestion? Or was He expecting us all to adhere to the things Denver taught in this regard.

If the answer is that the Lord was serious...how serious can we really take ourselves when we think that we have filled the measure of our assignment by referencing just the Law and Doctrine without needed context.

The above explanation, by Anonymous 6:57 & 7:00, of how the Law and Doctrine of Christ actually make up the entire content of the Lots GS are beautifully explained.

Honestly, brothers and sisters, this is bordering on silly. Why are we so stubborn of heart that we cannot accept the words the Lord has delivered to us to help us know how to apply His Law and Doctrine in a way that honors His instructions for our dispensation.

And while I'm writing, Adrian is right. I have been corresponding with a former Anglican Minister. He ordered our new scriptures of his own accord. Consider the misunderstandings he probably has regarding baptism, sacrament, priesthood, etc. How would he possibly have any clue that there is a proper way to perform baptism, the sacrament, etc. by the Doctrine and Law alone. Do we feel no obligation to help him? Do we feel no obligation to honor God and His instructions pertaining to the administration of such ordinances? I for one, do.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Tyler,

I wanted to address a comment specifically to you, but it also fit under something that was written below...so I posted it there.

Will you please go below and read the comment under AnonymousApril 12, 2018 at 8:53 AM.

I conclude it with another example that supports what Adrian's is saying above, too.

But the reality is, I think we need to be careful buying into the perspective that the standards the Lord requires to be adhered to are somehow culturally offensive to the Lord's Sheep. Culture and tradition...for ALL of us...MUST give sway specifics the Lord has given as absolutes. There is nothing in explanations we've been given by the Lord through Denver regarding the proper application of the Doctrine and Law of Christ that are offensive to anyone who desires to be of His fold.

I hope you'll take the time to scroll down and read my comment.

Thanks so much.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

I forgot to mention that it will make more sense if you first read what AnonymousApril 12, 2018 at 6:57 AM and 7:00 said.

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Adrian,

I get that this movement is young, and we have things to work through, but to say it has failed does not seem accurate to me. If there is going to be mutual agreement on a statement of principles, the work to mutually agree must not be substituted by a process.

Dispute can be seen as disagree, but none of us believe that we aren't "allowed" to disagree. It also can mean to argue/ discuss heatedly/ compete for/ strive to win. I see that as what the Lord desires not to happen, because contention is of the devil. However, the definition of choice for those claiming the majority is the first, disagree. And if disagreeing "is" permitted, there's a social norm of acceptable disagreeing permitted. And the box gets smaller and smaller by the box builders establishing the lexicon, defining words to their liking. No disagreeing produces the death of individuality, in exchange for a unity. I desire to preserve both individuality and unity. Re-ordering the words from "not to dispute," into "to not dispute," doesn't change the fact that interpretation can take it two ways, and both be correct. That's the kind of stuff the Lord does all the time, to prove His people by how they choose to interpret it. I choose to recognize both, and offer a solution for both to live in harmony.

Reading your post causes me to think that assumptions are being made, but they are being stated as facts. It is an assumption that the Lord desires this document to be a how-to manual, a promotional document, a law, or something else. Like I stated above, the Lord does this kind of stuff all the time to prove us (my assumption). I don't mind assumptions, but they ought not be stated as if they are facts. The words being used are vague, leaving our treatment of one another to be exposed, as we work to do the assignment. If they are vague, then why be so certain when everything about you is so uncertain? Our responsibility is to consider all that we have been given, and do the work

of being a people, at least at heart. For that, I find it sufficient to mutually agree to: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ.

Regarding the one-line statement having no practical information, no instruction to how to proceed, not telling any true principles and applications, and nothing regarding the Lords work now underway, …um, you're gonna have to explain that. The Doctrine and Law of Christ does every one of those. The Lord's work now underway is the work towards Zion that previous generations failed to do, which is to repent. All who were preached repentance and repented became Zion. You have made another assumption that the Lord wants this to be NEW, and that the old Doctrine and Law of Christ was not the problem of the earlier followers of Christ. Just because it's old, doesn't mean it doesn't work.

Rob Adolpho

PS. I don't understand the implication of the guy on the road who lost his load, and everyone passes him up, not stopping to help. I would have pulled over and helped. That sucks that he lost his load, and he's not only in need of help, but he could cause a much worse accident for everyone else. But I don't understand how this is relevant.

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

LOL!
Rob

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Holy crap, I can't keep up with the arguments to tell you if you're wrong or not. I can tell you that Jared and I disagree on two words: practice/teach. The basis of the disagreement is not trusting in the arm of flesh. Both of us agree on that, but he would add instructions to tell those who accept the Doctrine and Law of Christ that they must practice/teach it. Now, I know that if they actually do govern themselves by it, they will practice/teach it. But, to tell it in the document, contradicts the idea of trusting in the arm of flesh.

This ought not be misunderstood as my inability to recognize the truths taught by Denver. The Holy Ghost has testified to me that the things I understand of what Denver is true. So, if I now say something that Denver has said, it is not Denver's. He has no copyright on truth.

The kindness shown is to all who would be the Lord's sheep to have an environment with which truth and light can increase. The governments of all the world are toxic to the sustaining life of the seed, which is the word of God. To have a people willing to govern themselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, an environment can be provided for the seed to grow. If a coconut tree was planted in Canada in the spring, it may survive until fall, but it will never endure the winter, as it is a tropical plant. A coconut tree's survival depends on the necessities of the environment for it's survival. Likewise, within the Doctrine and Law of Christ, light can increase, until we are filled with light.

The frequent questions I hear is, "Where is the instructions for the new people?" As you have pointed out, the instructions are found in the Doctrine and Sermon. But our old LDS traditions seek to be told what it is we should do, when the Doctrine of Christ requires the Holy Ghost to instruct you, not relying on the arm of flesh. Even a prophet's message must come through the medium of the Holy Ghost. So when a person receives the message from God, what they have done is receive the Holy Ghost.

I will not tell people what they should do. I recognize that everyone commonly accepts to be governed by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, therefore I propose something that we all already agree with. Some have assumed that accepting to Govern ourselves this way somehow offends what Denver has taught. It doesn't. That's just an assumption. On the contrary, it respects what Denver has taught.

Lastly, the Doctrine and Law of Christ IS in the scriptures, but our response, in mutual agreement, to be governed by it is not. All successful Zions have two things in common: a preacher preached repentance, and the people repented. Our response, in mutual agreement is our choice as a people to repent. If the Doctrine and Law of Christ is too simple, agree to be governed by it, and individually do the level of complexity that suits you. However, we ought not force another to see things through our own lens. They should be free to see it through their own lens.

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet April 12, 2018

I do understand the need for both saying and doing, or that faith leads to works.

Back when the idea to use the book where names of those baptized are recorded as a background check on those nominated for the lots drawing, I had a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach, and your suggestion to submit my name in a similar manner albeit as an act of faith and acceptance evokes the same pain. It's something I could not put my heart behind. I am not sure what could be done otherwise, but I am very appreciative that you have offered the group something.

A bonfire where we destroy our efforts thus far, then cover ourselves in the ashes of the fire and petition Christ for His greater light still appeals to me. haha

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Thanks for your input.
Rob

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

I see your perspective and agree your proposal is a good one. It's between you and Jared about the word "teach". I can accept his document with or without the word. I see where you are coming from. Thanks for your response.

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

Lori,

I understand the sick feeling. That's how I felt about voting. For lack of a better method, I too cannot imagine any other way of adopting the statement publicly, as a method of mutual agreement. Now is the time of anxiety, where I trust the Lord to do His part. I'm confident that He'll show His part soon.

I believe that an action of mutual agreement can be made, but an action is necessary. We cannot continue to say, but not do as we say. Whether or not it is in one location really doesn't matter TO ME. It might matter to God, or it might not, I really don't know. That's for you to be instructed by Him.

Thanks,
Rob Adolpho

Rob

- Log April 12, 2018

Rob,

It is not necessary for you to understand my perspective.

All you need understand is this:

1. There shall be no agreed document other than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.
2. There shall be no modification to the content of The Rock of Jesus Christ.
3. If you indeed desire to be one of the Lord's people, you will accept and do as he has required and you will cease to dispute against The Rock of Jesus Christ.
4. How long it takes you to accept and do as the Lord has required is up to you.

That's all you, and anyone else, need to understand.

The test is just this simple: "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

Those who want explanations for the content of the document can find them on my blog.

Jared L.

- Log April 12, 2018

Instead of "trying Jared's document," why not try the following things?

1. If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
3. Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
5. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

The Lord would be much impressed were we to actually execute these, his commandments, for that would show him and the angels that we do, indeed, desire to be his people, and that we do, indeed, accept and do as he has required.

The Sermon has not yielded much fruit for millennia because the Lord's followers honored him with their lips only, and not their works. They have not believed his commandments and have not put them into practice, even though they talk of love constantly with their lips.

Those who do put the Sermon into practice agree upon it, and they have the Lord's spirit to be with them always, as promised in the Sacramental prayer. Those who do not put it into practice have no promise from the Lord.

What differentiates this people - what must differentiate the people of God - from the world is that they do, indeed, accept, practice, and teach the Lord's law and commandments.

And, if not, he will find another people who will yield unto him the fruit he has required, and he shall make Zion from them.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Hi Adrian,

As I was reading through your comment, and I was pondering your claim that we failed that family by not having a printed statement of principles in the scriptures, it hit me, that you would have added to their understanding by filling in the gaps with what is written in your heart.

This opened up my understanding as to how Rob and Q's proposal fulfills the Lord's requirement while allowing mutual agreement and being broad enough to include any who know nothing as yet.

The scripture in Jeremiah (13:9 RE) came flooding to my mind:

"But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel:
After those days, says the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts, and will be their God and they shall be my people. "

I considered myself - if I knew nothing as yet concerning the work currently underway, would I want to be handed a piece of paper with a list of principles, or would I rather have a friend to explain and teach me what is written in their heart and treat me as a member of the family?

In D&C 20, which we are endeavoring to replace, it says that after baptism, "The elders or priests are to have a sufficient time to expound all things concerning the church of Christ to their understanding, previous to their partaking of the sacrament and being confirmed by the laying on of hands of the elders, so that all things may be done in order."

In the A&C the Lord says one purpose of the statement of principles is to "bless, benefit, and inform" those "who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway." That includes people who may not know that there even is a God, the nature of the Gods, what priesthood is and why they would want it, even the need for a savior, etc., which are principles that are not addressed by any existing statement, but would be necessary to understand in order for them to understand any of the documents now available. In other words, only people with an LDS background would benefit from the current documents.

Maybe what you described with that family, and what you needed to do in order to bring them up to speed is exactly what needs to happen. I don't see it as a failure, I see it as a success. We should all be willing to welcome new comers into our covenant family personally, and no written document can do that. We need to become a living embodiment of our principles. At one level, adding a short statement like the one Rob and Q propose would fulfill the requirement to add a statement while at the same time be simple enough to allow mutual agreement. At another level, it also allows for anyone to add to it as they feel inspired, which others, including the scripture committee, have

also proposed. At an even higher level, it allows the Lord to write a statement in our hearts that is broad enough to encompass all others who know nothing as yet.

Ordering the scriptures and reading a statement of principles cannot bring them baptism, or priesthood. There must be someone to administer those things to them in person. Having a statement that we take the doctrine of Christ and the law of Christ (which the Lord in Jeremiah said would be written in our inward parts and hearts) as our guide and standard is simply stating that we take Christ Himself as our living Guide and Standard. Our actions, what we do, then becomes our statement we “add” to show this to the world.

It is true, we have had the doctrine and law before us for thousands of years, but with this we are stating that these are the principles for others to hold us to, to judge our actions. We are saying, “this is who we are, let us show you by how we act.” Anything procedural is already in the scriptures, and we can point them to it. It is difficult for us to anticipate everything they might ask.

I appreciate your questions, because I don’t think I would have seen these things otherwise. I love that we are able to have peaceful dialog - I feel like we are making progress.

-Dana Vaughn

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Rob says: Waiata!

Sam Vaughn says: Let's ha'e a cèilidh, bro! (as he picks up the Taki)

- etluxentenebrislucet April 12, 2018

Dana, that was beautifully and perfectly expressed. Thank you.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 12, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Blair April 12, 2018

I actually really like a proposal that Brian Zang put forward in a comment that he seems to have since removed.

It is clear that everyone agrees that the Sermon on the Mount/at Bountiful and the Doctrine of Christ need to be included no matter what (although some may be a little different on details such as whether to use the New Testament or the Book of Mormon). Therefore, put those in a document by themselves, and take it to the Lord and seek His word on whether or not it falls short. I'm sure many have done this on an individual basis, but I don't believe it has been done on a collective basis.

The only wrinkle is, we would need to specify before hand who is to receive the answer, and all would need to agree.

I haven't thought through the full implications, but figured I would float the idea anyway.

Thoughts?

- HuhWhatda April 12, 2018

I absolutely agree Jared. Trying the document is not the concern, it's living the truth of the Doctrine and Law. I have never questioned someone's authority in this project. What gets done with authority represents its fruits.

The fruits of the Doctrine and Law have not been produced for forever. Seeking for something NEW, to replace something OLD is not a plan or method I would trust, especially when the none of the NEW ever produced Zion, while the OLD has at least twice. I would add that belief is broad and wide, but faith is rare, especially today. What differentiates the people of the Lord is precisely as Jared says, they do as did the Son of God, by proving His words because He lived them.

It is not enough to be religious. Hell will be filled with the religious. It is not enough to proclaim you have light if you do not live according to its principles. The sermon we are looking at now is the Lord's careful formulation of the principles which will save. He delivered it often during His mortal ministry. When He was resurrected and ministered to lost sheep, including the Nephites, he delivered the same address to them all.

Above all other sources of information about the path back to God, this is the greatest message of all. Within it are the very steps that are required for life and salvation, spoken by the author of salvation.

I agree with what Jared wrote, and recognize it as truth. Both Natives and Hawaiians immediately recognized the truth in the message delivered in the scriptures, connecting it with their own cultures, and the God that promised He would return. However, the fruits that those who professed these words were incongruent to their message. The message can be repeated by hypocrites and pretenders. The fruits cannot be faked. The sacrifice cannot be faked. But the words can absolutely be faked by hypocrites and pretenders!

I not only place the challenge, I expect to do as I say, and produce sweet fruits. God give me sufficient nourishment to produce sweet fruits!

Rob Adolpho

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

Did Denver say his exclusion was from participating, but if we come to a conclusion, he could ask the Lord for us? I don't remember, and I'm not advocating for that either way, just wondering what was said because I know some people will be wondering, too.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 12, 2018

If Denver's post about receiving reliable information is accurate, then coming to a conclusion we think is reasonable, even if it is a wrong conclusion, is no sin if we take it to the Lord to ask if it is right. http://denversnuffer.com/2018/02/reliable-information/

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

The Lot Statement points to Jesus Christ. It helps anyone to live the Law and Doctrine of Christ. It containts the teachings of Jesus Christ given to this new dispensation. The purpose of calling Denver and giving these teachings through him was to correct the errors and falsehoods among the LDS and all Christians.

To even receive the gift of the Holy Ghost - not just inspiration from the Holy Ghost - one must receive the proper and authorized ordiances.

All kinds of evil and false religious practices have been engaged in by people claiming they were guided by the Holy Ghost. The Apostasy of the LDS Church occurred by multitudes claiming guidance from the Holy Ghost. Great evil has been done by those who claimed they are "Governed by the Law and Doctrine of Christ".

God didn't call Denver and speak to him from Heaven to ignore those teachings when going forth to spread the message of His work now underway throughout the world.

Indeed, the Lot document fulfills, in every way - the "test" of "goodness" given in Moroni 7. It teaches of Christ and points to Christ and "bless, benefits and informs" those who know nothing of God's work now underway how to keep the Doctrine and Law of Christ.

Moroni 7:
13 But behold, that which is of God inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, every thing which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God.
14 Wherefore, take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God to be of the devil.
15 For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night.
16 For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that he may know good from evil; wherefore, I show unto you the way to judge; for every thing which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God.

- Log April 12, 2018

The Lottery documents omits the law and commandments of Christ, without which men cannot believe on the word of the Lord and repent of all their sins and receive the Holy Ghost, and substitutes in their place an opinion of Denver Snuffer's.

"The Law of Christ

The greatest instruction given by God at any time, to any generation, is a rule of community found in the Sermon on the Mount[9] and in the Sermon at Bountiful[10]. The Law of Christ is found there."

Thus we can plainly see that this people has not learned the lesson of the LDS Church.

The LDS Church failed because they followed Joseph Smith and not the Holy Ghost.

Following prophets, even true prophets, keeps you in the telestial world, hellbound, and seperated from Jesus. Swapping one set of mortal leaders for another, even if you're swapping false prophets for a true prophet, is simply to commit the same error the LDS Church committed.

Pick up the taki of God, even the Sermon on the Mount, and do it and teach it, and you will be his people. Practice and preach loyalty to his servants, on the other hand, and you will fail just as those who did the same before you.

Jared Livesey

"How can a statement of principles 'also be added' (future) if it only consists of scriptures (ie, Doctrine and Law of Christ) that are already included in the scriptures and/or guide and standard? Do we think the Lord would ask us to “add” something that is already included...? Adding, at least to me, means it was not there before. In other words, the Lord is asking us to write something that was not there already."

Good point.

Aren't the sermon on the mount and the sermon at bountiful already part of the scriptures you all covenanted to accept as a guide when you entered the covenant?

How can they be added?

Here's a quote from those scriptures you accepted then.

"Brethren, I speak after the manner of men: Though but a man’s covenant, yet when confirmed, no man disannuls or adds unto it."

Galatians 9.

Since "The Rock of Jesus" consists only of quotes from the scriptures already accepted as a guide in Boise, how can they be added?

And why hasn't Jared ever responded to this?

"The following two statements clearly claim you have been in the Lord’s presence, which implies you have seen Him face to face:

'The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost.'

'Afterwards, I fasted and prayed and was baptized again, confessing my sin, in the hopes that the Lord might receive me again into his presence.'

My question is simple: Are we to take these statements literally?—i.e. you previously met the Lord face to face, and that the covenant incident caused Him to deny you access to His presence?

Is this what we are to understand by these statements?"

Adrian Larsen asked these questions some time ago.

Why haven't they been answered?

And Jared did recently say "By all means, fast and pray - but remember that unless you really do what is required to get an answer from the Lord, you have no promise that he will answer. And if you have no promise that he will answer because you do not fulfill his stated conditions, and if you are answered, then it may not be him who answered. Therefore if you do not know your answer comes from him you may well be deceived...If you are not doing these things, you have no promise from the Lord that he will answer you, and whatever answers you get are suspect.

There are lying spirits that answer prayers, and even testify of true messengers, as we

can plainly see from the scriptures."

It seems reasonable to ask him if he feels he's beyond deception, and why he feels that way.

Jared--do you mean to imply that we must meet these standards perfectly, and that you are beyond deception because you meet these standards perfectly?

Please reply.

And please tell us whether you meant to come across as a prophet when you said "All dispute against The Rock of Jesus Christ must cease"?

That does sound like an order.

Are you speaking, or did you intend this to be understood as a "thus saith the Lord."

These are legitimate questions.

Please answer them.

Thank you.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

The Boise covenant hasn't been confirmed until the requirements are met, has it?

And one of the requirements is that a statement of guiding principles be agreed to and "added" to the scriptures that were accepted as a guide there.

So how can something already accepted be "added" to what was accepted?

(And Jared, please answer the above questions.)

- Log April 12, 2018

"The Boise covenant hasn't been confirmed until the requirements are met, has it?"

No.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

And isn't one of the requirements to "add" a statement of guiding principles to the new Canon of scripture you already accepted as a guide?

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

And since the scriptures do tell us to confess our faults to one another, would you please tell us if you recognize any faults or shortcomings in yourself?

Because it wouldn't be entirely unreasonable to infer, from some of your posts here, that you believe you are beyond deception, and have past the finish line, and measure up to the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Is that what you mean to imply?

And is that how you want to be understood?

- Log April 12, 2018

"And isn't one of the requirements to 'add' a statement of guiding principles to the new Canon of scripture you already accepted as a guide?"

You can read the document for yourself: http://denversnuffer.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Answer-Covenant-1.pdf

And the context for it here: http://denversnuffer.net/resources/Prayer-for-Covenant.pdf

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 12, 2018

Hate to interrupt the discussion, but this spot seems like a good place to quickly add some powerful insight someone gave, since time is a factor (for those who are fasting and praying on Saturday, anyway).

Turning Water into Wine

- tyler April 12, 2018

Dana,
I agree with all that you said above. Thank you!

- tyler April 12, 2018

Amen to to what Jared and Rob said above!Let's bear some fruit. It's our works no our words that are most important.

- AdrianLarsen April 12, 2018

Tyler,

I only have a minute, so I'll be brief, I hope.

1. The family in question does not live in my area. They are remote and live in a state where there aren't any close fellowships. The reason I knew of their baptism request is that I run the Born of Water website. Sorry if that was confusing. But it makes the point that the sheep are all over the world, and mostly not near a fellowship. Hence the need for the statement the Lord requested. These groups need direction and help. They believe the doctrine of Christ, but don't know how to receive or perform correct baptism, for example. Or the sacrament. Or sustaining so they can serve one another. And so the list goes.

2. The Lord requested a single statement, not individual statements for each fellowship or each individual. How that turns into multiple statements is something I simply don't understand. To my mind, multiple statements is a way of avoiding the work of mutual agreement. The Lord asked for one, not many.

3. The work NOW underway, by definition, means something different than previous works. This is a new dispensation, with specific requirements, procedures and practices. We need to inform people about this new dispensation. Merely reiterating the truths of previous dispensations will NOT give them what they need to know now. It is unkind to teach the doctrine of Christ, but withhold the procedures necessary to follow it.

4. We have already agreed to the law and doctrine of Christ. We did so when we accepted the covenant. This is not about agreeing, again, to accept what we already have.

5. The Lord asked us to write a statement, and gave the specific purposes it is meant to serve. My point about the family requesting baptism was to point out how we have, as yet, failed to do what the Lord has asked. It is a light thing, easily done, if our hearts are right.

6. If the ordinances are changed, they are ineffective. The ordinances MUST be taught properly and in purity. A one-sentence statement with no further direction actually serves to WITHHOLD the proper ordinances from those who need to receive them, when they might, with some direction, be able to provide them to one another. Why would we not teach them what they need to know? They will burn if we withhold this information from them. I can't imagine any justification, therefore, for failing to include proper instruction in our statement to them.

Finally, the baptism request I used to illustrate is only an example of a much larger issue. I know of other people, and even large groups, in need of understanding about this dispensation and how to receive and perform what the Lord has asked. He wants us to tell them. But instead we make this into every imaginable issue and interpretation, ultimately deciding we prefer disputation over obedience.

This is not about us. It is not about our feelings. It is not about who gets to be right, or who gets their way. In the end it is about ministering to the lost sheep by giving them the direction only we can give. But we seem to care more about ourselves than about them. Hence, our hearts must change.

- Log April 13, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 13, 2018

"Kind" means "like family."

I don't know about anyone else, but I wouldn't teach my children how to steal cars. For me to teach someone how to steal cars would not be kind.

Likewise, it is not kind of me to tell someone whom God has not sent how to do something God has not asked him to do, such as baptize or administer the sacrament or ordain someone.

RE D&C 58:7-8
Behold, mine house is a house of order, saith the Lord God, and not a house of confusion. Will I accept of an offering, saith the Lord, that is not made in my name? Or will I receive at your hands that which I have not appointed?

One of the points being illustrated in 3 Nephi 11 is that those whom God calls and empowers, he also instructs in how to perform their assigned tasks. Authorized servants don't require men to educate them in how to do what God has instructed them to do.

And it is unkind to usurp the role of the Holy Ghost and take it upon oneself to teach unauthorized servants to counterfeit the ordinances, as they must be if they have not been called and sent by God.

The only thing we need teach men is faith and repentance - teaching men to keep the law and commandments of the Lord our God, and that they should trust solely in him and not in any man. Performing ordinances is the assignment of those whom God has chosen and instructed and sent to perform the task - which should be us.

Mosiah 23:14 And also trust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 13, 2018

Yes, and change the preamble to the Lots document to reflect that. See my example of a preamble above that covers some concerns expressed by others along the way.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 13, 2018

At: April 13, 2018 at 6:18 AM

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 13, 2018

Another option is to publish the Lots document as a Word of Wisdom in its own section in T&C, if the Lots people don't like it relegated to merely a Glossary item. I still think it should state it is one among many, and go and make your own, hence the ideology behind it being a Word of Wisdom, and not by constraint. That could also be by majority vote. I don't know.

- Log April 13, 2018

Brian,

The short answer is "no" (A&C Questions 1, 2, 3, and 4).

Given a choice between having God as my adversary, and having you as my adversary, I choose you.

All you have to believe is this: there shall be no other agreed upon document for the G&S assignment than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

There shall be no compromise, no negotiation, no textual change, and there is no other path open to any of you to fulfill the Lord's requirement.

How long it takes each of you to accept and do as the Lord has required is up to each of you.

Jared L.

- Log April 13, 2018

Why would you ask me to become party to murder, Brian?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

T&C 158:3

Second: Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a *standard* to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant, and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to *guide* your words, thoughts and deeds?

So, again, how can the DoC and LoC be accepted as a statement of principles to "also be added" when they are already included in scriptures that we have already, as of last Fall, covenanted to govern ourselves by?

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

Jared,

Given a choice between having God as my adversary, and having you as my adversary, I choose you.

The Lord has endorsed the Lot's document, so I can accept no other.

All you have to believe is this: there shall be no other agreed upon document for the G&S assignment than the Lot's document.

There shall be no compromise, no negotiation, no textual change, and there is no other path open to any of you to fulfill the Lord's requirement.

How long it takes each of you to accept and do as the Lord has required is up to each of you.

- tyler April 13, 2018

Brian,

I'd like to continue this conversation over the phone if you would like. Friend me on Facebook and let's swap numbers.

- Log April 13, 2018

Good luck.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 13, 2018

What's your last name? Or, if you'd prefer, you can find me on Facebook

- tyler April 13, 2018

Tyler Kelly. I send you a friend request.

- Brade April 13, 2018

From my reading of the comments above, Rob and Log are differentiated by only two words: practice and teach. What's the best way to resolve this?

I think Log has been pretty clear that he is unwilling to change ANY wording in the document he has titled: The Rock of Jesus Christ. Log, is this correct? Would you be open to changing these two words? Could you be persuaded to use something different? Will you talk with Rob privately about it?

Rob: It looks like from the discussions above that you weren't persuaded by Log's explanation/justification for using the words practice and teach. Is this a deal breaker for you on using the document: The Rock of Jesus Christ (as it presently exists)? Could you be persuaded to use them (i.e., practice and teach)? Will you talk with Log privately about it?

Personally, I believe practice and teach convey the same meaning and are superfluous. It you are practicing the doctrine and law of Christ you are also (by that very act) teaching it. In fact, if you're practicing the Doctrine and Law of Christ, you're probably a better, more authoritative, and persuasive teacher than others who just "preach" about it.

In fact (while we're talking about this), the whole prefix "accept, practice, and teach" in my mind is superfluous. Accepting the Law and Doctrine of Christ, in my mind, means living it. Does one accept the Law and Doctrine of Christ without practicing it? Living it means practicing it. Practicing it means teaching it.

That being said, I'm fine with The Rock of Jesus Christ using only "accept" OR using "accept, practice, and teach." Both statements are equivalent to me.

I think this discussion has been fruitful. I'm happy with the progress that is being made (however small). I'm glad everyone is being heard.

AND Rob, I really like the post above. It has touched my heart, and is a very apt analogy, symbol, or description of what's been happening within the Guide and Standard discussions. I hope you've felt like I've accepted the "taki" you've laid at my feet (I'm going to also send in my name to the recorder because I see no harm in that). I accept the Doctrine and Law of Christ as my guide and standard.

Yet, I also sympathize with all others who wish to provide more information to new believers in a written format. However, I believe there is plenty of ways to remedy this problem in a manner that doesn't offend those who disagree (i.e., a website/directory of "GUIDES" that show how others have implemented the Law and Doctrine of Christ).

I believe that a website like that would be a great celebration of diversity and that it would actually encourage others to use their own gifts and talents to implement the Law

and Doctrine of Christ.

Thank you Rob and Log for having the courage to stand up for what you believe. We're all better because of it.

- Log April 13, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 13, 2018

Rob,

How, exactly, do you plan on doing these specific things...

"Cry peace. Proclaim my words. Invite those who will repent to be baptized and forgiven, and they shall obtain my Spirit to guide them."

"The time is short and I come quickly, therefore open your mouths and warn others to flee the wrath which is to come as men in anger destroy one another."

"...accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant...", A&C Question 2, one of which obligations is this: "he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance."

"Teach your children to honor me."

"Seek to recover the lost sheep remnant of this land and of Israel and no longer forsake them. Bring them unto me and teach them of my ways, to walk in them."

... without teaching the doctrine, law, and commandments of Christ?

And, if it is impossible do all those things without teaching them, then your objection to The Rock of Jesus Christ, that you will not teach - or, as you phrase it, "telling people what to do" - brings you into direct conflict with your assent to the Boise Covenant.

Jared L.

- Log April 13, 2018

Again, if any individual intends to fulfill the Boise Covenant, they will in the end do exactly what is contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, whether or not the body ever does accept and do as the Lord has required and adopts The Rock of Jesus Christ. That is what we have agreed to do.

And nobody need enter the Boise Covenant to do those things and obtain the Lord's covenant.

The path of wisdom is to cease disputing The Rock of Jesus Christ and do what it contains. When we are all doing so equally with an eye single to the glory of the Lord will we all be agreed, with no vote needed.

Jared Livesey

April 13, 2018

- JansonFish

Dana,

I think you make some excellent points that I had never considered before. I think we should explore this idea further and see where it leads us.

Thank You.

- Log April 13, 2018

Brade,

I am unwilling to alter the document, and I am unwilling to consent to any other.

Accepting The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles is the price of accepting and doing as the Lord has required.

I prefer to have my conversations in public.

Jared L.

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 13, 2018

If you consider the covenant as being from a man, you can rescind it at any time and be free of its obligations similar to how Mormon repented of his oath.

- Log April 13, 2018

Brian,

I ask again: why do you ask me to become a party to murder?

For to lead God's children astray is to murder them, says Alma.

Alma 36
13 Yea, I did remember all my sins and iniquities, for which I was tormented with the pains of hell; yea, I saw that I had rebelled against my God, and that I had not kept his holy commandments.

14 Yea, and I had murdered many of his children, or rather led them away unto destruction; yea, and in fine so great had been my iniquities, that the very thought of coming into the presence of my God did rack my soul with inexpressible horror.

Murdering God's children is the price of "mistakes" in this field.

I will not consent to the murder of God's children. Why would you ask me to?

"Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?"

Jared L.

- Log April 13, 2018

If you do not give to every man that asks you to as the Lord has commanded (Luke 6:30), then it appears you haven't accepted, and do not practice, and do not teach, the

Lord's law and commandments, and you would then have need of guidance in how to fulfill your covenantal obligations.

Hence "we accept, practice, and teach" these things. Otherwise, we are hypocrites.

Jared L.

- Log April 13, 2018

That's how The Rock of Jesus Christ serves the Boise Covenant participants as a guide and a standard - it gives direction for behavior and a standard to measure how well you're doing in attaining your goal - assuming your goal is to fulfill the Boise Covenant.

The G&S is, after all, "for my people to follow." Follow where? Into the Lord's presence, and to Zion.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

Jared: Is this not part of what you covenanted to govern your life by?

"The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord."

Prob. 2:218, RE.

If your proposal is the only one that meets with God's aproval, why weren't you and others who agree with you (or who would agree with you now) chosen by lot?

And instead of offering to fast and pray with others here, why did you instead warn them that even if they do fast and pray they have no promise that any personal revelations they receive will be of God, or any garuntee they won't be deceived by lying spirits, unless they're sufficiently diligent in keeping the law of Christ (ie the sermon on the mount, and the sermon at bountiful.)

Doesn't that seem just a little bit negative to you?

What is sufficiently diligent, and do any of us measure up?

Are you talking about perfection, and are you perfect, and therefore exempt from the danger of deception you warn all of is of?

These seem like reasonable questions.

Will you please answer them?

And is anyone really asking you to publicly discuss the details of some personal experience with God, or simply to affirm or deny whether or not you mean something you seem to say in one of your blog posts literally--namely that you had been favoured with the personal presence of the Father (and/or the Son) before you said that you knew that the covenant offered in Boise was of God, and left to rely "only on the Holy Ghost" after the conference.

As Adrian said, that clearly implies that you had a face to face with God sometime before the conference, and that He turned His face away from you after the conference.

Presumably because you did something He strongly disapproved of, and that you've been trying to warn us against doing.

This is serious stuff Jared, and all Adrian or anyone else asked you was whether or not you were speaking literally when you made such statements.

And I don't see why anyone who's read your blog doesn't have the right to ask you if you meant those statements literally--as Adrian asked you.

Please do him, and the rest of us the curtesy of answering his question.

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

Jared,

You asked what I will do to fulfill the other requirements of the questions included in the answer to the covenant? I will simply fulfill them, without you or anyone telling me to do it. Since I choose to Govern myself by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, then I will do what comes naturally when a man Governs himself by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, and I will practice and teach the Doctrine and Law of Christ to all who will receive it.

I agree that those who govern themselves by the Doctrine and Law will practice and teach it, I just don't agree that anyone need tell them to.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 13, 2018

Rob,

You cannot fulfill them and simultaneously refuse to fulfill them. Your position is self-contradictory.

Jared Livesey

- TwoCents April 13, 2018

I am very familiar with the effects of religions "teaching" our people the gospel of Jesus Christ. We have had many people come and preach and teach us. The word “teach” is used in the Gentile culture as “telling.” How did Ammon teach the people of Lamoni? By way of his actions. In our traditional ways, “teaching” meant to show, be one with your words. So, when the Gentiles came and gave us their word, we thought they were speaking the truth, not so, they only wanted to tell and not show.

Our lexicon doesn’t match God’s lexicon and until it does I don’t want to tell others to “teach,” because the way the Gentile culture uses “teach” is to tell someone what to do, and then contradict it with their actions. NO THANK-YOU! The Holy Ghost needs to teach us what God’s lexicon is before we can define what God Is talking about. For example, God tells us what mutual agreement is and then we run with our own definitions of what dispute means. Is the majority’s definition of dispute God’s definition-maybe they should go and have Denver ask God for them what it means? The Lot supporters wonder why I don’t like their document, because they define things through their lexicon, and because the majority agrees, they believe it is truth. A lot of their definitions come from damn Mormonism-taking things out of context.

Q

- TwoCents April 13, 2018

Many of you speak through your lens and so do I. In my culture when we speak we introduce ourselves, our parents, grandparents and give a genealogy of where we come from, this indicates our connection to this world. When someone is Anonymous they are faceless, having no connection. In other words, they view themselves as nobody. It's hard to take the Anonymous people serious since they don't take themselves serious.
Q

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

Brade,

I think more along the lines of your initial understanding, that if they govern themselves by the Doctrine and Law, then no one need tell them to do anything. People can say, and those who are governed this way will recognize the spirit of what they say, and follow the Holy Ghost.

The problem I have with adding more than to govern ourselves is, telling anyone to practice and teach is to govern another, and I in Zion none will govern over another. We will necessarily practice as we choose to be governed. We will necessarily teach as we choose to be governed. But, to add our requirements, one man to another, is not our responsibility.

Does that answer your question?

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

Jared,

Who refused?

Rob

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

I'm concerned about writing what is minimally necessary for mutual agreement. That doesn't represent what more I will accept to do, only what this body of people can minimally bear out.

Rob

- Log April 13, 2018

Anonymous asks:
Jared: Is this not part of what you covenanted to govern your life by?

"The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord."

Prob. 2:218, RE.

That's between me and God, not me and you.

"Who are you who judges another man's servant? He stands or falls to his master; yea, he shall be supported, for God is able to make him stand." - Romans 14:4

The thrust of that verse is my service to God is between God and me, not me and you.

As far as me offering my friendly warning to those who propose to fast and pray that if they do not keep the commandments of God with diligence, according to the Book of Mormon they have claimed with their lips to receive by covenant, they have no promise that the Lord shall answer.

Wouldn't you want to know how to get answers you can rely upon? If so, then you would tell others how to get answers they can rely upon.

And I perform this service to my brothers and sisters pursuant to Question 3 of the A&C.

1 Nephi 15:11
Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said?
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

LDS D&C 82:10 I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

If you do not keep his commandments with diligence, you have no promise the Lord shall answer.

And if you have no promise the Lord shall answer because you do not keep his commandments with diligence, and if you are answered, it may not be the Lord who answered you.

And if it may not be the Lord who answered you, it may have been a false spirit who answered you.

And if it may have been a false spirit who answered you, your revelations are suspect.

Either way, none should trust your revelations, for that would be for them to trust in men, which brings the curse of the Lord.

Again, I say this pursuant to Question 3 of the A&C.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

in mutual agreement that is...

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

There was no name attached to "log" for many years, and Jared has always said that

these discussions shouldn't be about personalities.

- Log April 13, 2018

Rob,

You don't have to worry about the writing. It's done.

Each individual of the body has, like you have, agreed to teach the doctrine, law, and commandments of the Lord as part of the covenant.

Your objection to The Rock of Jesus Christ - that you refuse to teach, or, in other words, tell other people what to do - is thus seen to be self-contradictory.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

On that we agree.

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

You sound a little bitter Jared.

Peace.

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

To you, teach = tell people what to do. That is precisely what I will not do. I will not tell people what to do, but am satisfied governing myself. If you want to tell people what to do, you can go ahead without me. I'll not stop you from going on.

I'm not sure why we are doing this again. I thought we already established our positions to one another already previously. Did you think that my mind had changed? I am settled with the idea that you will not change your document, and I haven't tried to change that in you. Are you trying to "tell" me what to do?

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 13, 2018

Rob,

Your position against The Rock of Jesus Christ is self-contradictory.

Teaching entails telling someone what to do.
You agreed by covenant to teach.
Therefore you shall tell people what to do, or else you shall not fulfill the Boise Covenant.

If you do not care to fulfill the covenant, that is indeed your business, but then why do you participate in the G&S "discussions"?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 13, 2018

Even though your opening remarks still sound a little biter to me here Jared, I thank you for your reply.

- HuhWhatda April 13, 2018

Write what you like, I will not tell anyone what to do, thus making my flesh their arm, as you would.

- Log April 13, 2018

Perhaps it's for the best that you don't. But, then, you should also bow out of the Guide and Standard discussions, since providing a guide and a standard is all about telling people what to do.

Jared L.

- Sarah April 13, 2018

True, back in the day there was no name attached to the name log, but a person still knew that they were taking to "log" whoever log was. Would the anonymous writer(s) consider using at least a consistent alias? I think it would strengthen relations. Thank you.

- AaronAbell April 14, 2018

Firstly, I liked your post of the Taki, Rob. Here is what is in MY heart: After reading almost all of the postings on this blog, and after much thought, I have this observation: almost no-one agrees with everything any of the fine, wonderful and truth-filled G&S's offered, and there are even some people who may see nothing of value in one or more of them. Verbiage differs, as does length and emphasis.

I also just read Larson's post about how perhaps something that should be considered is making the statement so broad and all-encompassing that no-one COULD disagree. Then all would have mutual agreement, no? The point was this: what if the statement or guiding principle was something like, "We seek to learn Truth as given by the Holy Spirit, from whatever source it may come"? Surely no-one could argue with something like that! But back to Larson's post. I think he made some pretty good points, and here is a quote from his post that illustrates more fully what I just said:

"Our “statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement” could simply be that each person has principles and values they hold dear, and it is up to them to determine what they are. We mutually agree to hear the other person’s perspective, try to learn from it, and to teach them our own guiding principles if asked. Persuasion to not only each other in this movement, but the entire world would come in the form of viewing our fellow man the way God views them, and then behaving according to that view. This approach would not negate all the proposed standards put out there, but only give an individual the opportunity to live their stated truth."

Thus, anyone could adopt any of the G&S's in existence (or compose their own!), as long as we can first get that initial, mutually agreed-upon statement of principle. I do not claim to be any sort of expert or authority. I just do not like bickering and fighting. This effort is looking more and more like the first attempt at the G&S, which crumbled and collapsed under the weight of so much logic and argument; of so many people insisting

it must be "this" way (whether-or-not they invoke the Lord's name explicitly, they imply it by their intractability) or no way. Like I said: I just hate to see good people feel the need to argue and bicker so much. Love and Peace!

- HuhWhatda April 14, 2018

To: All

I want to address the intentional vagueness of the instructions given in the Answer and Covenant. It was vague from the beginning, when Jeff Savage began. Although the Answer and Covenant added clarity, it did not remove vagueness. However, the Lord requires still a statement of principles that are mutually agreed upon. Many assumptions have been made in order to complete the assignment, filling the vague gaps with our desires, making this a project of proving.

Looking back, considering the vagueness of the assignment, I finally realize what people have been telling me all throughout the assignment. I didn't understand what they were saying before, but I think I get it now. When they said that any document would have fulfilled the assignment, I thought, "Huh, what'da?" But, considering the vagueness of the instructions, I can now see that each of the documents could be justified. Jeff's multiple documents could be justified by the assumptions he made in connection with the vagueness of the instructions. August 5th could have been justified by the assumptions and vagueness as well. Likewise, for the Lots program, Jared Livesay, and my own. Each are forced to make assumptions, based upon the vagueness of the assignment.

As it seems, we have separated into tribes, based upon our assumptions. The Jeff Savage group have assumed his tribe. The August 5th-ers assume their tribe. The Lots have their tribe. Log has his tribe. And I have accumulated an assumptive tribe of my own. Some remain afloat, not necessarily belonging to any tribe. It is the vagueness of the assignment that has permitted our free division. And in the absence of instruction, how we choose to deal with one another has become the real test.

The assignment will remain incomplete, no matter how many voices your tribe accumulates, no matter how many valid signatures you get on your petition, and no matter how many you speak for in your fellowships, …mutual agreement will be incomplete, unless the Lord produces it. He is the gatherer, and what He requires is servants. If we are to serve, it will be to continue laboring through our differences. That requires more conversation, but not poisonous backbiting, and justifying, …instead it requires genuine searching for peace. The Lord offers His sanctuary in our conversations, when they are centered on Christ and not contention.

Please, remain in your tribes. Let's agree not to go to war with other tribes. And let's continue the conversations, in Christ, of how we can fulfill His requirement of a statement of principles in mutual agreement. Where two or more are gathered in His name, there He will be also.

I refuse to tell anyone what to do, as that is the source of the war in heaven; it is the source of wars on Earth; it is the source of our contention. I will be satisfied to govern myself alone.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 14, 2018

Great point Sarah! That would be helpful to at least know who is responding, even without identity, so that we can understand you.

Rob

- HuhWhatda April 14, 2018

Aaron Abell,

RESPECT! I agree with your expression above. I have written below addressing the same concerns. We are thinking along a similar wave-length, and I appreciate that.

Given the vagueness of the assignment, we seem to have gathered into tribes according to our individual assumptions. People's assumptions are valid, and should not be treated as invalid. And, as you said, we ought to be good with not controlling another's assumptions because it causes the bickering and fighting that we are witnessing.

I recommend that no one need give up their assumptions for another's. And that might not look like good sense when addressing the issue of mutual agreement. I recommend keep your assumptions, and I'll keep mine, and within our tribes lets focus on Christ to do His part, to give us more light that will bring together, rather than continue to tear apart.

If we cross over to discuss and understand the assumptions of other tribes, we ought not go to war passively or aggressively forcing our assumptions on them. Within your own tribes, spend the time focusing on adding light, and when more light is given, it will shine on the darkness for your understanding alone. Each tribe ought to be an incubator for more light, allowing the grandness of light to produce mutual agreement, as men see your good works and glorify our Father in heaven.

The more the contention continues, the more the salt looses its savor, and becomes useless, only to be trodden under foot. I agree with you that we must not engage in the poisonous contention.

Thank you for your impressions,
Rob Adolpho

- ChrisChandler April 14, 2018

Part 1
TO: THE “MOVEMENT”
RE: SOME IMPORTANT THINGS YOU MIGHT BE MISSING IN ROB & Q’S POST

Hi! My name is Chris Chandler, and I am your friend. Even though I’ve seen some weirdness (and I profess to my own weirdness – to which my wife will attest) in this blog, I want to assume that everyone on this thread loves the Lord and is seeking to love each other. That’s the premise I am working from in writing this here.

Let me start out by saying unequivocally that I am Rob Adolpho’s friend. We have known each other since we were in the MTC back in 1991. We were at BYU-Hawaii together after missions and then didn’t see each other for nearly 18 years following.

The reason I'm writing is because I see a lot of dialogue happening from his post, but most of it is about documents and language still. I think there is a significant piece of his message being missed because unless you grew up in the Polynesian culture, it is just so foreign.

There are some things you cannot understand until or unless you actually experience it. For instance, if you knew I went to the Bruno Mars concert and you asked me how it was. If I said, "It was awesome!" That would not convey to you in the smallest form my "experience". There almost could not be enough words to paint a proper picture in your mind. This is very similar to understand Polynesians and the "remnant" people (of whom we say we want to be among as Gentiles) or any other culture which may be foreign to us.

Ammon, going among King Lamoni's people understood this and was willing to put aside his Nephite culture that he might be able to serve those "savages" (think: Pocahontas, LOL). Until, or unless you have multiple engagements, or are even willing to "desire to dwell among [those] people for a time…or perhaps until the day [you] die" there are some things that may never be understood.

I served my mission in the Polynesian islands and married a girl from the islands and have lived among these people for about the last 25 years, or so. From that perspective, if you will indulge me for a few minutes, I hope to share some things which may help you understand Rob & Q's post much better. (Who knows? Maybe I'll just muck it up, but hopefully not…)

- ChrisChandler April 14, 2018

Part 2
Here are some internet primers I found to help you understand certain terminology:

Powhiri & Waiata
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74VcCJNaGvw/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpY6qkWGMds/
(This is ~ 4 minutes long, but you can watch the interaction between the two parties and notice the ceremonial embrace which happens at the end with the hongi.)

https://teara.govt.nz/en/marae-protocol-te-kawa-o-te-marae/page-2/ (This is the best written explanation of the process I have found and definitely worth your time to read if you care to understand.)

Hongi
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGJfj61bsE4/ (explanation)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39XbAjB2k-o/

Haka
Wedding haka (original HD version)
Kahuku rugby haka
Kahuku football haka – same

Mana – "seeing eye to eye"
Mana – TedxTalk

Let me point out two things: 1) Most of you may not have known this, but the Kahuku football/rugby haka was written by a friend of mine and is a haka about the 2,000

stripling warriors from the Book of Mormon and how they remembered the teachings of their mothers to always honor God. If I didn't explain that to you, you may have just thought it was another war dance to prepare to "rip someone's head off". Now, you may be thinking, hmmm…pretty cool.

2) If you noticed in the Wedding Haka (with the subtitles) it was the parents speaking to their son telling him to follow the right and be true to himself about the weight of the problems he was carrying and how to find the answer – from within. It was a challenge from the parents and the village to have him wrestle the answer and not look to any other source – the assumption was that he was already connected to God within himself, so to only look there.

But it looks so "mean" doesn't it? If you do not understand the culture, especially when most of us westerners have become so "sophisticated" as to think we don't need to have any culture, or told that we should only have the "Church" for our culture, or have had any culture beat out of us so we conform to modern western society, then we may not understand when someone who understands their culture and how to appropriately balance it living in a predominately white, Gentile society, comes along and offers us a "gift".

For the most part Polynesians have been looked at as either very "friendly" or "mean and aggressive". The truth is, they can be a bit of both. The dances, can be soft and beautiful or mean and menacing.

- ChrisChandler April 14, 2018

Part 3
Those of you who have accused Rob of having a "froward and argumentative nature" thinks all he wants to do is argue. It is not true at all. You obviously do not know him, or his wife, or where their hearts are.

Now, please don't think that Rob and I always see "eye to eye". We "wrestle" and "struggle" through things quite often. He has "proven" himself to me time and time again as someone who is fiercely loyal to God, to the truth, and to his family and friends.

For instance, two months ago when I was lying in a hospital bed after major cancer surgery, he came more than anyone else and spent more time with me there than anyone else. He didn't have to do that. I didn't ask him to do that, but told him talking about the words of Christ meant so much to me in my recovery. He saw me at my worst, at my lowest, literally almost with my guts hanging out, and as a brother he was there to help lift me up physically and spiritually.

Why am I telling you this? Because every one of us were born with two innate fears within us – 1) the fear of falling and 2) the fear of loud noises. Every other fear we have was a "learned" fear.

My wife, who is Polynesian, pointed out to me that those who have accused Rob of being argumentative and contentious are most likely scared because he is loud when he is passionate. It is true. Many of us have learned the concept of "reverently, quietly, softly sings our melody…" thinking that Jesus would not be loud. This is a false tradition.

Rob and Q can come across as both loud and boisterous or soft and kind. Our Gentile/Mormon culture teaches us we should be soft and submissive. The remnant" culture represented by Rob and Q may feel like an assault to our Gentile senses. It's comes across as thunder. We don't like loud noises and it would be easy to assume

that when Rob speaks loudly so you can hear him that might mean he is being contentious. I assure you it is not. Instead of either running away, believing that such a loud noise could not be of God, or worse, accusing him and his wife of being somehow dark or evil – don't run away, but engage the loudness, move closer to it.

If you're scared to climb the mountain because of what appears to be thunder and lightening's you may miss some of the greatest blessings God has in store for those who will face the loud noises. Heck, you may find that if you learn how to engage at that level you might not actually fear and run away when you meet a 'real' "Son of Thunder" (ie. John the Beloved)…hmm, let that one sink in…

My hope is that you will deeply consider what is being offered. This is about much more than just discussing a "document", but a token or gift being offered by the Tangata Whenua (people of the land), to engage heart to heart, mind to mind, in the form of a relationship. Something much bigger and more significant is being presented here that can bring us together as a people established on the Doctrine and Law of Christ and help us repent properly…and then make us HIS people.

I challenge you to accept and receive the taki presented here. Again, it is not an offer for a document, but a renewal in relationship. Once our hearts are right, getting a written statement of principles between us in mutual agreement will be a "light thing". We need to repent and fix our hearts and relationships first. Hopefully, this has been helpful.

Rob & Q – me and my family love you. I speak for my family here. We accept and receive your taki and exchange our hongi with you.

Aloha nui loa,

Chris & Ofa Chandler

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

This is to be a "simple" thing.
Why make it complicated, convoluted, confusing, controversial, contradictory and contentious?
When the Lord visited the Nephites, He gave them a guide & standard to establish their Zion. It is found in 3 Nephi 11-14.
Why are we seeking to reinvent the wheel?
He gave them His doctrine, the Doctrine of Christ.
It is obvious that the Doctrine of Christ is the prelude to the strait and narrow path which He declared numerous times leads to eternal life.
The very next thing He taught the Nephites after His repeated explanations of His doctrine was the Sermon at Bountiful.
If His teachings of the Doctine of Christ and the Sermon at Bountiful were considered by Him to be foundational to the Nephites establishing their Zion, why not use those same teachings as our own Guide & Standard?
Why make this complicated?
James Russell Uhl

- Log April 14, 2018

James,

It is because their hearts are not right and they have not prepared themselves by keeping and teaching his commandments that they cannot understand what the Lord has asked of them. Therefore they hinder and delay and declare they will not do what he asked, even unto breaking the covenant, if they could but hear themselves properly.

Jared L.

- Dani April 14, 2018

"If you're scared to climb the mountain because of what appears to be thunder and lightening's you may miss some of the greatest blessings God has in store for those who will face the loud noises."

I appreciate and relate.
Fawn Livesey

- Log April 14, 2018

I have attended their conferences and listened to their talks and read their blogs wherein they preach up their wisdom and learning and precepts. The law and commandments of the Lord our God is not in their minds nor hearts from what they say: for of the abundance of their hearts do they speak.

Where is the Lord's people, who honor him and render unto him the fruit he requires? Where are those of the church of the Lamb, who keep and teach his commandments that faith and righteousness may be found again on earth, and that Zion may come?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

Back in the day, Log would have said that it was the content of what he wrote, not his personal identity that mattered--and he was right.

Truth is truth wherever it's found.

For example: if it was ever true that Log's identity didn't matter, because it was the content of his posts that mattered--it's still true that it's the content, and not the personality (or personalities) that matter.

Truth remains truth if it's said by "log," "Jared Livesey," an anonymous poster, or multiple different anonymous posters.

And a valid question is a valid question, no matter who asks it.

And a valid question remains valid if it's asked by Adrian Larsen, an anonymous poster, or multiple anonymous posters.

For example: we know that Adrian asked Jared this question on February 25th, 2018.

"Jared,

The following two statements clearly claim you have been in the Lord's presence, which implies you have seen Him face to face:

'The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost.'

'Afterwards, I fasted and prayed and was baptized again, confessing my sin, in the hopes that the Lord might receive me again into his presence.'

My question is simple: Are we to take these statements literally?—i.e. you previously met the Lord face to face, and that the covenant incident caused Him to deny you access to His presence?

Is this what we are to understand by these statements?"

If that was a valid question when Adrian asked it here https://latterdaycommentary.com/2018/02/25/awake-and-arise/ it's a valid question when an anonymous poster (ormore than one anonymous poster asks it here.

And whether valid or not, it seems strange that this question has remained unanswered for almost two months, because Jared also posted this.

"If you love someone...Grant their requests without judgement, and give only what they ask for, agree to, or demand (JST Matthew 5:41-43)."

https://latterdaycommentary.com/2015/05/06/the-ideology-of-god/

Jared's been asked to tell us whether he meant statements like this to be taken literally.

"And I found out to my horror what the Lord meant by 'cursed be the man that trusteth in man. By saying 'yes' to the covenant, thereby saying I knew the words Denver Snuffer put forth were from the Lord when I did not, in fact, know those words to be from the Lord, I broke a commandment and trusted in men. The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost."

And that request remains ungranted.

And if it was eve true that loving someone requires granting them whatever they ask, and love is the law of Christ, askiing Jared whether he's been keeping that law well enough to know he's beyond deception, would seem to be a valid question (after he warned everyone else here that they could be deceived by lying spirits, even after fasting and praying for some light on the guiding principles under consideration, if they aren't keeping this law with due diligence.)

And from everything Jared's written about Christ's law, how he feels about granting the request, how he feels about anyone making the request, and whether or not he wants to grant it would all seem entirely irrelevant.

Jared, would you please grant this request.

Was Adrian's inference correct?

Are you saying that before you went to Boise and accepted the covenant offered you had a face to face with heavenly Father (and/or our Lord),and that you were cut off (and "left to be led by THe Holy Ghost") after you accepted the covenant?

As Adrian asked you on February 25th--were you speaking literally here?

And will you fast with us today (and are you certain you've been diligent enough in keeping the law of Christ, and that you're beyond deception)?

Please answer these questions.

- Brent April 14, 2018

There is a flawed logic in the assertion that is holding this process up. So quickly, it is a non-sequitur to think that the Statement of Principles that will act as a guide and a standard would be a rehash of the Sermon on the Mount. If that was the case, the Lord would have just said that. "Use the Sermon as your Guide and Standard", he is no fool and does not waste words. He certainly does not trifle with men and give them a redundant effort to make them endlessly toil as we are now. What I do see is a spirit of pride and contention and accusation. A demeanor that is all or nothing and not a persuading influence. Let me explain what was done with such people in the movement under Joseph Smith, such people were excommunicated from the group, as they had become caustic and began to impede the progression of others and the group. Perhaps, and most unfortunately, we have arrived at that point. We have on record one who regrets taking the covenant, well guess what, it is only as binding as you so allow it. We have many examples of scripture explaining where covenants can and are broken. It would seem that this same person who regrets the covenant, which IMO is akin to breaking it, wants to hold up the rest of the community in their fulfillment of a required assignment. If the attitude was different, then I would say let's continue with the discussion, but it is not. It is intentionally damning the process with poor logic and confused sense of obligation to something regretted. I participated in one effort on the forum, it was a marvelous experience of give and take, this is not a marvelous experience for anyone. I know it is an ugly option, but it seems we cannot be as "big tent" as we would like. At the end of the day, progress is better than damnation, and if we cannot fulfill a "light thing" in less than 6 months, we need to make a change.

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

James Russell Uhl says...
Asking Jared questions that have NO bearing on the G&S and question his personal integrity is mean spirited and unworthy of people who aspire to become Zion.
Using the LORD'S OWN WORDS to define the G&S takes it out of the realm of asking the people to follow the words of men. The Savior was defining what the Nephites should do to establish their Zion. They took Him seriously and succeeded.
Are we so much smarter and wiser than they were?
Why not follow His words?
I cannot say more on this topic. If contention and mean spirited arguments are to continue I want no part of it.
One more thing: When you post, you will be taken more seriously, at least by me, if you include your name on your post.
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- TwoCents April 14, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

April 14, 2018

- TwoCents

As I have contemplated the Doctrine and Sermon, the thought that occurred to me is that the Doctrine is knowledge and the Sermon is wisdom. The Doctrine is a guide because of the Holy Ghost and Christ is our standard. In the Second Comforter, Denver indicated being one with Christ led him into His presence.

As I compare the characteristics, perfections and attribute of the Great Spirit, based on the talk: Our Divine Parents, they match up with the characteristics the Lord speaks of in the Sermon.

The Mother points constantly to Christ and the Father. As I look to Christ, I realize that He has led out by teaching us what will provide us salvation. It is my understanding that through Him He offers everything and all we can offer is our cooperation. The sermon is the Lord's careful formulation of the principles which will save: I believe He gave this sermon to all His sheep when He visited them.

The Mother constantly tells us to look to Her son. I believe by choosing to govern myself by way of the Doctrine and Law of Christ I am picking up the Taki He offers. As 3 Nephi states, "Therefore let your light so shine before this people, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." The light we shine should point to the Lord and no one else. Christ's teaching explains that people see your good works as the means for your light to shine. As we take on the Doctrine and Sermon of Christ, we become one with them and therefore produce good fruit, which others will want to partake of.
Q

- Dani April 14, 2018

If you read the Answer and Covenant, you will see that the Lord did indeed request that we use His words as our guide and standard.

"Cry Peace. Proclaim MY words. Invite those who will repent to be baptized and forgiven, and they shall obtain MY Spirit to guide them: (p. 9, emphasis added).

"Second: Do you have faith in these things [the things spoken in the A&C] and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a STANDARD to GOVERN you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to GUIDE your words, thoughts and deeds?" (p. 10, emphasis added).

"The time is now far spent, therefore labor with ME and do not forsake MY covenant to perform it; study MY words and let them be the STANDARD for your faith and I will add thereto many treasures" (p. 12).

I'm pretty sure only two individuals have any authority to excommunicate from the covenant: we, individually, of our own accord and the LORD.

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

It would make sense that "Add" means to actually add something to the pre-existing material--not simply rehash some of it.

Thank you.

- Dani April 14, 2018

Someone posted this on FB today. It seems relevant:
http://denversnuffer.com/2011/06/joseph-the-prophet/

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

(Reposted due to typos and editing errors.)
Back in the day, Log would have said that it was the content of what he wrote, not his personal identity that mattered--and he was right.

Truth is truth wherever it's found.

For example: if it was ever true that Log's identity didn't matter, because it was the content of his posts that mattered--it's still true that it's the content, and not the personality (or personalities) that matter.

Truth remains truth if it's said by "log," "Jared Livesey," an anonymous poster, or multiple different anonymous posters.

And a valid question is a valid question, no matter who asks it.

And a valid question remains valid if it's asked by Adrian Larsen, an anonymous poster, or multiple anonymous posters.

For example: we know that Adrian asked Jared this question on February 25th, 2018.

"Jared,

The following two statements clearly claim you have been in the Lord’s presence, which implies you have seen Him face to face:

'The Lord had therefore cut me off from his presence, leaving me to be led by the Holy Ghost.'

'Afterwards, I fasted and prayed and was baptized again, confessing my sin, in the hopes that the Lord might receive me again into his presence.'

My question is simple: Are we to take these statements literally?—i.e. you previously met the Lord face to face, and that the covenant incident caused Him to deny you access to His presence?

Is this what we are to understand by these statements?"

That question has never been answered, and if it was a valid question when Adrian asked it on Feb, 25th, 2018, it remains a valid question when h, an anonymous poster, or more than one anonymous posters repeat it.

Saying it's "mean spirited" is just judging the heart of the poster (or posters.)

And whether the poster is mean spirited, or the question is valid or not, Jared has also said that charity requires us to grant every request, whether we like it or not, without paternalism, without judging, and without respect of persons.

If that was ever true, asking Jared to grant a request made of him almost two months

ago, and asking him if he's been keeping the law of Christ with enough diligence to be sure he hasn't been deceived, would seem fair questions, after he's warned everyone else that they could be deceived by lying spirits if they haven't been keeping the law of Christ diligently enough.)

ared, would you please grant this request.

Was Adrian's inference correct?

Are you saying that before you went to Boise and accepted the covenant offered there you had a face to face with heavenly Father (and/or our Lord),and that you were cut off (and "left to be led by The Holy Ghost") after you accepted the covenant?

As Adrian asked you on February 25th--were you speaking literally in that blog post?

And will you fast with us today (and are you certain you've been diligent enough in keeping the law of Christ, and that you're beyond deception)?

Request: Please answer these questions.

- tyler April 14, 2018

I agree.

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

"I have attended their conferences and listened to their talks and read their blogs wherein they preach up their wisdom and learning and precepts. The law and commandments of the Lord our God is not in their minds nor hearts from what they say: for of the abundance of their hearts do they speak."

Do you mean all of "them," or just some of "them"?

- Dani April 14, 2018

One more, and I'll stop talking (to myself): The scriptures tell us by which means we can know ALL THINGS and therefore the means by which we can help others know ALL things in 2 Nephi 14:1.

"Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ, for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do. Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye cannot understand them, it will be because ye ask not neither do ye knock. Wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark. For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do. Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and there will be no more doctrine given until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. And when he [Christ] shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh, the things which he shall say unto you shall ye observe to do.”

- Observe the words of Christ
- Receive the Holy Ghost
- Receive the Second Comforter

These are not obscure generalities. These are literal directions. Read and follow the

words Christ taught with His own mouth. Hear and follow the witness of the Holy Ghost. See and follow the Christ himself. I believe can know all things according to these steps, but we will not KNOW anything unless we do as instructed.

- tyler April 14, 2018

This resonates with me thank you for sharing!I especially liked your explanation regarding knowledge being the doctrine and wisdom being the sermon.

I was reading Samuels speach in Helaman yesterday. In chapt 15 he speaks of the promises to the Lamanites in the latter days. I was surprised to come across verse 16. Here it is....

"Therefore, saith the Lord: I will not utterly destroy them, but I will cause that in THE DAY OF MY WISDOM they shall return again unto me, saith the Lord."

Fruits should be produced so that when this day comes, we please both Father and Mother. Like your description of the word "teach" above. We are required to demonstrate and live the way of Christ rather than only say and not do.

- Anonymous April 14, 2018

That last part should read as follows.

Jared, would you please grant Adrian's request.

Would you please tell us if the inferences he drew from your blog post are correct?

Are you saying that before you went to Boise and accepted the covenant offered there you had a face to face with heavenly Father (and/or our Lord),and that you were cut off (and "left to be led by The Holy Ghost") after you accepted the covenant?

As he asked you on February 25th--were you speaking literally in that blog post?

And will you fast with us today (and are you certain you've been diligent enough in keeping the law of Christ to know that you haven't been deceived)?

Request: Please answer these questions.

- tyler April 14, 2018

Thank you Chris and Ofa!

- Log April 14, 2018

Brent suggests, not-so-subtly, that the majority should excommunicate me.

The problem is, the majority has no authority nor power to do any such thing. There are no provisions in the text of the covenant for excommunication, neither departure. On the text of the covenant, one may fail to fulfill the covenant and be destroyed with the rest of the disobedient. And I have no intention of failing to fulfill the covenant to the letter.

At the end of the day, the change that needs to be made is that the Lord's doctrine, law, and commandments be accepted, practiced, and taught by this people. It's been roughly 7 months since Boise when we all agreed to do those things - will we ever do it?

You'll find that accepting and doing as the Lord requires is not always going to be a "marvelous experience," a warm-and-fuzzy fun-filled romp on the way to exalted bliss. It will instead involve heart-wrenching choices, lawful demands made in an unpleasant way to which you must acquiesce because you follow the law or be damned, and the casting aside of everything we desire in this world to obtain hope in a better world. Jesus was persecuted constantly and ultimately tortured to death as an example to us of what we can expect if we walk in his ways and keep his commandments.

The only thing that is at issue in the G&S "process" since 11/27/2017 is this: "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required." The price of accepting and doing as he has required is that The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles shall be the guide and standard. There is no other path open to you to fulfill the Lord's requirement - so the choice is simple: do you indeed desire to be his people? Then accept and do as he has required. Cease disputing against The Rock of Jesus Christ but instead do what it contains.

I do not have to persuade you. If your own word given in Boise does not persuade you to accept and do as the Lord has required, then you are unpersuadable.

Jared L.

- TwoCents April 14, 2018

Tyler,

That's interesting, I didn't catch that before. I definitely have to go and study that chapter.

This is what came to my mind as I read your post: And how do we please both the Father and Mother, it is to turn to their Son and go "toward" Him and not "froward." (the opposite of toward is froward).

When Laman and Lemuel were disputing with one another about Lehi's dream, Nephi comes, and they ask him if he understands Lehi, Nephi asks them if they went to the Lord to gain understanding, which they didn't. Nephi went to the Lord to gain an understanding of what Lehi taught them and when he did, he came to understand the words of Lehi- creating mutual agreement between Nephi and Lehi. When we choose to not dispute is when we choose to go toward Him and ask Him to gain understanding, instead of relying on man's understanding.
Q

- HuhWhatda April 14, 2018

The explanation that Chris gave above represents my heart and mind precisely, and adds more that I could not have expressed in my own ability to write, but is accurate. The wedding haka he referenced always brings me to tears, as I know the depth of the gut, where the fierceness of the words come from. It is the rumble within us, the vibration that gives life, even the light of Christ. Rather than reading endlessly here, go to the link Chris posted and take a few minutes to watch the wedding haka, and read the translation. What looks and sounds like thunder will suddenly become comforting, calming, even peaceful. I often think of the Native American symbol of the Father and the Son, as the Eagle and Hawk, respectively. Few know that these birds are the only species of bird that fly during thunder storms. John the Beloved was named by Christ, Boanarges, meaning "son of thunder." In Hawaiian the name Kahekili Ka'eo Kulani

literally means the thunderous wisdom from the heavens.

Rob Adolpho

- Brent April 15, 2018

I agree, we use his words to help us create something, he did not say copy verbatim what I said, but you have my words as the basis from which you can create something. It is unwise to go contrary to the word of the Lord, but if we think it is copy scriptures in a different format and call it good, we missed the point.

- Brent April 15, 2018

I am not asking questions against Jared's words. He plainly stated that he regretted taking the covenant. This is a pursuit of the heart, not of the lips. If he indeed accepted, with his lips, but his heart was far from accepting, that is the same as not accepting. I do believe that is a scripture and he described it almost to a T. So I suggest we take him at his word and allow him to see that he is not bound, and therefore all dissention he brings is of no consequence, as he is not truly a covenant holder.

- Brent April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Brent April 15, 2018

My first assertion is that you did not truly take the covenant. As you assert you did so with your lips not your heart, this technically means you did not. In such case you do not have basis as a covenant holder to dissent. You are also aware that you dissent to impede the acceptance of any proposal because of "your power" as a covenant holder to dissent and therefore deny any hope of mutual agreement. When we do such a thing, we have only to look at LDS D&C 121 and see that an appeal to any authority is a loss of that authority. So in the economy of God your appeal to your status as a covenant holder to do anything is an indication that God says amen to such authority and association. So my response should be an acknowledgement of that action taken by you and asking you to understand. In the event that you do not agree with the scriptures outside of the Sermon on the Mount, then a more drastic step is taken whereby you are publicly stopped by a vote of the people who would like to progress and comply with more than just a few passages in Matthew and 3 Nephi.

- Log April 15, 2018

Brent says because I regret entering the covenant I am not truly a covenant participant. He claims that I merely entered it with my lips and not my heart, therefore the majority may proceed to add the Lottery document to the scriptures despite my dispute against the adoption of the Lottery document.

Brent's position would be very convenient for adulterers - if you regret marrying the person you married, for example, Brent would say you aren't really married, even if you've had children and been together for years. Only we all understand that the marriage covenant doesn't work that way. Once you say "yes," you are married, no matter how regretful you might be about your choice afterward.

The sole criterion to be a covenant participant is to listen to the A&C be read and stand and say "yes" when the officiator asks. Then you are a covenant participant -

howsoever regretful you might be afterward. That's all it takes. It's just like getting married.

Whether you fulfill the covenant or not after entering it is what shows whether your heart is in it or not. And fulfilling the covenant entails accepting, practicing, and teaching the doctrine, law, and commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ - you shall do what is contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, or you shall fail to fulfill the covenant.

But you can certainly try to persuade the other covenant participants that I am not a covenant participant, Brent. All you can hope to do is get others to defraud the Lord in the matter of the G&S and fail fulfill the covenant, and murder them by leading them astray, but that is your choice to make.

Jared Livesey.

- Log April 15, 2018

Brent claims that my association with the covenant participants is ended and mentions LDS D&C 121.

There is nothing in D&C 121 which applies to this situation. I don't have to agree with you. You don't have to agree with me. We are equal. I don't have to cease to dispute with you - any of you - over the adoption of any G&S document. That's part of the Lord's "clarification" of mutual agreement - we don't agree on a document when one or more of us disputes adopting it.

However, if you - any of you - intend to fulfill the Lord's requirement and also if you intend to fulfill the covenant, you shall cease your dispute against The Rock of Jesus Christ and you shall do what is contained therein.

How long it takes you to do so is up to you.

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 15, 2018

Brent,

Fools mock, but they shall mourn. A fool is a person who acts unwisely, or rashly, not showing care for the consequences of their actions. To mock is to laugh at in a scornful or contemptuous manner. The LDS claims Joseph Smith as their prophet, seer, and revelator, and claim the temple and the priesthood as their justification. Since the death of Joseph and Hyrum, the LDS have acted the fool by unwisely, or rashly, not showing care for the consequences of their actions, thinking themselves protected as God’s chosen people. Originally the temple was intended to reflect the heavens, perfectly aligned with the movement of the celestial law in the heavens, as if the temple were a template of the pathway through the heavens. The temple was a mock-up of the heavens and the power of the priesthood to walk that path. The LDS are fools, who prefer the mock-up. In their foolishness, their mock-up has shifted, and will produce mourning, or deep regret and sorrow, because it can never produce the necessary fruits of the kind of faith needed for life and salvation. They will never be able to produce the sacrifice of all things. Their fruits look presentable on the outside, but are rotten on the inside.

We have come from that environment, and bring with us THAT baggage. The saints during Moses' day brought Egyptian baggage. The House of Israel of Christ's day brought Jewish baggage. The Mormons of Joseph's day brought Protestant/Methodist baggage. It's the baggage of our LDS customs, ways, and habits that we must be ridden of. Your effort to judge and excommunicate Jared Livesay is none of your business, nor is it the business of the arrogant anonymous' (for they are many), nor do those who propose votes and sign petitions. It is unwise, not showing care for the consequences of your actions (acting the fools), and it is a mockery. They are promised by Moroni, they shall mourn or regret their actions. Repent, change directions, and look to God and live.

I may disapprove of Jared's view, but that gives me no right to suggest that he be cut off and treated as an animal to be kicked. I am not doing Jared any service here, as he is fully capable of flipping you off himself, …and he has proven that. But, this proving is NOT about gathering, it's about behaving, finding the rock of your foundation, and standing on it. On this matter, Jared and I agree, and we will both stand upon the Doctrine and Law of Jesus Christ, as our rock and foundation. You are free to gather with the masses, and blame us for not agreeing to your proposals. It would, however, be best if we not be fools and mock, lest we suffer mourning.

I recommend you repent of your final opinions of Jared, put him on the shelf in your mind, until you know what to do with him, and continue moving forward and not froward. If you prefer the Lots majority, make yourself known as a supporter of them and sign their secret petition. I'm sure Jared needs no apology, as he is unaffected by disapproval, as he knows where he stands. It is not your responsibility to gather, nor is it your responsibility to cut-off. It is only your responsibility to be proven and be gathered by the Lord. What you have just exhibited is bitter fruit. I say that, not for Jared's sakes, but for your own. You are a fool mocking. I know it's difficult to see yourself, within yourself. And sometimes it's helpful, and even kind for someone outside of you to tell you that you have a snot hanging from your nose. So, you're welcome!

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 15, 2018

So you can't say I'm compelling you - I literally cannot compel you.

You can't say I'm abusing my authority - I always have power to either agree or disagree, and there are no conditions which constrain my agreement or disagreement. That is my agency, and, as a covenant holder, I have standing in this matter. That you may not like how I exercise my privileges does not have any impact upon my standing.

You can't claim I'm not a covenant participant without undermining all participation in any covenant on the same basis you wish to use to exclude me from this one, and nothing in the text of the covenant justifies the claim of a "buyer's remorse" exit clause. There is no "right of recission" contained therein.

You don't have any way in righteousness to avoid my claim.

Jared L.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Doesn't "add to" simply mean to add a Guide & Standard to the new scriptures, rather than coming up with new ideas, new concepts, or new scriptures?

The idea of "adding to" the doctrine and commandments which the Lord thought was sufficient to enable the Nephites to establish their Zion seems very presumptuous. Adding to the Lord's words always leads to contention and ultimately to failure.

Rob, I understand your idea that no one should "tell" another what to do.
I don't believe Jared is attempting to do that.

It appears to me he is telling us to keep the Lord's requirement to teach and testify to one another. It is the Lord who tells men "turn the other cheek", etc.

We must distinguish between the Lord telling us what to do (His right) and a man telling us to do what the Lord has commanded (mans' duty).

A concise statement of the Doctrine of Christ and the Lord's teachings (as found in the Sermon on the Mount and at Bountiful), with nothing added or deleted, would make a very appropriate Guide & Standard and should be agreeable to all concerned. This the very same foundation the Lord gave the Nephites upon which they were able to establish their Zion.

Whatever else people might wish to adopt as their personal, group or family guide and standard should be left up to them.

It seems a "light" thing to me to accomplish this requirement given us by the Lord.

Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- Sarah April 15, 2018

I enjoyed reading this. Thanks for sharing.

- Sarah April 15, 2018

That wedding haka was incredible.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Jared: "I have already responded to Anonymous above (and many others) that yes, I believe the Lord gave Denver the words.

However, recall the example of the two prophets in 1 Kings 13. The one was slain for hearkening to a message from the Lord via an angel to another prophet which contradicted the word of the Lord to himself directly. Just because a prophet declares something from the Lord does not mean his message is for you, or me, or anyone else.

Sometimes, it's a test to see if you fear or trust the words of men more than you trust the Lord."

You said you believe the words of the covenant were given to Denver by the Lord.

Does that mean that you still don't know that they were given to Denver by the Lord?

And are you certain that (if?) they were given, they were only given as a test of integrity?

- Log April 15, 2018

Anonymous,

If you insist on trying me for my membership, which thing is forbidden by the Lord in the Book of Mormon you claimed to receive by covenant (Question 2), you'll have to do it without my input.

LDS Mormon 8:20 Behold what the scripture says—man shall not smite, neither shall he judge; for judgment is mine, saith the Lord[.]

You may, of course inquire of God and find out from him what he thinks of my covenant status.

Here, again, is the formula for inquiring of God and getting an answer.

1 Nephi 15:11
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

These are commandments of the Lord.

1. If anyone hits you on one cheek, turn the other cheek to him (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:39; 3 Nephi 12:39).
2. If anyone takes your cloak, allow him to have your coat too (Luke 6:29; Matt 5:40; 3 Nephi 12:40).
3. Give to every person who asks you to (Luke 6:30; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).
4. Do not ask for your stuff back from anyone who takes it (Luke 6:30).
4. Lend to everyone who asks, do not ask for it back (#4), and hope that you do not get paid back (Luke 6:34-35; Matt 5:42; 3 Nephi 12:42).

May you find the answers you seek - from the source of all truth, wisdom, and knowledge.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Actually, I wasn't trying your membership in the covenant body, I was thinking of what you've said regarding the difference between believing and knowing, and wondering if there was any sense in which you could now say that you know the words given to Denver given were of the Lord.

But now that you mention it, since you used the word "believe," and you've always

recognized a distinction between knowing and believing, it would seem that you still don't know that the words of the covenant are of the Lord--in any sense (even as a test of integrity.)
It would seem (from your words, unless you'd like to clarify them) that you don't (personally) "know" if those words are of God, of the devil, or of man.
And it would seem from the words you wrote the day after you said you accepted the covenant, that you had no more knowlede of where those words came from when you said you that you knew they were of God than you do now.

So if the questions asked of those wanting to enter the covenant that day were of the Lord, and the one asking them was a sentinel gaurding the way, didn't you really just "try" to enter a covenant you weren't qualified to enter by lying to a sentinel?

How then have you ever been a covenant participant?

Unless you'd like to clarify something, isn't the conclusion that you only pretended to be a covenant participant (from the beginning) inescapable--from your own words?

I mean wasn't the covenant intended for those who knew it was of the Lord?
And didn't you say you lied when you said you had that knowledge?
And don't you now say that you only "believe" the words were of God (and then only as a test)?
And didn't you warn those who did enter the covenant that day not to consider you a participant?

Have I misread or misunderstood anything?
And is there anything you'd like to clarify?

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 15, 2018

I said: "If you insist on trying me for my membership, which thing is forbidden by the Lord in the Book of Mormon you claimed to receive by covenant (Question 2), you'll have to do it without my input."

Anonymous then says: "Actually, I wasn't trying your membership in the covenant body... [b]ut now that you mention it... [h]ow then have you ever been a covenant participant?"

QED.

Jared L.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 15, 2018

"Wisdom counsels mankind to align their words with their hearts, but mankind refuses to

take counsel from Wisdom."

As we are almost all from a culture of hypocrisy, almost all of us speak fluent passive-aggressive, which is the fine old art of using feigned words to try to disguise one's intentions before men with plausible deniability. Almost all of us recognize it when we see it.

Since you cannot answer my arguments, and cannot compel my acquiescence, the only remaining ploy the majority has left is to try to attack my standing as a covenant participant. No such attack carries any weight, of course, since God alone and not men are my judge in this matter, but the attempt is being made to make appear a case before men that I am not a covenant participant to manipulate them into defrauding the Lord and failing to fulfill the covenant that they may be led to destruction.

As I said: you'll have to make your case without my input. If you wanted the truth you'd have appealed to God for it and not me. Therefore truth is not the objective.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

I haven't said you only pretended to the knowledge required of a covenant participant, lying on the day you said that you knew the words of the covenant were of the Lord, you have, on your own blog.

I haven't warned anyone who did enter the covenant that day, knowing the words of the covenant were of the Lord, not to consider you a covenant participant--you did.

Again on your own blog.

And I'm not the one who said you now "believe" that the words were given by Lord, as some kind of test, you did (here.)

Your own words judge you.

QED (unless you'd like to clarify something.)

- Log April 15, 2018

28 ¶ But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.

30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.

31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Do you believe you can enter a covenant by lying to the sentinel guarding the way, and saying you have knowledge you don't have?

Do you believe the Lord accepted your lie?

Again, I'm only looking at what you yourself have said (here and on your blog), and it's your own words judging you (unless you'd like to clarify something?)

- Log April 15, 2018

Ask the Lord what he has accepted.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Did you ask Him if the words of the covenant were of Him, and do you now know, or do you only believe?

- Log April 15, 2018

That's between me and God, not me and you. If you wish to try me for my membership, which thing is forbidden in the Book of Mormon you claimed to receive by covenant, if indeed you are a covenant participant, then you'll have to make your case without my input, and I have told you before how to go to God to get his input.

Jared L.

- Brent April 15, 2018

Log,

This is seriously one of the funniest posts I have read in this blog. Let me dissect for you the verses in LDS section 121 that directly apply so that you cannot throw them off with a simple, and very false statement.

Verse 39
I am talking about your nature and disposition. You directly refer to your authority as a covenant holder to dissent. So you are doing just that and exercising unrighteous authority.

So we go up to verse 37 and we see when you do such a thing, amen to the authority of that man. Which is what I am asserting here, that we no longer need to heed your input because the Lord has already outlined that your behavior would cause your loss of said authority when it is used in such a manner.

So verse 40, despite all that were called to the covenant, few will be chosen, especially if you lose your association by unrighteous dominion

Verse 41, to further the point, it has been explained that priesthood is an association, this covenant body is an association and therefore in some degree a priesthood. As such no power or influence can or ought to be maintained by this association, which is exactly what you are doing. So as it is forbidden, I suggest you stop with the explicit dissents, ask for forgiveness, and come at us with your best persuasion, meekness and love unfeigned.

How long this takes you is up to you.

Brent DeWitt

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

And do you believe they were only a test?

That God held off answering you (and everyone else who said they knew?) just to see if they'd lie?

And that all those who entered the covenant that day lied as you did, and failed the test?

And that the only ones who past the test were those who didn't say "yes" in Boise?

Isn't that what you believe Jared?

- Log April 15, 2018

That's between me and God, not me and you. If you wish to try me for my membership, which thing is forbidden in the Book of Mormon you claimed to receive by covenant, if indeed you are a covenant participant, then you'll have to make your case without my input, and I have told you before how to go to God to get his input.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

And have you gotten any input?

Do you know if the words are of God?

Do you know if they were only a test?

Or do you only "believe" (which is what you said here.)

If you just happened to use the wrong word, would you like to clarify yourself?

- Log April 15, 2018

That's between me and God, not me and you.

KJV James 1:5-7
5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

I could say that what I've asked God, and what He's told me is between Him and me, but is it true that if you had asked Him whether the words of the covenant were of Him, and you kept asking Him for an answer (in faith, without doubting) until you were asked the question in Boise that day, you would have known whether or not they were when you were asked the question?

And isn't it true that you still don't know?

You only "believe" (as you said here) that they were given to Denver as some kind of test of your integrety, and that you failed because you lied when you said you knew they were of God.

Isn't that true Jared?

- Anonymous April 15, 2018

Or did you use the wrong word when you said "believe," and would you like to clarify that now?

- HuhWhatda April 15, 2018

James,

You said: "It appears to me he is telling us to keep the Lord's requirement to teach and testify to one another."

That is my point, "telling" is not what I mutually agree with. I will talk, preach, rejoice, and even prophecy of Christ. But, when it comes to mutual agreement, I do not trust mutually agreeing to allow others to tell people to practice and teach. If the spirit dictates that to them, that is not my business to be in mutual agreement with it. What I can be in mutual agreement with is to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ."

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 15, 2018

That's between me and God, not me and you.

Jared L.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- ShaneGuymon April 15, 2018

Log,

This is a response to a comment you made on a previous post. But wanted to repeat it

here, so you will hopefully see it.

You asked, “What is ‘this standard’ being referred to?” The answer is clearly given in the second part. It says, “Do you have faith in these things and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?”

No where does it state that this “guide and standard” that we are working on, is what is contained in any of the 4 questions. In fact, it is a separate work that has been asked of this group. It’s not part of the covenant, but it is something the Lord has asked us to do.

But, it’s only a work that the Lord has asked us to do, IF you believe that the answer to the prayer for the covenant are indeed the words of the Lord. Which, you have already publicly declared that you don’t believe that those are the word’s of the Lord. Instead you believe they are the words of Denver Snuffer. So it appears it is a work that you actually don’t need to participate in, because you don’t even believe the Lord has asked it of us, instead you believe it is a work that Denver Snuffer has asked of us.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 15, 2018

Shane,

Why don't you quote me saying what you attribute to me?

Jared L.

- Log April 15, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 15, 2018

Brent,

If you say so.

Jared L.

- Log April 15, 2018

Brent's argument depends on the following equivocation:

1. Priesthood is an association.
2. Covenant participation is an association.
3. Covenant participation is therefore a priesthood (in some degree).

This is clearly fallacious, as we can see by the following argument which has the same structure as Brent's argument.

1. Cats are mammals.
2. Dogs are mammals
3. Dogs are therefore cats (in some degree).

LDS D&C 121 applies if dogs are cats, in some degree. How long will it take for dogs to become cats, to any degree?

But we can extend Brent's argument further, to show that any voting is unrighteous dominion, being influence or power being held by virtue of an association, since any association is priesthood by Brent's equivocation.

Jared L.

- Log April 16, 2018

Rob,

You already covenanted both to teach and to assist all others who covenanted to keep the Lord's will (Question 3) - which will as explicitly stated in the A&C includes teaching, as I pointed out.

You already agreed by covenant to do exactly what you now say you do not agree to do.

Jared L.

- Brent April 16, 2018

Rob, I appreciate your concern. Log is using his authority derived from association in the covenant body to dissent instead of persuasion, brotherly kindness and love unfeigned. This means said authority is removed as is stated in LDS Section 121 and therefore should be acknowledge by the covenant body. I am sorry if that was not clear. You can defend the one abusing authority if you want, it would seem from what the Joseph outlined in his letter to the saints that is not a method authorized by the Lord and in fact cuts you off as the heavens withdraw. I can no longer sit idly by as other are drawn into the madness.

- Log April 16, 2018

Brent will instead, by his own declared understanding of LDS D&C 121, exercise unrighteous dominion through a vote to exercise power and influence over me by authority of the body, as he supposes.

Jared L.

- Log April 16, 2018

Remember: a vote is an exercise of influence or power through an association, Brent says associations are priesthood to some degree, therefore a vote is unrighteous dominion according to Brent.

Brent is trying to do exactly what he falsely accuses me of doing.

Jared L.

- Brent April 16, 2018

Wow. It is surprising to me that a group of people who sat in the 10th lecture or who have read it and acknowledge the loss of authority of the LDS church due to the abuse of authority do not think it would apply to them for the same abuse. There is nothing wrong with having a different point of view, that is a wonderful thing. What Log did was two fold, first dissent expressing he single handedly deadlocked the situation due to his authority as a covenant holder to do so, and secondly submit his ultimatum that what he felt should be the words to fulfill the assignment would ever let him lift his dissent. In both cases he failed to use the prescribed method of working with others and in fact exercised unrighteous dominion in asserting his authority to dissent as power to stop progression of the process. It was clearly stated that this does indeed cause the heavens to withdraw and Amen to the authority of that man. It cannot be more clear. You can continue to defend such action, but then you continue to defend the abuses of authority in otherwise sustain those who misuse their authority.

I ask you to cease abusing your authority, kindly persuade and relent if the majority do not agree with you. The Lord will see and acknowledge your efforts and bless you for them.

- Log April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 16, 2018

Brent,

I have exercised no power nor authority nor influence by virtue of the priesthood in this matter. LDS D&C 121 does not apply.

The covenant body is not a priesthood. LDS D&C 121 does not apply.

Your position is the imposition of majority rules.

The majority does not have power nor authority to excommunicate me. Any pretence to the contrary is simply that: pretence, hypocrisy, iniquity, evil.

I don't have to persuade you. My sole duty is to speak the truth by persuasion - that is,

using reason and explanations and not make appeals to priesthood authority or power. That is, no "thus saith the Lord through me to you," no attempts at rank-pulling as you are right now doing to me.

By your own argument you are exercising unrighteous dominion.

To those who came to me in humility as equals I explained. To those who would not come to me in humility as equals I visited and explained.

I will not relent and you can't be rid of me in righteousness.

You can hold votes and pretend to get rid of me, but God does not receive from men that which he has not appointed. God has not appointed to the majority power nor authority to excommunicate, neither has he given power nor authority to any of us to declare that the heavens have withdrawn from someone and that they are therefore not a covenant participant simply because we disapprove of how they exercise their priveleges under the covenant.

This G&S "process" can be done just as soon as you and the majority cease your pointless and self-destructive dispute against the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.

All you can do by your proposal for the majority to vote to excommunicate me - which excommunication the majority has neither power nor authority to effectuate on the text of the covenant - is work iniquity, deceive men, and murder them by leading them astray.

"Judge not others except by the rule you want used to weigh yourself."

Jared Livesey

- Brent April 16, 2018

Jared, you bend the scriptures to excuse yourself and take pride in halting the will of the Lord. I did not say that you were using priesthood authority, Section 121 does not limit authority to priesthood if you actually read it. Priesthood authority is mentioned, but it addresses all authority, so seek not to excuse yourself. It appears you will twist anything to support your beloved damnation of this process. I seek to have the will of the Lord move forward as a community, you seek to keep it at a stand still until your personal demands are met. You can keep talking around your own interests, but you are transparent. All of these good natured people are so kind to handle you with kit gloves, God bless them. I am calling a spade a spade. If your understanding of Section 121 is so limited, it is quite possible that your understanding of what you are saying and doing is limited as well, maybe I give you too much credit. If you are more simple than I think, then I apologize for the accusations, but if not, then you should truly consider relenting.

I had to add my voice so I could have peace.

Good day.

- Log April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 16, 2018

Brent,

I need no excuse. You are not my judge, even though you judge me.

I inform you that you are incorrect in your application of LDS D&C 121, and that your argument - any exercising of power or influence in an association is unrighteous dominion - cuts with full force against your own position, for you are seeking to exercise influence and power over me in our association, so by your own argument you are yourself exercising unrighteous dominion.

Your argument also cuts against anyone who votes, anywhere, at any time, such as that held in Phoenix, for voting is the exercise of power or authority within an association, and must by your argument be unrighteous dominion.

I will not relent. This process that antagonizes you so much can be over just as soon as you and the majority cease your pointless and self-destructive dispute against adopting The Rock of Jesus Christ.

You have no way in righteousness to be rid of me.

I don't have to agree with you.
You don't have to agree with me.
You can do whatever you want.
I will not yield.
I have no obligation to persuade you.
I merely have the obligation to speak the truth by way of persuasion and not by way of priesthood power or priesthood authority.

Jared L.

- Brent April 16, 2018

Jared, you make unsupported accusations, I explained my stance and where they are supported, you did no such thing. This movement has adopted the rock of Christ when they adopted the scriptures, so your statement is illogical again.

We clearly are not going to agree, I want the will of the people to move forward, I want this movement to progress, you have brought it to a halt and take advantage of this good people. Who whispered into your ear that you could dissent and halt this effort? Who is telling you that this body, that is doing their very best to have the most accurate version of the Rock of Christ in their scriptures, has not adopted it? You continue with the fallacies. I know who is the father of fallacies, but I do not want to assume or accuse, so I ask.

- Log April 16, 2018

Brent,

I made supported observations, and noted that your argument is inconsistent with your behavior.

You simultaneously preach as a principle that nobody should ever exercise power or authority or influence in any association, since associations are priesthoods of a sort, you say, and at the very same moment contend to exercise power and authority and influence over me within our association.

Cats are not dogs, even though both are mammals; the covenant body is not the priesthood, even though both are associations. Thus you wrest LDS D&C 121.

I want the people to fulfill the Lord's requirement and, after that, fulfill the covenant, not merely move in a direction some call "forward," but others more accurately see is froward.

The Lord's requirement for mutual agreement means I get to dissent. I have a natural right - called agency - to disagree or agree as I will. You have no power to compel my agreement. I have no power to compel your agreement.

I know this people have not adopted The Rock of Jesus Christ, Brent, because there are still rich and poor among us. This people has as yet only honored with their lips and has not executed their words.

As the Lord said in the A&C was the case.

"Yet many of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do. As a people you honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting."

Jared L.

- Log April 16, 2018

It is not enough to merely say you accept The Rock of Jesus Christ.

You must also do it, otherwise you disagree - you dispute it - in your hearts, whatever agreement you may feign with your lips.

And we must all do it equally or else we cannot obtain what the Lord offers: both to accept, and to practice, and to teach.

Jared L.

- Brent April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Brent April 16, 2018

As my 14 year old daughter would say "exposed", but that is just the kid in me. Your demeanor and lack of understanding expose your impure intentions. My curiosity is satisfied, I hope and pray that wisdom reigns in the view of others. Peace be unto you, my task assigned was met.

- Anonymous April 16, 2018

I'm late to the party but have read or skimmed all the comments, and I think I may be repeating something that's already been said, but I want to state it for myself, anyway.

Of all the documents produced so far, I am most comfortable with the Lots one. The way I interpret the assignment, I feel it is a mistake to reject what I consider direction from

Christ on how to proceed in what is happening now.

With that said, I could certainly be wrong. I also really, really love Rob and Q. I don't know Jared, so honestly I don't have any affection for him, but I never want to be guilty of impeding others on their path or compelling another to think as I do. It is also very clear after a year's efforts that those who are not persuaded that the Lots document (or its very similar predecessors) is an acceptable offering are not going to become persuaded. We are told that, once we recognize our efforts have failed, we should allow people to choose something else. We've wanted those who disagree to be the ones to do so, but I think applying teachings internally is the only option ever available to us.

I am, therefore, happy to accept the Doctrine of Christ and Sermon on the Mount as our document. It's hard to argue that actually living such a document would not result in a people prepared for Zion. I remain free to govern myself as I see fit and to share those teachings with anyone I wish on my own. If I'm misinterpreting either the Adolphos' or Jared's's requests, I apologize and welcome correction.

Rob and Q, I pick up your taki ;)

elyssa

- Log April 16, 2018

If you say so, Brent.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 16, 2018

Elyssa,

You are correct in your understanding. Not enough can be said about how efforts have been made to control others, and little has been said concerning governing ourselves. The Lord has instructed us that their shall be no more doctrine, until we see Him in the flesh. Therefore, if we ought not govern another, then we can at least mutually agree to govern ourselves. It is safe to say that the Doctrine and Law of Christ, while simplistic in concept, has gone underestimated.

Thank you for the response,

Rob Adolpho

- Someone April 16, 2018

I suggest that the 40 years in Mormonism talks is the Light that burst forth with the heavens opening. We need to write a document that is kind and shares with those who don't know about The Lords work now under way. The book, Preserving the Restoration is scripture and was written under the direction of the Lord.
What if our guide and standard addressed these topics with very minimal words from us, and scripture references under each topic for people to look up themselves thus allowing the Lord to teach?
The topics would be...
Introduction: BE OF GOOD CHEER, BE OF GOOD COURAGE!
FAITH
REPENTANCE

COVENANTS
PRIESTHOOD
KING BENJAMINS FAITH (or sermon on the mount/bountiful)
ZION
CHRIST
A BROKEN HEART AND A CONTRITE SPIRIT
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
PRESERVING THE RESTORATION (Ordinances, fellowships)

- BrianZangTheZangFamily April 16, 2018

We have different views of my request, so as long as you interpret it that way you can disregard it.

- Log April 16, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 16, 2018

Brian,

Yes, we do have different views of your request.

Jared L.

- EdwinWilde April 16, 2018

Just a thought, new proposals should be submitted to the website as a new post.
The comments section really should be for the registering of approval or reasons for disapproval of each proposal.

- Someone April 16, 2018

Thanks Edwin,
Will you please submit this for me then? I want to remain anon because my heart cant handle the contentions and sometimes accusations that come. I am weak.

- HuhWhatda April 17, 2018

1 of 2

Progressive Covenants:

There is an order to heaven, and things progress from a lesser order to a greater one, through eternal progression. The objective is to walk the path that Christ has walked, according to the Lectures on Faith, to be precisely what Christ is, or else not be saved. The power of godliness is manifest in the ordinances line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little. Progressive covenants are intended to transform all who receive and keep those covenants. However, there is a gap between receiving and keeping covenants, requiring change or repentance. When properly informed, the

change leads toward God, who is steady and unchanging.

Bridging the gap between receiving covenants and keeping covenants can be tricky without sufficient information. However, the knowledge that God gives no commandment unto the children of men, save He prepares a way for them to accomplish it, provides hope that it is possible. If we consider covenants as stepping stones of progression, and a gap exists between receiving and keeping covenants, the process of clothing or endowing you with the covenant is what bridges the gap. Although the process of endowment is deeply steeped in symbolism, there is practical information that can assist us now, to bridge the gap and the frustrations surrounding the Governing Principles Project of the Boise covenant.

Nibley stated that "…the first step in preparing a more gifted people is to set them apart, to get them out of an environment in which everything exercises a downward drag in the relentless manner of gravitation." Those who wish to "come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly place, the holiest of all (D&C 76:66), must be strangers and pilgrims on earth," as "all holy men" have been (D&C 45:12-13). We must be utterly removed from the world, totally different, set apart, holy, chosen, special, peculiar. One of the patterns God has given us to be separated from the world is to be one in Christ. But, as we have experienced, coming together as a people is not as easy as it sounds. I suggest that the system of signs, names, and tokens can our expectations, when moving closer together.

- HuhWhatda April 17, 2018

2 of 2

Upon receiving the invitation of a covenant, the difficult process of coming together on that covenant can be taken one step at a time. A "sign" can be seen from a far distance, revealing an all-clear signal that approaching closer is safe. When signs are exchanged, people get nearer in proximity to exchange a "name." This establishes a closer identification, a more personal relationship. After the sign and the name comes the closest approach, an actual "token" handclasp or embrace. When properly applied, the work of becoming one has securely woven the relationship, casting out all fear and doubt. Finally, a seal is placed, representing a secured right of a person to the possession of the relationship, despite the separation of space or time. The work of the relationship is the product that we must labor for in this assignment. It is the byproduct of this process that we find mutual agreement. It is my observation that each covenant comes with signs, names, and tokens, for the purpose of endowing those who receive and keep them with progressive power.

King Benjamin led his people through the process. He taught repentance. As a sign, the people expressed their repentance by mutual agreement, providing a signal to heaven that these people are approachable. Heaven endowed that people with a name as a result. Our circumstances can be informed by theirs, if as individuals, we can slowly approach one another in personal relationships, until we as a people can find mutual agreement, and be endowed by this covenant.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 17, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 17, 2018

Clarification:

After reading my last post, my wife has informed me my that I wasn't clear about how covenants, endowment, signs, names, and tokens, apply to our relationships with one another. She expressed that it makes sense with our relationships with heaven, but she wasn't clear about how it related toward one another.

As a people, we come from different walks of life, and we come with baggage unique to us. When strangers approach, protective walls are erected, if not only for the safety of those within them. Rather than rushing in, in an attacking manner, a safe approach must be used, until trust can be established, and finally the work of casting out fear and doubt can be done. The family of God cannot afford fear and doubt within it's walls.

I believe everyone within this movement is making their best effort to connect to heaven, or they would have no reason to be here. What I am recommending is to use the tools given to us to connect to heaven, using them also to connect to one another. As the two great commandments teach us to love God first, and then love our neighbors, I made the connection that how we love God can inform us on how to love one another.

When we are offered a covenant from heaven, I understand that the covenant is the clothing that we put on. Therefore, offering a covenant is God's way of clothing our nakedness. When we are fully clothed, we are able to enter into God's presence, because what He see's is not our nakedness, He see's us clothed in the sacrificial offering of His son. He see's the clothing. If each article of clothing represents a covenant to be clothed in, our work is to be clothed in it.

The environment for clothing is a temple. The temple requires a land covenant. The land covenant requires a people to posses it. The work of the people is currently held up by mutual agreement. Mutual agreement remains unaccomplished because of disputations. Disputations are a result of the lack of trust. Lack of trust comes from unfamiliarity. And unfamiliarity keeps us apart because of our individual abused mindsets, mixed with our unbelief. Denver has preached repentance, and we are in the process of repenting. Showing signs of repentance makes a safe environment for us to congregate in fellowships and conferences. As we do the work of relationships to know one another by their attributes, perfections, and characteristics (another way of describing a name), familiarity can either breed contempt or express willingness to trust. If trust can be acquired, gradually, we will not dispute. Mutual agreement will be found, completing the covenant, so we can be "tangata whenua" (people of the land) once more. Once reconnected to the land, a temple can be built, for us to be clothed.

That was my intention,

Rob Adolpho

- EdwinWilde April 17, 2018

Part 1:
The following is laden with excessive amounts of ironic sarcasm. This is not meant to denigrate or belittle anyone. Rather, like in the medium of self-deprecative comedy, this mode of communication is being used to hopefully display to the reader a truth/truths that will at a minimum give a good laugh and hopefully more than that shed light on some ways in which individually we might improve.

(After reading Rob's foregoing comment, a pensitive inner-dialogue is inspired that follows:)

Interesting. Covenants are the medium with which God covers our nakedness. However before God is willing to cover our nakedness, we have to expose our embarrassing nakedness for sometime in front of one another, or else shrink away to stand in the dark.
Maybe that is why Joseph asked for others to cover his failings with a cloak (form of clothing) of charity, and stated that reciprocally he would return the favor?
Well lets see: we have been offered a covenant from God...but it does not seem to go into effect without our having fulfilled it. Perhaps if we first choose to cover what we perceive as the failings of others with the merciful clothing composed of our charity, then perhaps the Lord will then be willing to mercifully clothe us with the Covenant we so badly desire to have fulfilled; which is offered to us through the slaughter of His Son.

But how can I have charity for Rob Adolpho? That guy's a jerk. I mean he was really loud at the conference... and why couldn't he just shut up like the rest of us? Seriously! How can I have charity for someone like that?
Maybe -being that after all, we are a majority- we should inform him that he must have charity for us instead. Which in this case means sit down, shut up (emphasis on the shut up part) and just be thankful that we (and by association, the Lord) are willing to tolerate his dark (skinned) presence.

- EdwinWilde April 17, 2018

Part 2/2:
I mean the other option is for me to look upon his Taki, and consider that maybe as of right now the best that we can all agree on is to govern ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ. After all...I can at least agree to that (because I already have.)
Which I guess that wouldn't be totally the worst thing ever...but it would require (at least until some time in the future when we might be able to come in further mutual agreement with each other to expand upon what we can agree) for any one who is newly exposed to this movement to understand that our Guide and Standard above all else are the Lord's Doctrine and Law, and that individually each of us demand to govern ourselves by those two teachings.
Well and you know what...perhaps that actually might be better than 'not the worst thing ever' because I know a lot of people who have been turned off from religion, because generally speaking, what they find there is hypocrisy. Maybe if they encountered a truly, peaceable people where every individual maintained as their own Guide and Standard, the Lord's Doctrine and Law- maybe then they might be blessed to more easily be persuaded to come and learn more of the work in which the Lord is presently engaged?
Especially because in all reality -as Denver has pointed out in his Sunstone talk this past year- across this great globe, nearly every single culture seems to -in their own words- prize those same teachings as the highlight of human achievement.
And in all reality, perhaps if Rob asks me to walk this mile with him, he will see that despite the actions of my society as a whole in relation to him as a person and his people generally, I really do care about him. Perhaps, being that he has worked consistently in the minority from the beginning on this thing, he would appreciate my act of charity on this thing (because despite the evidence he has shown for the propriety of his Taki -and the fact that I'm already beginning to be persuaded on this thing as shown in my reasoning stated previously- I think that he should be adding/doing/being more...) more than I could appreciate the display of charity that I would like to ask of him: sit down, shut up and be grateful that I tolerate him.
But if I did that, then there wouldn't be anyone else left to fill the description that the Lord gave of some -unknown to me- person/people who are froward...ohhh what to do, what to do?
Think, think, think....I need some honey!

Edwin added to my understanding in his last post, by describing Joseph Smith's intent to ask a cloak be thrown over his shortfalls, …relating shortfalls to nakedness. Even more enlightening was his description of the tool we can use, a cloak of charity, …when we recognize one another's nakedness. It gives greater understanding to my mind about clothing the naked, suggesting charity as a cloak for other people's nakedness.

Nakedness was addressed in the Gospel of Phillip, pointed out to me by a young adult. Consider its application, and the work ahead of us to cloth ourselves in Christ:

"Some people are afraid that they may arise from the dead naked, and so they want to arise in flesh. They do not know it is those who wear the flesh who are naked. Those who are able to take it off are not naked.

"…Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption (KJV 1 Corinthians 15:50). "

"Flesh and blood will not inherit God's kingdom." What is this flesh that will not inherit? It is what we are wearing. And what is this flesh that will inherit? It is the flesh and blood of Jesus.

For this reason, he said, 'One who does not eat my flesh and drink my blood does not have life within.' What does this mean? His flesh is the word and His blood is the Holy Spirit. Whoever has received these has food, drink, and clothing.

And I also disagree with others who say that the flesh will not arise. Both views are wrong. You say that the flesh will not arise? Then tell me what will arise, so we may salute you. You say it is the spirit in the flesh, and also the light in the flesh? But what is in the flesh is the word, and what you are talking about is nothing but flesh. It is necessary to arise in this sort of flesh, since everything exists in it.

In this world those who wear clothes are superior to the clothes. In heavens kingdom the clothes are superior to those who wear them."

The concept of eating the bread and drinking the wine for sacrament was a symbol to make you the same as Christ, because what you consume literally makes up your flesh and blood, as it is distributed to nourish the body, or in other words to become your body. The changing of the body is symbolically represented by putting on robes. To Phillip, our mortal body is more superior to the clothes we wear. However, the robes given us in heaven is far superior to those who wear them.

Hugh Nibley, at graduation commencement addressed the graduates in black robes as being gathered in the robes of a false priesthood. He later clarified the idea, teaching about the treasures in the heavens, referencing bodies of light as the treasure in heaven.

I confess that my failures represent my nakedness, and ask a cloak of charity to cover me, as I seek to put on the clothing of the covenant offered. I desire not to be naked in the Lord's presence, but to have on a wedding garment. Peter was instructed as a father by Christ, to teach the Lords sheep as they grow, increase, and are added upon. As we choose to: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, we will have provided an environment in which we can grow, increase, and be added upon.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 18, 2018

Does this passage apply to the discussion here?

...if your brother shall trespass against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he shall hear you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear you, then take with you one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church. BUT IF HE NEGLECT TO HEAR THE CHURCH, let him be unto you as a heathen man and a publican.
Truly I say unto you, whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever you shall set loose on earth shall be set loose in heaven. Again, I say unto you that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, that they may not ask amiss, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in heaven; for where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in their midst.
Matt. 9:13-14 (RE.)

Behold there are many called, but few are chosen, and why are they not chosen? Because their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world and aspire to the honors of men, that they do not learn this one lesson--that the rights of the Priesthood are inseparably connected with the Powers of Heaven and that the Powers of Heaven cannot be controlled nor handled, only upon the principles of righteousness. That they may be conferred upon us, it is true, but when we undertake to cover our sins or to gratify our pride, our vain ambition, or to exercise control or dominion or compulsion upon the souls of the children of men, in any degree of unrighteousness, behold the heavens withdraw themselves, the Spirit of the Lord is grieved, and when it has withdrawn, Amen to the Priesthood OR THE AUTHORITY of that man. Behold, ere he is aware he is left unto himself to kick against the pricks, to persecute the Saints, and to fight against God. We have learned by sad experience that it is the nature and disposition of almost all men, as soon as they get a little authority, as they suppose, they will immediately begin to exercise unrighteous dominion. Hence many are called, but few are chosen.
D&C 47:33.

- Anonymous April 18, 2018

I meant those passages.

Do either (or both) of those passages have any relevance to the dicussion here?

- HuhWhatda April 19, 2018

Anonymous,

I have been thinking about what you wrote, and I might need some clarification to your insight of the scriptures you're adding to the conversation. If I were to sum the subject matter into one word, it would be "clothing." The examples I used was being clothed in articles representing the covenant. Edwin added Joseph's quote about a cloak of charity, connecting it to covering another person's nakedness. I added more in the Gospel of Phillip about nakedness and desiring to be clothed in a wedding garment. I didn't intend the conversation to stay on clothing, it just so happened to stir something more in Edwin and I.

You asked if the passages you quoted had relevance to the discussion, and I don't think I have enough information to answer the question. I read the first with emphasis on, "BUT IF HE NEGLECTS TO HEAR THE CHURCH," because you have capitalized it. But, given the passage and the emphasis, I don't know how it relates to "clothing." In the second passage you have emphasized in caps, "OR THE AUTHORITY." In this passage I am also having a difficult time relating it to "clothing." It's not that it doesn't exist, I'm just not seeing it. Perhaps you might be able to kindly expound for me what the passages mean to you, regarding clothing.

Just in case you may not have connected with why I am discussing clothing, regarding this assignment, it is because I believe that every covenant is intended to clothe our nakedness. As each covenant comes from God, through the atoning sacrifice of Christ, we are clothed in Christ's atonement when we are clothed in the covenant. When we arrive at the wedding feast, God the Father will see His son if we have on a wedding garment, and will not bind us hand and feet and cast us out to outer darkness.

Please help me understand how the passages tell you about "clothing."

Rob Adolpho

- KevinGillman April 19, 2018

Adolphos, thank you for this post. I appreciate it and sense light in it.

- Anonymous April 19, 2018

The Lord has imposed a duty on those who took the covenant in Boise and afterward. That duty is to "add" a Guide & Standard to the accepted scriptures.

That would be reasonably fulfilled by adding a formal Guide & Standard consisting of the Lord's instructions and commandments given to the Nephites which was foundational to them establishing Zion.

Nothing more is required.

There is no requirement to re-write the LDS church handbook of instructions, to discuss polygamy, tithing, word of wisdom, church history or any other concepts in a simple GUIDE & STANDARD.

Some seem to be dissatisfied with such a simple thing, instead wishing to add the words of men.

What did Nephi think was important? At the end of his life, writing his last thoughts he said the things he considered most important for us the hear: He taught the doctrine of Christ, counseled us to "feast upon the words of Christ", and follow the guidance of the Holy Ghost into Christ's presence. (2 Nephi 31-32:6)

What does "feast upon the words of Christ" mean if not to study His Law, which has conveniently been given to us who live after the time of Nephi in the Sermon on the Mount and the Sermon at Bountiful?

The Savior thought this was so important that in the middle of delivering His Sermon at Bountiful, He paused and said:

"And behold, I have given you the law and the commandments of my Father, that ye

shall believe in me, and that ye shall repent of your sins, and come unto me with a broken heart and a contrite spirit. Behold, ye have the commandments before you, and the law is fulfilled. Therefore, come unto me and be saved; FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EXCEPT YE SHALL KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, WHICH I HAVE COMMANDED YOU AT THIS TIME, YE SHALL IN NO CASE ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN." (3 Nephi 12:19-20, emphasis added)

Then He went on to complete His Sermon at Bountiful.

We must stop arguing and bickering and posturing. These things are very distasteful to the Lord.

A simple Guide & Standard is what is needed. The Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon (Mount or Bountiful) is all that is required to fulfill this duty.

In our day He has stated, "Behold, this is my doctrine--whosoever repenteth and cometh unto me, the same is my church. Whosoever declareth more or less than this, the same is not of me, but is against me; therefore he is not of my church." (D&C 10:67-68)

If it unclear to you what He meant by "come unto me" please re-read and pray about what He said (quoted above) in 3 Nephi 12:19-20).

Thank you.

James Russell Uhl

- HuhWhatda April 19, 2018

James Uhl,

I'm not sure who you're addressing, as very few seem to be commenting here these past two days, and all who have posted have mutually agreed to: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ. It seems as if you are recommending the same to those who have already agreed with you. But, what confuses me, as I read your words is that you sound as if those who are posting here don't already agree.

Maybe you are not addressing anyone who has been posting most recently, but instead are addressing someone else. If that's the case, please excuse my interruption, and I'll step aside to let you converse. Or, ...are you the anonymous from above, asking if the two scriptures you quoted were relevant to the most recent posts? I get all my anonymous's mixed up.

Help me out by clearing things up,
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 19, 2018

I have informed you, Rob: only The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles shall be our written guide and standard, and statement of principles.

I will agree to the adoption of no other document, and I shall and do dispute the adoption of any other document.

This is the state of affairs of this people concerning this assignment until either the assignment is successfully completed by the cessation of all dispute against the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ as the G&S, or the people chooses to defraud the Lord by placing a disputed document into the scriptures as the G&S.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 19, 2018

Rob,
I am not posting as anonymous. My name is very clearly added at the end of every one of my posts.
How can you not see there is contention, quarreling, bickering, posturing here?
I am not asking anyone to step aside.
I am asking that a simple G&S be adopted which includes only the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon (mount or bountiful).
Can you not see that these fulfill the requirement and meet the Lord's commandments found in 3 Nephi 12:19-20?
To say that no one is arguing is not supported here. Look at all the posts within the last week which are arguments, bickering, contradicting each other, posturing and rude.
I am asking that we stop all the contention and adopt the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon (as best found in Jared's The Rock of Jesus Christ).
Nothing more is needed or indicated.
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- HuhWhatda April 19, 2018

James,

I'm so sorry, I know you signed your name on your response, but your call sign is "anonymous," and the previous posting from someone with the same call sign didn't include their name at the end, so I was only looking to clarify. That is why I asked.

I am not contradicting the fact that there is arguments in this string of posts. Most of the arguing was yo-boy-Jared. But, as of the last two or three days, it was simply conversations between a few, until you started up and at'em again. I got no control over this blog, so I won't stand in your way, telling people what they should do, or not do. Let me step aside.

You want me to do something, other than accept to:"Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ?" What I'm recommending seems like an even more simple enough governing principle to me, which also fulfills the assignment. I got no contention, telling you what to do. I'm satisfied staying still now.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 19, 2018

Yup, I remember, Jared. You will not accept anything but your document. I'll stay still and wait for more of God's instruction now.

Shout out to Kevin Gillman, for the compliment.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 19, 2018

Rob,
Thank you for your reply.
I sign in as anonymous because that is easiest for me on my computer, however, I always add my full name at the bottom of each post.
Any other "anonymous" without a name attached I tend to wonder why, if that person believes what they are posting, they do not own their post?
Would you please enlighten me? I have read all the proposals but I do not see one titled "Doctrine and Law of Christ". Which proposal are you referring to by that title?
I am puzzled when you say, "I won't stand in your way, telling people what they should do, or not do".
Please show me if your think I am telling people what they should do.
My entire effort has been to stop contention and to ask people to choose the most simple G&S, the one which I was told by the Spirit (3 times!) to propose, the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon at Bountiful. Jared Livesey's proposal, The Rock of Jesus Christ, is virtually the same as the proposal I was given by the Spirit in Sept. 2017, which I submitted to the Scripture Committee on 9/6/17.
Rob, I appreciate the sincerity of your posts and your gentle heart. You and your wife and sweet people.
I know Jared and his wife. They are sweet people also.
This struggle to find an acceptable G&S should NOT be a contentious issue!
The people of this covenant are good, kind, sweet hearted people.
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- Log April 19, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 19, 2018

Each must come to understand why the answer is what it is for themselves, or else there can be no actual agreement.

I'll still be standing on The Rock.

Jared L.

- HuhWhatda April 19, 2018

James,

The string of posts you are responding to right now is to the proposal for us to mutually agree to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ," at the top of this page. I proposed it in a traditional way of laying down a challenge (Taki). That's the proposal I made above.

The difference between Jared's proposal and mine, although founded upon the Doctrine and Law of Christ, is that I would only mutually agree to: "Govern Ourselves," but Jared requires a little bit more, instructing people that they also must agree to "practice" and "teach" the Doctrine and Law of Christ. I can mutually agree to: "Govern Ourselves by

the Doctrine and Law of Christ," but I leave it to the Holy Ghost to guide and direct others to "practice" and "teach" it as they are impressed to do. The way I see it, the minute we "tell" someone to practice and teach, we are now left to clarify what that means, and then enforce our clarification, and that leads to shenanigans. Governing ourselves leaves the responsibility to enforce ourselves, and express mercy to others. Because you were supporting Jared's proposal, that's what I mean by, "I won't stand in your way, telling people what they should, or should not do."

Like you, I too want the contention to stop. But, the only one I have to power to stop contending is myself. Once again, supporting the idea for our mutual agreement to govern ourselves. I am of the belief that we must all listen to the voice of the Lord, and follow through with His instructions. You should support Jared's document if that's what the spirit told you. Jared should not deviate if that's what the spirit tells Him. Likewise, I and all the others ought to be accountable to the voice of the Lord alone, to govern ourselves. Mutual agreement is not my responsibility. My responsibility is to first and foremost be the Lord's people, and then all others who are His people will be able to find mutual agreement.

Personally, I like Jared and Fawn, and don't mind their position. I do not know their past, present, and future, ...so they should feel free to choose as they are directed. You too and me too. You're right, this project should not be contentious. Fact is, it has been, and I'm working things out in me so that I'm no longer contentious.

Hope that makes more sense,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 20, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 20, 2018

Concerning: Satan/Deablos/Devil/The Accuser

In apostasy, the emphasis has been drastically re-emphasized, causing us to turn against one another, instead of: living godlike, binding Satan, and returning to the temple of the Garden of Eden.

Satan/Devil (both meaning “accuser”) has used the institutions of “group think” to re-emphasized our attention on sin and transgression. Putting emphasis on sin and transgression turns people against each other, fearing guilt, shame, and embarrassment for exercising agency against socially acceptable norms. Institutional “group think” collectively attacks the single unique mind as socially unacceptable, associating uniqueness with heresy, accusing the heretic as Satan. And that is how we have behaved like Satan. The definition of a “heretic” is simply a person whose beliefs or opinions are contrary to orthodoxy, or authorized or generally accepted theory, doctrine, or practice. For example, at LDS General Conference an accountant reports that all of the churches accounting was done by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, establishing the innocence argument of orthodoxy. And for that reason, anyone paying tithing outside of the accepted orthodoxy policy, looses their temple privileges. Throughout history orthodoxy has centralized and corrupted entire nations, turning good people against good people, leading “to-ward” war, death and destruction, and “fro-ward” from our divine parents. Our apostate habits from the LDS and popular society has turned us against each other, drastically emphasizing our attention on one another’s sin and transgression, blaming and accusing one another for our collective failure, acting

as Satan. As a result, we are the wicked destroying the wicked. Contention and destruction is why our divine parents hate the froward.

Our repentance requires that we change the blame from blaming one another, to where it truly belongs, on Satan. Our responsibility is to re-emphasize that the enemy is not us, and join our efforts to restore the truth (the good news, or the gospel of Jesus Christ), living godlike, binding Satan, and returning to the temple Garden of Eden. The Book of Revelations follows this pattern, focusing on: instructing us to live like gods to destroy the beast within us, bind Satan in the pit, in preparation for a new heaven and earth. The ancient Book of Enoch repeats the pattern, emphasizing the same thing: Angels rescue oppressed righteous by restoring them to knowledge/wisdom so they can live like gods, together they imprison Asael (Satan) in the pit, and restore man and earth's fertility/prosperity/peace. The common theme is: restore the people to live godlike, bind Satan, and return to the temple/the heavens.

The work upon us now is to build upon the Rock of Jesus Christ, replacing our foundations with the Doctrine and Law of Christ, to govern ourselves. As we mutually agree to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ," we will live godlike, bind Satan in us, preparatory to inheriting and restoring the earth to it's paradisiacal glory. Too much has been lost, using an institutionalized "group think" emphasis on sin and transgression. Too many casualties have both killed and lost their lives based on social norms of generally accepted orthodoxy. We must cleanse ourselves of those habits of apostasy, valuing one another, preserving uniqueness and finding unity by how we govern ourselves. If we can agree to this, God can teach us correct principles, and let us govern ourselves.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 20, 2018

Rob,
Well said! Thank you for the explanation.
To be clear...do you agree that we should choose the Doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ (the Law the Lord taught the people at the Sermon on the Mount and in the Sermon at Bountiful (which He commanded them to keep and which He warned them that if they did not keep they could not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven (3 Nep 12:20)) as the Guide & Standard?
Agreement on what the G&S should say can be reached even if some believe it should be taught to others and some believe it is only a personal guide and standard for each individual to live by.
What of all those (the majority) who believe the Lots Proposal is the best G&S?
Can those people come to agree with a simple written G&S which includes only the Doctrine of Christ and the Law of Christ but allows all to interpret the G&S as they feel prompted and to live by any additional standards they personally choose?
Can we move forward to a mutually agreed upon Guide & Standard?
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- HuhWhatda April 20, 2018

Thinking More About Evil & Sin:

Thinking about the Garden of Eden has reminded me that both Satan and Adam/Eve were cast out, but for different reasons. Satan was cast out first for his "fro-wardness"

from our divine parents. He was proven a rebeller from the beginning. Adam & Eve were cast out as a consequence of their transgression. However, Adam and Eve were provided a Savior for their return. Satan, however, was not provided salvation through opportunity to repent. Satan is doomed to the pit, anciently called “the well of souls.”

Within the veil, Satan has camouflaged his being cast out by his efforts of Evil, by focusing our attention on pointing the finger at sin, as a diversion. We have dismissed evil, demonic, possession, as an ancient misunderstanding of archaic intelligences. Exorcisms are no longer the preferred medical practice of healing, because we have chemistry. The location of evil is online pornography, not angels to the devil. Satan’s camouflage is to point the finger at people as both the source of evil and the transgression.

Our efforts to remove transgression will come as we have a safe environment for light to grow. Our ability to: “Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ” has the ability to provide that environment. Within it light can grow, increase and be added upon, …removing the effects of our transgression. Keepers of that Doctrine and Law not only receive the guidance of the Holy Ghost, they are also deserving of the Lord’s protection.

Consider Daniel and the stone cut without hands, to grind to dust the kingdoms of the earth, and fill the whole earth, restoring the earth’s paradisiacal glory. The destruction of Evil and of Satan is going to happen. The Lord seeks to redeem all from the effects of being destroyed too. Those who are preserved can only be preserved if they are the stone cut without hands. According to “All or Nothing,” the stone will initially be cut out of the mountain without hands as a people properly self-govern, within any worldly government, without compulsory means. That is not a quote, but my synopsis of all seven posts. Denver writes that the laws lived among that self-governed-chosen people are far higher than the laws of the land governing them, therefore that people are never in conflict with the laws of the land. That society will not produce a threat to the world governments. And any who govern themselves by Christ’s Doctrine and Law are deserving recipients of the His protection.

If we are to be that stone, we must first grind to dust the kingdoms of the earth within ourselves, to govern ourselves by the Kingdom of God: The Doctrine and Law of Christ. As the world continues to crumble and decay as a consequence of the Evil planted and camouflaged by Satan, the wicked will destroy the wicked, but they will not destroy us, for they will fear us as “great and terrible.”

Evil is Satan’s to own, and why he is cast down. Sin can be conquered, as light replaces our darkness until we are full of light, having no darkness at all. Rather than seeing each other as the enemy, as the source of Evil, as Satan, …perhaps we can use a cloak of charity regarding sin. Then we can help overcome sin by faith, by providing an environment where growing, increasing and adding light is possible.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 20, 2018

James,

You have asked several questions, but I can only answer the questions that relate to me. The first answer is, yes, I desire to govern ourselves by the doctrine and law of Christ as the doctrine provides the Holy Ghost as our guide, and the law of Christ as our standard. The Holy Ghost is the guide. And Christ is the standard.

Concerning agreement, I don't believe that mutual agreement was the assigned work,

but rather the byproduct when the work is complete. That being said, I cannot answer the question regarding all those who desire to publish the Lots Proposal. As I have stated in the above proposal, everyones proposal agrees to include the Doctrine and Law of Christ, and a little bit more. I proposed that we mutually agree to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ," and any additional little bit more can be practiced and taught in individual fellowships as people choose.

And finally, the ultimate question that seems to push things into a frenzy, "Can we move forward to mutually agree upon a Guide & Standard?" That is not a question for me to answer. But it is a good question.

Rob Adolpho

- etluxentenebrislucet April 20, 2018

Rob, thank you for the wisdom you have been adding here.

- HuhWhatda April 20, 2018

More On Clothing:

Above Edwin and I discussed clothing, and since I was in the thought process of the Garden of Eden, another idea popped out that I hadn't before thought of. Two sets of people were cast out of the garden. First Satan. And then Adam & Eve. When Satan was cast out, he was cast out because of his rebellion, as the source of evil. However, Adam & Eve were cast out because of transgression/sin. Concerning clothing, Satan was not clothed before being cast out, whereas Adam and Eve were. Adam & Eve were given skins from a sacrifice, to clothe their nakedness. Those skins were the symbol of Christ's sacrifice. I'm stretching here, but it is because we are clothed in the sacrifice of Christ, that we have the gift of repentance. However, Satan was not given clothing, and for that reason he cannot repent as the atonement does not cover his nakedness.

Why does this matter, and how does it apply to the Governing Principles Project? Satan has no recourse from his rebellion, being the ultimate "fro-warder," turned away from Our Divine Parents. He is willing to do whatever possible to destroy the work of God. To accomplish his designs, darkness must increase. Our conversations, if they remain too low, too mean, too vulgar, the darkness of our contention will increase. However, if we lift our conversations, increase our kindness, and stretch for pure content, light will increase, and dispel the darkness.

I address this topic, the topic of nakedness, and the topic of clothing, for the purpose of adding light to a darkened subject. So that perhaps, when our roots are fed by the moisture of the roots, some might receive that moisture and produce sweet fruits.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 22, 2018

More Garden Thoughts:

Reflecting on the casting-out from the garden, two aspects emerge that has been inaccurately lumped into one. Satan was cast-out of the Garden for "rebellion." Adam & Eve, however, were cast-out for "transgression." Religious institutions have combined both the evil of rebellion and transgression, under one flag called, "SIN." When properly separated, we get good insight to the process of healing, recommended by Christ

because it follows the same pattern from the Garden of Eden: First cast out evil, then heal the effects of the damage caused by the evil.

In our contention, we have been deceived, treating others among us as though they were Satan, as though they were the source of evil, as though they were rebellious, as though they were “fro-ward.” Although the restoration originally offered the correct view, the false traditions of our apostate predecessors have once again recombined evil & transgression, leaving it our responsibility to separate and return it to proper order. Let me clarify.

Before Satan was cast out, he was not clothed in the sacrificial coat of skins. However, Adam & Eve were. Rather than addressing one another as Satan, Evil, and prepared for being cast into the well of souls, …we can instead choose to see one another as the offspring of Adam & Eve, and use a cloak of charity. By using a cloak of charity we follow the example of Christ, covering one another’s nakedness and transgression in the Atonement of Christ. As we maintain an association of peace by governing ourselves by Christ’s Doctrine and Law, greater and greater light can be given space to increase, to defend against, and eventually bind Satan among us.

Our fellowships provide us the opportunity to access Christ’s atonement and repent of our transgression, if we: “Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ.” And our success will provide access to the heavens to increase light to bind Satan. Our repentance requires ears that hear, eyes that see, and the power to walk the path of Christ. Ears to hear is probably recommending a mind of understanding as we discuss with one another certain “concepts.” Eyes that see is probably recommending seeing “patterns” throughout the scriptures and the ordinances we have had. And the lame that walk is probably recommending our ability to take “action.” If we can produce fellowships where our conversations can be “informative,” so that we can recognize “patterns” of examples within the scriptures, …it can lead to our “actions” in greater and greater faith. In such an environment, we will have produced a priesthood among men, that attract the attention of angels.

Rob Adolpho

Statement of Principles by Lots Group Formatted for Insertion into ...

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Working closely with the group chosen by lots to compile the *Statement of Principles*, the document has been updated with references to the RE scriptures along with several minor formatting changes. Scriptural sources have been verified, standardized, and corrected as needed. The *Statement of Principles* is available **here** in various sizes for printing, trimming, and insertion into the scriptures. It can be printed double-sided so that it fits seamlessly into the book binding. In addition, an updated Table of Contents for the RE *Teachings & Commandments* has been developed in Word that matches both font and page size of the current version, which can also be added if desired; individuals can customize the page numbers before printing so as to place the *Statement of Principles* where they would like it in the Appendix. Instructions on how to print and cut are included in the link in a README file. The original Lots proposal is also included in this folder. In making use of these documents, we should recognize those among the covenant body who hold a difference of opinion regarding what should be added to the scriptures as a *Statement of Principles*. It is not expected nor demanded that they renounce or abandon

their views in favor of this document, nor is it assumed that this document is without flaw. Rather, we would do well to acknowledge our weaknesses as a people and simply choose to not dispute with one another about it going forward, placing our hope and faith in the idea that there will eventually be enough aligning of our hearts to be able to include the *Statement of Principles* in future editions of the scriptures for people to easily reference, which will bless, benefit, and inform them of the Lord's work now underway. James Fargo & Jim O'Rullian

Comments

- Anonymous April 23, 2018

Thank you Jim, James and the Lots representatives for all the time and effort you have sacrificed to trying to fulfill the command of the Lord in this matter. You have exhibited graciousness toward those who do not agree and yet have stayed on course as per your inspiration. I believe we have all learned much about ourselves through this past year and hopefully that instigates personal course corrections as the spirit instructs each of us, that will allow us to be among those who can be gathered. Much appreciation for putting yourselves "out there" and providing this.

- Log April 23, 2018

"When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow."

His requirement is not fulfilled by adding a statement of principles to the scriptures before a statement of principles is agreed upon by all the people.

His requirement is not fulfilled by adding a disputed statement of principles to the scriptures.

Adding the Lottery statement to one's scriptures therefore either does not relate to the Lord's requirement, or else it is the substitution of something the Lord has not asked for for his requirement and therefore defrauds the Lord.

Those who will be gathered are those who accept and do what he has required.

Jared Livesey

- OpenMind April 23, 2018

"When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow."

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Adding the Lottery statement to one's scriptures therefore either does not relate to the Lord's requirement, or else it is the substitution of something the Lord has not asked for for his requirement and therefore defrauds the Lord.

Those who will be gathered are those who accept and do what he has required.

Jay Todd

- Jay April 23, 2018

For anyone transitioning from LDS edition of scriptures to Restoration Edition or who may find the need on occasion to relate to the rest of the world, I have compiled correlation reference documents you can find here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yK7L7X-cOPZi9LPz9OPf79STj0XqroJnWCMna_GPGMU/edit?usp=sharing
(anyone with this link can view)

This can be accessed from the link and it can also be saved as an excel file to your local drive.

YouTube explanation video:
https://youtu.be/2CTkBtMHyYM

The file can be downloaded as an excel spreadsheet and saved to your local computer.

- JimORullian April 23, 2018

Awesome work Jay. I was looking for something just like this. Very helpful! Thank you so much.

- Anonymous April 23, 2018

Thanks for all the great work guys! I so appreciate these efforts!

- HuhWhatda April 23, 2018

1 of 2

Response to This Lots Proposal:

In the Garden of Eden story two groups were cast out: first Satan for rebellion, and then Adam & Eve for transgression. Since the Garden, apostasy has lumped evil and transgression into one: “sin.” The false idea of lumping both evil and transgression into sin ought to be separated by us as a covenant seeking people. Rather than accusing one another as Satan or evil, it is fair for us to recognize a mistake. At every turn of this effort, authority has been used as a club, short-order votes have weighed on the conscience of people, guilt has been triggered threatening a loss of covenant, creative methods devised to implicate God’s direction for another, rather than permitting the Holy Ghost to be the Guide, and Christ to be the Standard.

I recognize this effort proposed by Jim O’Rullian and James Fargo as another mistake. Although they are merely “recommending” here that a creative document is available, with directions for insertion, and a new table of contents provided to replace the old one, …the mistake is passively ignoring the work of mutual agreement, pushing ahead, avoiding the most difficult of tasks of being a family of God. Their public recommendation is displayed as non-aggressive, harmless, and non-controlling, …while their private efforts have followed the same pattern as previous efforts. They have strategically marketed their position. They have accumulated signatures to publicize

support. They have held their methods of drawing lots, accumulating voices by votes, and used their own revelation as justification to enforce publishing. As of recent, they have begun a private petition (not made available here), holding the scripture committee and those of us who disagree, accountable for holding back the work of God for their being unable to publish. I have never had issue with a person doing their best to do as they think God desires them to do. The question of authority has never been an issue for me. However, how authority is used has always been the source of transgression. I don't see these people as being evil. Although, they have mistakenly attributed others being evil, including the scripture committee. I simply see it as a transgression, a mistake. They took aim at a target, and missed the mark. That's OK, lets try again!

Since the talk on Our Divine Parents, I realize that the talk gave major implications about us being the family of God. It was instruction of "Our Divine Parents," intended for "Their Divine Children." Before being cast out of the Garden, Adam and Eve were clothed in coats of skins, symbolic of Christ's atonement, providing us opportunity to return from our transgression. The method of returning from transgression is for us children to reflect "Our Divine Parents." Since they are one, "…we must grow together to be like Them. Their works are glorious. They possess love- the power that creates and organizes. Love is the power behind all They do. We cannot be like Them without loving relationships that mirrors Theirs." (ODP pg. 24). The methods recommended above mistakenly promote an institutional substitute for familial relationships. It is understandable, looking at the LDS traditions we came from.

- HuhWhatda April 23, 2018

2 of 2

Considering the circumstances, we are currently struggling through around this Governing Principles Project, I have come to realize that the "Divine Family of God" has gone missing from our modern religious culture. And because it has gone missing, religious institutions substituted it with an institutional, robotic, assignment relationship family. Reflect back at the appearances of the resurrected Christ. Accompanying each of His appearances is an entourage of Divine Beings, the heavenly hosts, or a hosts of Angels. In the new replacement for D&C 110 shows first Christ, and then the angelic hosts. Lehi's dream accounts similarly for the Lord, and then hosts that follow. Even Denver's vision of the second coming depicts the appearance of Christ, and then the light opens into a corridor to reveal angelic hosts. I suggest that these hosts are the "Divine Family of God." The work we are now engaged in with this project is a portion of the work to produce on earth, in the flesh, the "Divine Family of God," among us. However, since we have totally lost the Angelic cult, …as a physical manifestation of that loss, our familial relationships suffer, decay, and fall apart. And that includes this movement. The work now upon us is nothing less than the work of being a "Divine Family." Those who are able to accomplish THAT, will be those prophesied of, that greet the city of Enoch in a familial embrace. If we are unable to complete this project without relying upon our institutional upbringing, that day will not be what you hoped for.

The Lots Proposal, along with their voting, politicking, private petition signing, and instructions of individual publishing above, does not fit what I recognize as familial, relationship building, or anything related to heavenly hosts to me. It represents the institutional baggage from our LDS predecessors. I think that it is important to note that I don't think those supporting the Lots as being a source of evil. I simply chalk it up to transgression, a mistake, they have aimed and missed the mark.

Rob Adolpho

- Donald April 24, 2018

Hi Rob,

I'm not sure if this is the petition you are referring to:

http://www.recordersclearinghouse.com/2018/04/

The petition (with link) above is on the Recorders website and free for any to view and read. Those that agree with it are free to sign as they please...you (and others) are welcome to read it, and sign it it too if you feel ok with it (or not).

As far as I can tell, I don't believe there is any intent to be "aggressive" or "controlling".

-kind regards

- HuhWhatda April 24, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 24, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- HuhWhatda April 24, 2018

Re: The Divine Family

The Kingdom of God is the “Divine Family.” The role of the Father is to be the initiating force, and the Mother is to bridge the gap between fallen man and the throne of the Father. But what is the role of the children? If the Father initiates and the Mother receives, guides and tempers to guide and counsel what comes from the Father, a good Son would do what? Joseph Smith taught:

“How consoling to the mourners when they are called to part with a husband, wife, father , mother, child, or dear relative, to know that, although the earthly tabernacle is laid down and dissolved, they shall rise again to dwell in everlasting burnings in immortal glory, not to sorrow, suffer, or die any more; but they shall be HEIRS OF GOD and JOINT HEIRS WITH JESUS CHRIST. What is it? To inherit the same power, the same glory and the same exaltation, until you arrive at the station of a God, and ascend the throne of eternal power, the same as those who have gone before.”

“What did Jesus do? Why; I do the things I saw my Father do when worlds came rolling into existence. My Father worked out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and I must do the same; and when I get my kingdom, I shall present it to my Father, so that he may obtain kingdom upon kingdom, and it will exalt him in glory. He will then take a higher exaltation, and I will take his place, and thereby become exalted myself. “

“So that Jesus treads in the tracks of his Father, and inherits what God did before; and God is thus glorified and exalted in the salvation and exaltation of all his children. It is plain beyond disputation, and you thus learn some of the first principles of the Gospel, about which so much hath been said.” (TPJS pg. 347-348)

Our responsibility is to work out our kingdom in fear and trembling, just as Christ and the Father has done. The work of being a Son/Daughter of God is the work of the “Divine Family.” Christ has been chosen as the Only Begotten Son because He sought the will

of the Father, which is described (above) as working out His kingdom, presenting it to His Father, so that His Father could obtain kingdom upon kingdom, exalting His Father in glory. Our gathering, to become sealed up by covenant, is to belong to the kingdom that the Son gives to the Father. Our responsibility, the work of the children, are to be gathered and to be presented as gifts to the Father. All who desire to be gathered ought to consider the heavenly hosts, the entourage of Christ, the city of Enoch and Melchizedek. The Kingdom of heaven will return to it's own, the Kingdom found on earth, because they are all God's children, His kingdom.

What is Christ doing? He is working out His kingdom, among us. A Son works out His Father's kingdom, gathering His Father's sheep. The poor in spirit who come unto Christ are godlike (what it means to be "blessed") and receive the Kingdom of heaven, according to Christ's Sermon. They are comforted, inherit the earth, are filled with the Holy Ghost, obtain mercy, see God, and are called THE CHILDREN OF GOD! If we are to be Sons/Daughters, we must grow together in peace, following the example of "Our Divine Parents."

Rob Adolpho

PS. Donald, you may not be aware of this, but the petition was circulated long before it was published on the Recorder's Clearinghouse site. It was never published here, until you recently pointed it out above. The work of the Governing Principles Project is being worked out here. The only reason to circumvent, and take their efforts to another location, and not here, was to avoid the work of dealing with those of us who disagree. Keith Henderson is the administrator for that site, and he also advocates for the Lots Program, and that is why it was posted there and not here, using bias to promote. Let's not make yet another mistake, pretending as if this was done openly, when clearly it wasn't. It would be foolish to think us as the "Divine Family" when we deny our mistakes because they are exposed.

- Anonymous April 24, 2018

No matter how sincerely, how patiently, how kindly some of us desired to discuss and find agreement and solutions and common heart here, there was a consistent spirit of anger and contention which rose up among a few, always ready to challenge and fight and multiply words in any argument. Some of us could not continue to bear what was happening here. We withdrew in peace. We came together as a small kindred body who agreed not to dispute with our brothers and sisters, and we gave our names and signatures to that intention, God being our witness. One person's anger and paranoia does not define our motives, or our relationship with our God.

- HuhWhatda April 24, 2018

Anonymous,

Your actions do not need justification. You did as you did for the reasons you did them. That is perfectly permissible, as agency is allotted to us all. The subject matter between Donald and I was addressing the "private petition." As you have clearly stated, it was separate, private, among those who agree with you. That was precisely my point, that it was not here, in a public forum, where the work of the Governing Principles Project has been working itself out. Your efforts were to circumvent, or to find another way "AROUND" those who disagree, rather than working WITH those who disagree, until mutual agreement surfaces.

As the private petition was happening, though, anonymous-es, such as yourself,

continued to harass those of us still working here, plugging the Lots Document above all else. We do not agree with you, and are continuing to work out our differences in a public forum, for all to see, willing to labor and endure the difficulty of relationships. I do not have issue with your choice to go elsewhere, cohort, and gather names. Be free!

However, if you are going to address the difficulty of the relationship of the “Divine Family,” I really don’t see how it can be done in your private forums. I recognize the difficulty of the work that this has been. I can see how you might consider my perspective as argumentative, contentious, I have even been labelled “fro-ward.” I can see that you see yourselves as kind, gentle, and seeking agreement, justifying why you came together as a small group (actually the majority) of kindred brothers and sisters to “not dispute.” I do not agree with your opinion, but I will not stand in your way to have your opinion. It’s just not as Donald portrayed it, as if it was publicly known to all, when it was not until much later.

It seems that you have assigned yourself kindred brothers and sisters. If we do not think as you, does that disqualify us as kindred belonging to the Divine Family of God? I suggest we not see one another as the source of rebellion, and simply agree to work out our transgressions, our mistakes, our aiming and missing the mark. I think this is a mistake to separate the Divine Family of God, based upon mere opinions, …even if it is the most popular one on the market.

Rob Adolpho

- Jay April 24, 2018

Donald,

Please accept my response and questions in the spirit it is given (I mean no offense and ask none be taken).

Is it possible that some of the language in the declaration can be interpreted as threatening?
"If the committee chooses not to comply with the voice of the people... then it shall be recorded it was they, and not the undersigned people of God, who chose thusly."

Could it be considered an accusation directed at the scripture committee of "preventing the final step of the assignment from being completed"?

The declaration acknowledges that this is an interpretation. "[W]e, as covenant people of the Lord, interpret the Lord's instructions to us differently than do those who have prevented the accomplishment of this assignment."

Over the last year I have been in an open dialog with a Pastor friend of a local evangelical church. Our interpretations of some passages of scripture often differ. Earlier this week I posed a question to him. If Paul's preaching produced conflict with Peter (Gal 2:7-11), yet we still accept both as apostles of Christ, is there room in modern Christianity to accept differing interpretations of scripture?

Is there room in our fellowship movement for differing interpretations of Christ's word to us in the A&C? Or must we insist there is only one way it can be interpreted in order to fill what He has required of us?

In the declaration it has been interpreted that it "clearly requires the statement be added to the published scriptures".

Jared Livesey has interpreted the Lord's requirement in a way that he feels he must stand firm in his position.

What is the difference between Jared insisting his interpretation is correct, and the authors of the declaration determining they have interpreted it correctly? Why reject Jared's proposal because of our judgement that he has interpreted it incorrectly, only to attempt to impose our own interpretation on the scripture committee (and by extension the fellowship body)?

We have not yet even agreed together as a covenant body what the Lord's requirement is, let alone be able to claim to have fulfilled His requirement. Shouldn't we first seek to understand and perhaps mutually agree on what the requirement is?

Is the effort to publish a statement in the scriptures, that others may not agree to, imposing it on others? Even if you don't think so, do others see it this way? In a movement where we are seeking mutual agreement, how much should we care what others think? In response to this question I think it may be worth reading Denver's comments (from the sermon at Bountiful) here: http://denversnuffer.com/2010/10/3-nephi-12-23-24/

My heat feels torn at the dissentions among us, Donald. How can we accomplish other works that He will require of us if we can't figure out how to pray together and allow Christ to tell us His part?

Jay Ball

- Donald April 24, 2018

Hello Jay,

Thank you for your perspective and input. I do sincerely appreciate it.

-kind regards

- userme April 25, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- userme April 25, 2018

awesome!

- Log April 25, 2018

Still Defrauding the Lord

Whenever there is a procedural proposal offered, we need not consider the motives of those who offer it. All we need consider is the following test:

"If this procedure is followed exactly can a G&S be published in the scriptures even if the G&S is not mutually agreed to by all covenant participants?"

If the answer to that question is "yes," then the procedural proposal defrauds the Lord of his requirement that we adopt a G&S by mutual agreement and add it - to the scriptures in place of LDS D&C 20, in context.

Notes on vocabulary:
The phrase "mutually agreeable" does not occur in the A&C.
The phrase "mutually agreeable" means "able to be accepted by everyone."
The phrase "mutually agreeable" does not mean "choosing not to dispute with each other."
The phrase "mutual agreement" means "agreeing together," "universal agreement," or "unanimity."
If one or more of us choose to dispute something, then we do not mutually agree to it.

- Log April 25, 2018

An example of using "mutually agreeable" correctly in a sentence:

"Because the contents of The Rock of Jesus Christ conform to the requirements of the Boise Covenant and also fulfill the Lord's request that the G&S bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway, The Rock of Jesus Christ ought to be mutually agreeable to each and every covenant participant."

This is correct because "mutually agreeable" means "able to be accepted by everyone." Because we have agreed to the Boise Covenant, we have agreed to do exactly what The Rock of Jesus Christ contains. If we reject The Rock of Jesus Christ because we do not agree to do what it contains, then we either did not understand what we were agreeing to by the Boise Covenant, or we are rejecting the Boise Covenant after having accepted it. If The Rock of Jesus Christ is not mutually agreeable to us, neither is the Boise Covenant mutually agreeable to us.

An example of using "mutually agreeable" incorrectly in a sentence:

"Because the majority chooses not to dispute with each other about the Lottery document, the majority is being mutually agreeable and is therefore fulfilling the Lord's requirement for mutual agreement, while the minority is exercising unrighteous dominion."

This is incorrect because "mutually agreeable" does not mean "choosing not to dispute with each other." No matter how many might possibly choose not to dispute with each other about a G&S proposal, unless that number includes each and every one of us, adopting that G&S proposal and adding it to the scriptures does not fulfill the Lord's requirement that we adopt and add a G&S proposal by mutual agreement.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

I have been tuned out of most of the statement of principles discussions this past year but like most am somewhat aware of the issues regarding publication. I recently saw the formatted version of the one that was put together from among the body chosen by lots and just wanted to add a comment here that I think it is actually quite brilliant. If you haven't read through it before, or perhaps you have seen it but have not bothered to go through the footnotes, I would highly recommend it to anyone. I think it does a great job catching people up on all that we have learned and will really help a lot of people get up to speed pretty quick. Thanks for all the hard work everyone. Whether it gets put into the scriptures or not, I'm going to use it for my family who I have not approached yet about my beliefs.

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

I agree this sounds annoying and incredibly pretentious. Unfortunately, in some things, it is also true. The meaning is that the more you learn about a particular subject, the more difficult the concepts behind it become. I enjoy spending time with the temporal rain forests' cheeses.

There ain't enough room for everyone so tell the traffic pole to get out.

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

I have supported several of the documents that have been proposed and I continue too, the Lot's document being one of those, however I will not sign the petition that is listed on the recordersclearinghouse.com. This petition shows its creators opinion and anger and resentment and frustration and does little to alleviate the situation we find ourselves in. I feel they use the scripture committee as a scapegoat for people not coming together, not showing better virtue and increased love in order to accomplish this task. I don't believe we can get through this task, nor produce the agreement that the Lord seems to indicate is necessary, by blaming people who they say have been an obstacle, but who are trying to the best of their ability to follow through with what they feel their task has been. We need to get out of our sitcom mentality (that everything needs and can be wrapped up in a short amount of time) and do the work of loving and teaching and learning while exercising patience. The Lord will delay and help us as we do this - showing an increase of love and support, not a hurried attitude of "get it done" even if it means some are thrown from the bus because they are taking too long to study and ponder or to verify that the Lord approves. My heart too has been saddened by many actions from many people regarding this whole process, but we have to have patience and determination grounded in the love of God to continue and fulfill this assignment.
~Natali Gibson

- JimORullian April 25, 2018

Thanks Natalie... Your good will and sincerity is very apparent. I don't think the signers of the declaration (its not a petition) have anything in mind other than to state their belief without ambiguity for the public record.

As we have learned, just because a person perceives a message as angry, resentful or frustrated doesn't mean it was written that way. Denver's recent post on Fruit exemplifies this perfectly.

http://denversnuffer.com/2018/03/fruit/

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

Thank you Jim, I like Denver's post and I like your work above for people to add it to their scriptures.

I am fine with the supporters of the declaration stating it, and they are free to do so, and I am free not to sign. I just wanted to express that what it puts forward regarding the scripture committee doesn't ring as truth and may be skewed by their own feelings regarding how this process has played out.
~Natali Gibson

- HuhWhatda April 25, 2018

Natali,

I'm more like you. I'm good with people doing as they feel, but when it comes to publishing simply because of a popularity vote, among the few that validate the process, ..that ought not legitimize the work that governs us all. I'm glad that some few have common beliefs, but some few ought not to govern all. All who would govern themselves that way can consider themselves mutually agreeable, but the assignment is much more than cutting off those who disagree.

Like you, I believe that the Lord has delayed the process for us to continue talking, working, and striving for better reasons, rather than to pound in stakes and prove out our opinions. It's a time to be questioned and talk things out. Someone in this thread suggested to discuss what the Lord's purpose is for this document, rather than assuming we know. By understanding our reasons, our efforts can become mutual.

I appreciate your perspective,

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

I like that Rob, and whoever suggested it. It would probably be timely to discuss purpose and ask for Guidance.
~Natali Gibson

- OpenMind April 25, 2018

It appears I cannot reply to "Anonymous" above. Anonymous, I do not know if you intended to imply that Rob Adolfo possesses a "spirit of anger and contention" or if he is "angry or paranoid". I know Rob's heart and witness it possesses none of those attributes. On the contrary, I have encountered few among us who care so deeply about this GROUP, as a unified body and desire our collective success. Rob is my Brother and precious to me.

The assertion in the "Declaration" that the "minority" who do not support the Lots document are contentious or froward and do not desire unity is a Lie. It is not Truth. Mutual division, inequality, and pride are the fruits of "The Declaration" document.

I would also, out of Love, strongly urge you to be cautious to use "God as our witness" to support a proposition that is Truthfully and factually in opposition to what he has commanded in the Answer to the Prayer for Covenant. He will never urge particular individuals to do something which is in direct opposition to His commandment for a singular, mutually agreed upon Statement of Principles. If a source would instruct you otherwise, you can be certain it is from the Father of Lies. It is given unto us to judge. Please proceed down that path with caution and an ever open and receptive mind to the Truth, though I would not seek to control or dominate anything you do. Be free, but be warned.

-Jay Todd

- Donald April 25, 2018

Jim, my mistake calling it a petition...a “declaration” is a better fit. Thank you for that clarification.

April 25, 2018

- Anonymous

Jay,

The declaration of those who support publication of the statement of principles composed by servants of the people chosen by lot makes no mention of a "minority" nor uses the words "contentious" or "froward," which makes me wonder if you have read it carefully enough to comment on it intelligently. It appears to me that great care was taken to state their beliefs while not intending any offense. If no offense is intended, then none should be taken.

- JimORullian April 25, 2018

Rob,

Excellent commentary on the Divine Family. Your insight is thought provoking and worthy of consideration. But I need to politely clarify some inaccuracies you stated in the final PS paragraph:

1)The public document located on the Recorder's Clearinghouse titled "A Declaration Concerning The Lord's Assignment To Us To Write, Adopt, And Add A Statement Of Principles To The Scriptures" is not a petition of any kind intended to be used for anything other than as it pertains to inclusion in the ongoing archival record of this people, however it does contain an INVITATION for others, including the scripture committee, to publish it in the scriptures.

2) It was only two days between the time I first saw the finished document and when it was made public on the Recorder's Clearinghouse. I know this because I personally forwarded it on the same day I received it. Thus, the term "long before" is an overstatement to describe a 48 hour period.

3) Many people have stated many times before, the work of the Governing Principles project has enjoyed the most progress AWAY FROM and OUTSIDE OF this forum where people can speak to one another without a computer screen. For the most part, people have scattered away from this forum because it has often been the source of confusion and strife. But that is not to say that some very meaningful and important discussions have not taken place here. It's just the reality that most people of the movement do not frequent this discussion board any longer.

4) The reason I see for not posting the Declaration here on this forum was because it was not intended as a matter to debate or discuss, thus respecting those who wished to continue those efforts here. It was a statement of belief intended to benefit only those who wished to have their name recorded for historical purposes.

5) Keith Henderson's website was set up in the beginning for the purpose of submitting information to be kept for the public record. It is one of the most logical places to post a Declaration meant to be kept in the ongoing historical record, so as to be included in the Restoration Archives. When Keith comments publicly, he does so with the disclaimer that what he writes are his own thoughts and opinions. Whatever his personal views are on the matter, he has made no public comment on the Declaration itself. He is a man of good character and meek disposition whom I know well enough to say that if he felt it was anything other than a declaration on behalf of those who desire it to be included in the public record, he would not have agreed to post it.

Respectfully,
Jim O'Rullian

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

On November 30, 2017, the scripture committee shared with the body a revelation from the Lord that had been received “in response to a request to understand how the Lord defines ‘mutual agreement’ as used in the Answer to Prayer for Covenant”, which is now included as Section 174 in our Teachings & Commandments: “As between one another, you choose to not dispute.” (see also the preface to Section 174).

(reference: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/committee-g-update-answering-questions.html)

On December 3, 2017, just 3 short days later, the scripture committee posted an update that included this paragraph:

“The argument that mutual agreement requires unanimity is a flawed perspective. Because the Lord's explanation of mutual agreement points to dispute and not disagreement, it is clear that people who disagree can still be in mutual agreement. So any regular vote that we have experienced, even presidential elections, conform to this perspective. We vote, and if our choice isn't the winner, we acknowledge that and move on. Mutual agreement acknowledges the voice of the people and majority rule (see Helaman 1:1-2). Those who choose to dispute such a result, though they may be part of the community, choose to deny the choice each of the others has made. We have a responsibility to hear what they have to say and to endeavor to persuade them. We are to love them and treat them kindly, but they do not have a right to prevent the outcome of the vote to be adopted. In our case, if they refuse to accept the version of the G&S selected, they are free to go print their own version and to continue worshiping with the rest of us, but they do not control the choice. We must likewise remain open to respectful disagreement. Also, to claim that continued disputes means we do not have mutual agreement likewise shows a misunderstanding. Human nature is such that there will always be a few who choose to dispute. The choice to dispute self-selects a distancing away from the body of believers who choose to not dispute; it does not hold the main body hostage until the disputes are all resolved. The Lord requires mutual agreement, therefore He requires that we choose to not dispute. Disputes and efforts to control the decision-making process can't exist in Zion.”

(reference: http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/12/which-one-would-serve-stranger-best.html)

This statement from the scripture committee is made with a significant degree of certainty in terms of the words chosen and the concepts discussed. Given that this statement was posted so shortly after the revelation on what mutual agreement means, it might be worth considering. Most of us were in favor or did not dispute the Aug 5th document, and then the lots document, and would similarly support another statement that sufficiently met the Lord’s criteria. However, as the scripture committee stated above, there will always be a few who disagree and/or choose to dispute anything that is put forward for consideration and supported by a majority of covenant holders, but that should not “prevent the outcome of the vote from being adopted”. That is, in part, why many have chosen to sign the declaration mentioned above. The declaration merely states that some have a different view than what has been decided in terms of how our obligations to the Lord should be executed in this instance, and that the lots statement of principles fulfills the commandment adequately for the present time. Because we have made a good faith effort to fulfill His commandment, the Lord will certainly tell us otherwise. It is acceptable to disagree, to express dislike or dispreference for this particular statement of principles, but let’s continue to move forward together, choosing not to dispute the outcome.

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

I wonder if the early saints were at one time feeling gratitude that the Lord had not yet smitten them for delaying work on His Temple as they focused on other things that **they felt were more important** to building Zion (whatever that may have been) and perhaps taking too much time to consider and debate the finer points of His Temple building commandment?

Similarly, I wonder if some among us here are risking the same outcome, believing, as one poster above suggested, that “the Lord has delayed the process for us to continue talking, working, and striving for better reasons, rather than to pound in stakes and prove out our opinions. It's a time to be questioned and talk things out.” That’s a nice sentiment, and I wish it were true, but I believe the author of those words is mistaken and might be putting words into the Lord’s mouth by making an assumption that the Lord is the one behind the delay, or that He has really purposed outcomes other than what He has plainly asked for, which is a statement of principles.

The reality is that a year ago this coming July (just a couple months away from now) the Lord told us in the Answer, in reference to the statement of principles, that you/we **hinder and delay**…YOU/WE…not HE…and that this task could have been completed a long time ago…that is, a long time before LAST JULY. Those are the facts. So, it is clear that it is not Him who is doing the delaying, it is us/we/you.

It is time to move forward and not continue to hinder and delay the miracle and amazing opportunity that is before us right now, which is the work of the Lord and the promise of Zion that all prophets have foreseen and yearned for. It is upon us. Will we chose to hearken and obey, and continue to be guided by the Lord, or will we continue to dispute over a couple sheets of paper that will sit as an appendix in the scriptures and lose our opportunity?

God is loving and merciful, but He expects exactness from His people in the execution of His commandments.

- Anonymous April 25, 2018

Thank you very much for these clarifications, Jim. It has helped to see where there have been assumptions made about the purpose of the Declaration and what the true intent behind it was.

At the end of the posted Declaration, I noticed a date of April 6th for the "beginning" of the signing and April 11th for posting it on the Recorders Clearinghouse. If that reflects what happened, that represents a circulation of only 4-5 days at MOST. This doesn't seem to be a long time circulating before being published and seems to concur with your personal experience of only seeing it 48 hours before it was published.

I am also glad that you explained the reasoning for not posting it on this site. I can see that the purpose was to only declare a position, rather than wanting to stir up division and possible debate. I actually appreciate that consideration. I can respect that there are many who feel the work is done, don't want potential for unnecessary debate to arise, and those individuals have the right to make that known in conjunction with others who share that same view.

In reading it closely, I see the Declaration as a means for those who signed it to state that they have certain perspectives they want noted by heaven and on earth. They want it known that they have reached mutual agreement with one another and desire to not

dispute anymore on the matter; given that they have no means of controlling the matter being resolved (printing it in the scriptures) according to what they believe is an obligation required by God, and they believe the acceptable document has been produced by the people, they resorted to doing the only thing they had any power to do...make a formal declaration of their view. That's fair.

It's a reasonable approach given that there's no one in authority currently able to declare when we are or are not done. It's up to us. And truthfully, I see no difference between this "declaration group" finding those who feel similar and uniting to express their beliefs that the work is done, and the right of those who feel the work is not done and want to keep it going on this site until they are personally satisfied with the end result.

In other words, that "declaration group" has just as much right to declare the work IS done, as those on here have the right to keep saying it is NOT done.

We have two different sets of good people who view the accomplishment of this work differently and just because there are still some who feel we must keep going on with it, does not mean those who feel the work is done must be compelled to share that view, or are guilty of "transgressing" because they truly believe it is done according to the methods that some disagree with. That reference to Jim and James specifically "transgressing", (and by inference, those involved in creating the declaration, too) was something I was concerned about when reading comments on this thread. Not sure I am comfortable with that assessment, nor for another mortal to make that call. Nor with the statement in the same comment that said Jim and James have been calling others "evil." In all the reading I've done on this site, I don't recall seeing them, or this declaration saying that anyone else was "evil." It would be wise to be very careful that we do not put words into people's mouths that they did not speak.

In any case, thank you, Jim, for giving clarity by making an additional explanation to the Declaration available.

- OpenMind April 25, 2018

Hello Anonymous! I really wish I knew what to call you, for I feel sincerity in your responses and perceive no ill will. I'm grateful to be laboring with you and people like you in this difficult but worthwhile effort.

"And whereas there exists no other suitable or meaningful medium for the silent majority of God's people to make their voices known". -The declaration

"...as to the content of the Lots guide and standard document, which has been agreed upon by a vast majority of the Lord's covenant people" -The declaration

Anonymous I can certainly perceive you are more than smart enough to read between the lines into the intent and spirit of what the "Declaration" is implicitly saying and what it attempts to tip toe around in hopeful darkness. I give you more credit than that. It does speak of a minority. It is not useful to pretend otherwise and insults the Truth.

"If the committee chooses not to comply with the voice of the people, either because of relentless opposition and disputation of some individuals, or because of their own private prejudices, then it shall be recorded it was they, and not the undersigned people of God, who chose thusly."

"Opposition" and "Disputation". Excellent use of synonyms for "contentious" and "forward". Someone knows their way around the English language.

Can you see the irony? "Private prejudices"? Some of those individuals who have been accused in the declaration document have been among the most open and sincere among us. There is nothing private with Rob Adolfo. What he says is precisely what is in his heart. The Answer to prayer for covenant teaches us that this is Wisdom. If anything, the declaration document was private.

I voted for the Lots document at the conference, Anonymous. I simply wanted agreement. I have since repented and acknowledged I was not yet what the Lord would have me become. I'm still not. The fact we do not have mutual agreement is a SIGN that I'M yet unprepared. I'm no better than a single other member of this movement and will state it boldly.

For the record, I felt no dark spirit during the vote when people voiced their opinions and was not offended in the slightest. I rejoiced in fact. Finally a group in this fallen world with the first fruits of equality. I, for one, want to hear the differences. I want to see the differences. Those differences are beautiful.

But when some suggested they just leave because they weren't wanted, my heart nearly tore in half. These are our dear Brothers in Sisters. The thought of them leaving should taste bitter to us.

I was not and am still not "offended" at the declaration. But frankly that document does terrify me. The spirit of that document terrifies me. I want unity Anonymous, and therefore division hurts me. I want to "be one" with this wonderful group more than anything.

This is a time to prove, not to gather, and the Lord is using the humblest and least froward among us who are already prepared for Zion to test the rest of us who are not. I am one being proven, not one being used to prove. I will admit that.

- TwoCents April 26, 2018

Jim,
Who are you making the declaration to? If its to God, then why make it in front of all to see? Can you help me understand the purpose of this declaration?

Q

- TwoCents April 26, 2018

Anon,

What have we hindered and what have we delayed?

We have not worked on this document for a whole year. We have worked on this document for 10 days, and then used the rest of the time debating who is right or wrong and/or just ignored each other.

But you have a right to your assumption and can move forward if you like, since it

sounds like you believe your heart is right and you are prepared.

I agree with you, God does expect exactness from His people in the execution of His commandments. He commanded us to be wise in word and kind in deed- you may have your assumption about what this means and I do too. We have delayed and hindered working together to understand what God is requiring of us. You have an assumption about what you think He requires and I have an assumption too. You assume this document is just a couple of sheets of paper that will sit as an appendix in the scriptures, and I have my assumption, which differs from you.

Q

- OpenMind April 26, 2018

Q aren't you Rob's wife?! I want to meet you so bad!

I just want to say every time I read one of your posts my head spins and my mind is blown from the Wisdom density in your words. I can barely take it in. About the highest wisdom density that I figure can exist in the English language...

Much Love Sister.

- JimORullian April 26, 2018

Yes...certainly Q, but I won't speak for anyone else whose name is listed because it's possible there are different purposes unique to different individuals. Also, what I say here is my own personal view which I recognize and respect that you do not share. But you asked me to help you understand what I THINK about it, so this is my attempt and it' probably longer of an answer than you were looking for.

For me, the declaration is for my posterity. I feel I am at the point where there is nothing more I can do to fulfill what I believe the Lord has asked of us in this matter, yet as this first recovered version of the scriptures goes to print, it does so without the required Statement of Principles included. I consider that disobedience on the part of this people and there will be a reckoning for that at some point, whatever that may be. But what can I do about it? I can't force the scripture committee to include it in print, nor should I. I've done all I can do to persuade them in peace but it has been ineffective. So, I choose not to dispute it any further and allow them to move in the direction they have, because that's what Zion means to me…peaceful sharing of our different opinions to get as much perspective as possible but then ultimately mutually agreeing on the outcome as a body hoping for additional perspective as we move along. In short, I disagree with the scripture committee on their choice not to publish, but I MUTUALLY AGREE with them to move forward with our new set of scriptures (so long as there are no grave errors discovered which go unattended). Whether or not this ultimately satisfies the Lord's requirements, I do not know. I suppose time will bear that out.

But while there is nothing I can do to change the outcome at this point, the one thing I can do is make sure my difference of opinion is noted in the historical record for my posterity to read. I figure that if I end up wrong about my assumptions, the record will show that while I held my difference of opinion, I was peaceful about it and demonstrated love and respect for my brothers and sisters. However, if I am right in my assumptions, then the record will show that at least some among this first covenant body viewed this assignment correctly and intended to be strictly obedient to the Lord in fulfilling it. Either way, a good lesson is learned for those who come after to benefit

from.

That's really it for me. And if you'll indulge my personal opinion a little further, I think this method of publicly stating your difference of opinion for the archival record while mutually agreeing to move forward as a people is a good model and would solve our issues with the GS for the time being. Different opinions are valuable and means we are alive! We can be strictly obedient to the Lord while at the same time not abandoning our points of view or strongly held opinions to be able to move forward together trusting that the Lord will reveal more as we move along. Nobody needs to be cut off from anything or anyone and time and experience will vindicate our words.

Again, I recognize many here don't share my opinions and I don't fault them for it. I hope they don't fault me for mine. We are all informed by our personal experiences that give us reasons for our opinions and that's the great strength of any body of people with a common goal.

- Log April 26, 2018

It may profit some to look up the word "dispute" in a dictionary.

From Google:
(noun) 1. a disagreement, argument, or debate. Synonyms: debate, discussion, disputation, argument, controversy, disagreement, quarreling, dissension, conflict, friction, strife, discord, quarrel, argument, altercation, squabble, falling-out, disagreement, difference of opinion, clash, wrangle

(verb) 1. question whether (a statement or alleged fact) is true or valid. Synonyms: challenge, contest, question, call into question, impugn, quibble over, contradict, controvert, argue about, disagree with, take issue with; gainsay

I think we're making progress in that those who are disputing about the G&S are publicly declaring their disputes and signing their names to their disputes.

I understand the need to avoid applying the word "dispute" to one's disputations when one wants to preserve one's status among those who believe disputing to be a sin, but just avoiding the label isn't enough - don't you have to avoid the content of the label altogether - that is, don't you have to avoid expressing any disagreement, ever?

Food for thought.

Jared L.

- Log April 26, 2018

Because I understand that disputation is not necessarily a sin, I don't have to worry about contradicting myself by expressing disagreements, differences of opinions, or, even, applying the label "dispute" to my position vis-a-vis the Lottery document, or whatever else I choose to disagree with.

On the other hand, those who proclaim they do not dispute cannot express disagreements without contradicting their declared principle of nondisputation.

So, like I said, openly expressing disagreements is, to my eye, a healthy step forward for the "declarants."

Jared L.

- Log April 26, 2018

The next step is to admit you're disputing instead of pretending to mutually agree while in fact disagreeing.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 26, 2018

"Wisdom counsels mankind to align their words with their hearts, but mankind refuses to take counsel from Wisdom."

Jared Livesey

- HuhWhatda April 26, 2018

1 of 2

Jim,

I can certainly see the method of approach you have taken. Your points are assumptive though. I'm fine if they are presented as assumptions, but they are presented as if they are facts. You are free to do that. I just don't recommend it.

1) Petition: a formal written request, typically one signed by many people, appealing to authority with respect to a particular cause. Your declaration fits the bill in every sense. However, the definition of declaration, not so much. Declaration: a formal or explicit statement or announcement. In the definition of declaration, there is not anything within the common definition, that specifies signing. That's why I prefer to identify your declaration as a petition. And comparing the definitions, I think my assumptions are more accurate.
2) The document came out on April 6th, posted on a private website that co-mingles its purposes of collecting data and sharing personal opinion (nothing to do with the project) on April 11th, and was finally made known in the public view on a site dedicated for this work on April 24th. You have chosen to call it 2 days, but the records do not recognize any mention on this site for 18 days. I recognize your assumptions and let any looking through the record sort out their own findings for themselves. To me, I would have advised you put your petition/declaration up here, rather than go underground. But that is my opinion.
3) It is certainly your opinion once again, speaking for "most people of the movement," that they do not frequent this discussion board. You may not, and it would be a fact to speak in terms of you, or your wife, or your fellowship. But, to speak on behalf of "most people of the movement," …well, that's heavily assumptive.
4) On this point, I do not see an assumption, but will address this point later.
5) The use of Keith's site as most logical is an assumption, and the need to defend Keith's character is also assumptive. Keith's site is biased location to publish your declaration/petition because it co-mingles recording data and private expression, making it murky to know if this is simply data being reported or Keith's opinion. And since he's directly involved in the Lots program his opinion also makes this location biased, and NOT CLEARLY THE MOST LOGICAL SITE. In fact, it would have been better for you to simply make a new site.

April 26, 2018

- HuhWhatda

2 of 2

Regarding point # 4: From the outset, the record shows that you sought out a central temporary committee to replace the scripture committee, to use for central reporting. You sought for the movement to submit names and vote or cast lots to determine who'll serve on a committee for a year. Your purpose was to move past deadlock by centralizing a decision committee. You justified that it would not be a permanent hierarchy, and would only be engaged in the case of a decision for a deadlock.

Your choice to change venues to Keith's site fits nicely to implement your earlier plan. You have generated your temporary committee in the Lotsters. You have redirected the majority supporters to a different site, away from the scripture committee's Governing Principles site. And you have recruited the support of a central reporting venue, intended for baptisms, …using his site for your central reporting to support your temporary committee's decisions. You are free to do as you please, but please don't tell me how I ought to perceive it. Jedi mind tricks won't work on this one.

I agree with part of point #4, in that I believe you did not post your petition on this site because …IT IS NOT UP FOR DEBATE OR DISCUSSION. This location was intended for the work of discussing what we can mutual agree to. When you choose to shut down further discussion of what defines us, by what you and your supporters choose to define you, I do not want any part of that action. I would prefer a people who worked things out, waited upon the Lord to provide further light to overcome deadlock, and who exercise their agency to choose mutual agreement, both individually and collectively. I view your efforts effective to centralize decision power, and that's the kind of mentality that caused my bishop to demand two 300 Lbs Samoan's to: "Take them out by force."

Do what you gotta do, and I will too,
Rob Adolpho

- Log April 26, 2018

Remember: there is not, nor can there be, a deadlock in the adoption of a G&S unless you are disputing the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.

Whether you admit your disputes, or merely use the word "deadlock" and thus reveal your dispute, it is the same.

Jared Livesey

- JimORullian April 26, 2018

I'll leave you with the final word Rob.....again. I know you have good intent and love God and that's enough for me to leave you to your work in peace. I honestly do hope those who desire to continue working toward unanimity will achieve it, find a way to report it without being falsely accused, and then somehow track all the covenant holders down to teach us how it's done. God speed.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

Jared,

In almost a year's worth of making the same statements over and over again, you've persuaded pretty much nobody, not even those who support a statement of principles

VERY CLOSE to yours. Doesn't that raise any red flags for you? If you are correct in your views of the statement of principles, you will find that Zion would most likely not even be able field a volleyball team. Might I propose a new tactic of maybe moving your words around a little bit and changing the sentence structure here and there for the sake of diversity and excitement?

- Log April 26, 2018

Jim,

Self-consistency is a good thing to attain before seeking to be consistent with others. Towards that end, it would be a good start to cease pretending to "mutually agree" when you in fact disagree.

Jared Livesey

- OpenMind April 26, 2018

I add a resounding “amen” to Jared’s posts. He speaks the Truth.

- Log April 26, 2018

Anonymous,

Zion may not be able to field a volleyball team, indeed. There were but eight souls saved from the flood.

How many among us shall accept, practice, and teach the law and commandments of the Lord, that they may escape the burning to come? Might the number of us who come unto Christ by diligence in the path of discipleship reach as high as five?

How many redeemed souls did the LDS Church produce? If you don't know where the LDS Church went wrong, how can you possibly improve upon their numbers, and what kind of guide and standard can you provide?

A remnant of his people shall build the temple, said the Lord in the A&C. That is not a majority, but a minority.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 26, 2018

And, actually, if you don't know where the LDS Church went wrong, can you even match the number of redeemed souls they produced?

JL

- Dani April 26, 2018

Jared does not need to persuade anyone, and indeed, no one should be persuaded by Jared. It is the Spirit that should persuade all of us. I believe the whisperings of the still, small voice and the scriptures which teach over and over again that we can know "all things" by believing and doing the words of Christ, which is the path of repentance and receiving the Gift of the Holy Ghost, which then leads to receiving God, the Son and the Father and all that they would offer when we offer our broken hearts.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

Thank you for the illumination Rob. You brought out some missing pieces in this process that I hadn't connected and now some things make a lot more sense with what has been happening. ~Natali Gibson

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

Do any of you honestly believe that the Benevolent Universal Creator of All intends to save so few? And that They sent billions of Their spirit children to this Earth SO unprepared and SO unarmed with the crucial factors for their eternal success? Do we honestly believe the contradiction that we are SO special & everyone else SO ineligible? It defies reason, it defies what we say we believe the character of God to be. It is literally unbelievable & absurd! If God does not provide the same opportunities to ALL than God is biased. And if premortal preparation has anything to do with it - then why don't spirits wait until they are fully prepared to come down here? Is God truly unbiased (no respecter/favorer of persons) or not? Food for thought.

- Log April 26, 2018

God Most High cannot compel your salvation. If you do not believe his words and accept, practice, and teach his commandments of your own free will and choice, you cannot be saved.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 26, 2018

23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

24 ¶ Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.
=====
Speaking of that gate:
=====
41 O then, my beloved brethren, come unto the Lord, the Holy One. Remember that his paths are righteousness. Behold, the way for man is narrow, but it lieth in a straight course before him, and the keeper of the gate is the Holy One of Israel; and he employeth no servant there; and there is none other way save it be by the gate; for he cannot be deceived, for the Lord God is his name.

42 And whoso knocketh, to him will he open; and the wise, and the learned, and they that are rich, who are puffed up because of their learning, and their wisdom, and their riches—yea, they are they whom he despiseth; and save they shall cast these things away, and consider themselves fools before God, and come down in the depths of humility, he will not open unto them.

43 But the things of the wise and the prudent shall be hid from them forever—yea, that happiness which is prepared for the saints.
=====
Why not lay hold upon this promise?
=====
Matt 5:21 Whosoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments [of the Sermon on the Mount] and shall teach men so to do, he shall in no wise be saved in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach these commandments of the law

[the Sermon on the Mount] until it be fulfilled [until you fulfill the law], the same shall be called great and shall be saved in the kingdom of heaven.

Matt 5:22 For I say unto you, except your righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Jared Livesey

- Log April 26, 2018

The Ten Commandments, even if you were keeping them, would not save you either.

LDS D&C 22:2 Wherefore, although a man should be baptized an hundred times it availeth him nothing, for you cannot enter in at the strait gate by the law of Moses, neither by your dead works.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

-Anonymous (author of "Benevolent Universal Creator of All" comment)
Jared, you have ad nauseam repeated what you believe the scriptural "requirements" or "commandments" for salvation are - i.e. your "Rock" two-pager. Why would not every child born on this planet be born with those "words" - as you put it - and the opportunity to "accept" & "practice" them, as you put it. It is obvious that they are not - that that is not, in fact, the case - which puts billions of people on unequal grounds - not to mention all of the requirements Denver claims are now being revealed. This leads me to believe that God has much more going on, that your & Denver's understanding & context & perspective is LIMITED - as are those put forth by the scriptures you regurgitate and constantly pound and propound, i.e. the writers of the scriptures themselves were also LIMITED in their understanding of God's actual grand and universal work, as was Joseph Smith, and anyone else claiming special/chosen-ness based on biased requirements - that many, including you and they, were/are most likely mistaken in your understanding of the scope of Their work and the requirements of salvation. Salvation would be available equally to ALL (everyone) or God is biased and favoring those with privileged information & access, a respecter of persons with privileged circumstances. Just as you argue that "mutual agreement" must mean unanimity, "no disagreement", "no respecter of persons" must mean utterly/perfectly fair & equitable, no exceptions.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

A test, a test, a test is coming. Actually it is here. Truth and Error, Right and Wrong, Good and Evil. It is up to each one of us to choose for ourselves. Truth speaks peace to the soul. I do not condemn anyone for choosing. Please do not condemn me for my choice. Choose to stay with the document chosen by most. Or choose to go with the Rock of Christ, or choose to go with the document that has not been generated as of yet. It looks like the choices have been made, pretty much. I am at peace with the choice I made. Be at peace with yours. The endless banter is not producing anything of worth. The same thing is just being regurgitated over and over. I think we know where we all stand. The points have been belabored post after post. The Lord will make His will known. His is the most important opinion. I choose to follow Him. I am pretty sure everyone can agree to that. Let that desire unite us if nothing else will. We all need to be repenting and humbling ourselves, I hope we can all agree on that as well. May Zion arise from soft, humble hearts, honest, searching minds, and willing, working hands.

- Log April 26, 2018

Hearken to the words of the prophet:

26 But behold, and fear, and tremble before God, for ye ought to tremble; for the Lord redeemeth none such that rebel against him and die in their sins; yea, even all those that have perished in their sins ever since the world began, that have wilfully rebelled against God, that have known the commandments of God, and would not keep them; these are they that have no part in the first resurrection.

27 Therefore ought ye not to tremble? For salvation cometh to none such; for the Lord hath redeemed none such; yea, neither can the Lord redeem such; for he cannot deny himself; for he cannot deny justice when it has its claim.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

-Anonymous (author of "Benevolent Universal Creator of All" comment)
Read my previous comment. Your quotation of those very verses - which are not available to everyone - proves my point. If those words/commandments were required of everyone in order to be "saved", then God would have made them available to everyone. They would literally be born with it as an inherent knowledge as well as an inherent knowledge of the eternal consequences of violating them. This would not need to be communicated by word of mouth (as some are deaf &/or blind) or another person (as some are isolated) or written words (as many are illiterate). Even one exception - if these requirements as you put them were legit (as you say/interpret) - would make God biased and a favorer/respecter of persons with privileged access to crucial information.

- Log April 26, 2018

Have you not read the scriptures?

22 And now, the resurrection of all the prophets, and all those that have believed in their words, or all those that have kept the commandments of God, shall come forth in the first resurrection; therefore, they are the first resurrection.

23 They are raised to dwell with God who has redeemed them; thus they have eternal life through Christ, who has broken the bands of death.

24 And these are those who have part in the first resurrection; and these are they that have died before Christ came, in their ignorance, not having salvation declared unto them. And thus the Lord bringeth about the restoration of these; and they have a part in the first resurrection, or have eternal life, being redeemed by the Lord.

25 And little children also have eternal life.

26 But behold, and fear, and tremble before God, for ye ought to tremble; for the Lord redeemeth none such that rebel against him and die in their sins; yea, even all those that have perished in their sins ever since the world began, that have wilfully rebelled against God, that have known the commandments of God, and would not keep them; these are they that have no part in the first resurrection.

27 Therefore ought ye not to tremble? For salvation cometh to none such; for the Lord hath redeemed none such; yea, neither can the Lord redeem such; for he cannot deny himself; for he cannot deny justice when it has its claim.

- Inspire April 26, 2018

The way I look at it is that the straight course and the strait and narrow path is like a water slide or even a birth canal (to be born again). There is only room for YOU on YOUR journey. The path is straight ahead of you, although it may turn or snake around and you may flop and splash along the way. The point is that it is YOUR journey, not someone else's.

- Log April 26, 2018

For those who know the commandments and do not keep them cannot be saved.

And if you have assented to the Boise Covenant you have agreed to accept the Book of Mormon by covenant, therefore these are words you have agreed to correct yourselves, your thoughts, words, and deeds by.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

You're explanation is a perfect example of circular logic and totalist reframing. If you're interpretation & perspective are actually true, accurate, precise, & universal - and you are claiming that the information/requirements/commandments you teach are crucial to the salvation of every human being - then why are these things available to so few (and the requirements of this movement are available to even fewer)? How is God no respecter of persons in such a case? Please stop using circular logic and provide an actual explanation, something that actually makes sense. How can God's plan be as you describe if it is not available to every soul on earth, throughout all human history?

- OpenMind April 26, 2018

Anonymous you say “The Lord will make his will known”.

From the Answer to the prayer for Covenant, paragraph 3. “For you to unite I must admonish and instruct you, for my will is to have you Love One Another.” He has made His Will known in crystal clarity, but we refuse to see it. His will is to have us Love one another. He has already told us.

- Taylor April 26, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 26, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 26, 2018

Ask for the explanation from God.

Here is the formula for how to inquire of God and receive an answer.

1 Nephi 15:11

If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

Then you will know for yourself how God is no respecter of persons.

Jared Livesey

- Taylor April 26, 2018

I believe The Spirit is what gives the best interpretation of scripture and the meaning behind the Lord's words, not just a dictionary produced by man with all it's limitations and ever evolving meanings and synonyms. The Spirit seems to give light to subtleties not possible in a dictionary. Scriptures refer to the weakness of language to describe Gods thoughts.

For all the good a dictionary does, it doesn't account for the intent/heart behind actions, and the difference intent can have on the same observable action or words. Other languages capture this idea because they may have 5-6 different words for 1 English word. Each describing subtleties that mean something different and imply difference of intent.

I'm motivated to seek the Spirits guidance in understanding "disputes" because as Jared pointed out, depending on how you define the word, it's possible to be applying a label that doesn't even fit, just to avoid recognizing a behavior for what it is. That's silly. More like self-deception. Jared's comment was great food for thought.

I'm reminded in the A&C of the need to get the heart right, not just the mind. When the heart is right, the exact words seem to matter less because the intent is right.

Anyway, just a random comment sparked by Jared's food for thought.

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

-Anonymous (author of "Benevolent Universal Creator of All" comment)
Nope, that's more circular reasoning (closed system of logic). You are in a bubble dude. That formula is respective of persons. Because you have to tell it to people - and then they have to ask you what commandments to keep. You're full of your own crap and can't even see it. You're also hyper self-righteous - the way you treat others on this forum, like you're immovable because you're always right/righteous, and constantly implying that you are keeping all of the commandments. Totally ridiculous, man. Elitism, black-and-white/us-vs-them thinking, totalist reframing, etc. You're pretty much following the same cult patterns as the LDS described here:

http://recoveringagency.com/articles/the-methods-of-thought-reform/

According to your claims & teachings & interpretations here & on your blog, your Deity is a respecter of persons, biased, plays favorites, does not treat every soul (every child) fairly & equitably. You have not considered the thought that the scriptures you quote are themselves flawed & contradictory, and so you just quote & quote as if they are divinely authorized - when the testimony of their divine authenticity is given by itself. Circular authentication. Confirmation bias.

- Log April 26, 2018

Those are essentially all value judgements on your part.

You are, of course, welcome to your opinions.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 26, 2018

Thank you!

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Re: Expound Ourselves

The words written in scripture are words of man, inspired by their Gods. Religions have capitalized on the confidence of those men. Eventually, rather than shifting their lives to align with scripture, commentators expound themselves.

From the outside, Nephi is simply a common man. However, his record professes something far more. His personal experiences with Gods, Angels, and the heavens expounds to future readers his confidence. He can do no more than to bear witness in confidence, leaving all who read to judge the legitimacy of his words, take his counsel, and see for themselves.

Our responsibility is to ingest the words Nephi has written by searching his writings, comprehend what it is he is telling us by pondering and praying sincerely, and then act upon the principles according to our best understanding and ability, awaiting promised results in faith. If the promised results appear, we too become a man without doubt, bearing witness of what we know. However, anything short of the promised results, and we must eventually question our belief system, make the necessary adjustments, and try again. Religions have capitalized on the confidence of scriptural authors who were men without doubt. They offer the promised blessings of the author, in exchange for their loyalty to their religious program. In the absence of Nephi, and the accumulation of loyalists, justification of promised blessings are ripe for the taking. Those who oppose are not considered relevant, they are only considered an obstacle, being labelled heretics.

The problem with all religions is, they bait their loyalists with empty promises. “By their fruits ye shall know them” requires more than promises, it requires that we act upon what we say, producing real fruits by our labor. When things don’t work out the way religions thought (unable to produce sweet fruit), religions shift their commentary to justify their present outcome as “God’s tender mercies.” Rather than admit their paradigm was wrong, they tweak their “statement” from being right to NOT being wrong, …leading to a reformation. Eventually, loyalist commentators expound themselves instead of scriptures, telling on themselves. The original instructions are held hostage to the loyalist commentator’s assumptions.

Within this small project of the Governing Principles, this very same pattern has repeated itself, producing reformation after reformation, and iteration after iteration. Each “winning” document has been put forth, with varying differences, unable to produce any fruits resembling King Benjamin’s people and their mutual agreement, or in 3 Nephi 11. Each new effort is a new reforming of the previous, with varying differences, but still no fruit. At each reforming, greater and greater divides fractionate the movement as stakes

are set. Loyalist commentators shift their words, calling petitions declarations, when they are petitions. Assumptions are passed off as fact, using their assumptive facts to discredit opposing proposals. Boy, …what a hot mess!

This isn't new. It's the same pattern from the beginning. Heck, it's the same pattern from the LDS. This path is not innovative at all. Stand still where you are, we have had more than enough of telling others what they ought to believe, and produce fruits as your proof. Perhaps, when we come to the next conference, we might have fruits to share instead of more commentary, expounding ourselves into scripture, hollowing out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 27, 2018

man, every time i stop in here to check on the comments section of any site post i immediately regret it. you guys just keep on using words as swords...over and out.

M.L.

- OpenMind April 27, 2018

Hebrews 1:10 (partial) from The New Covenants (and in many places in the Book of Mormon)

"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of body and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Quoting Truth from the scriptures will always be sharp like a sword when piercing unbelief. It's what people do when they really Love their Brothers and Sisters. That is the pattern.

-Jay Todd

- Anonymous April 27, 2018

Thank you Rob & Q. I hadn't thought about that pattern pertaining to this situation, but it is there in history, and if this is what has been happening, no wonder there hasn't been any fruit thus far. We knew from instruction that are hearts as a people haven't been right - well this sure could be a reason they aren't right. It definitely will require a change in the heart and the staus quo of the heart to rise above telestial attitudes.

My heart feels sick whenever I hear about people having an attitude of "oh well, so & so will be cut off, sucks to be them, not my problem". We have seen this prevalent in the LDS and you can see it in other religions. Also with an attitude further along this scale of "I hope they are cutoff, they are a thorn and pain in the neck, we would all be better off." I do not think they realize what they are saying and if they do, I agree with Jay, it is terrifying. To be flippant about the salvation of a living, breathing human being and the eternal, divinely created soul that inhabits this human form, is quite disgusting and repulsive really. The eternal being created by a process we know nothing of, as of yet, is

a marvelous, wondrous and miraculous creation of the Gods. Surely, we should value its life and current form above all else!
I know people will make choices we disagree with but we must value them as eternal beings and not just an inconvenience. Until we have truly changed our hearts (not lip service), we will not see gifts and we will not be able to become one heart because our hearts will be serving two masters. Zion cannot be acheived relying on the arm of flesh. We must live in a way to invite the hosts of Heaven and our Savior into our presence. Flesh will initiate Zion, yes, but there has to be blessings and gifts from on high bestowed upon their flesh in order to build Zion, and that can only be through a previous change of heart. If there isn't this change, an attempt at Zion will look like any other cult compound that tries to gather in this telestial realm. I personally do not want to partake of that kind of a setup. I am looking for communion and society with Christ, the creator and savior - and not man trying to make illusions with smoke and mirrors or fancy language designed to deceive. ~Natali Gibson

- Dani April 27, 2018

Thus:

Behold, I am God and give heed to my word which is quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword to the dividing asunder of both joints and marrow; therefore give heed unto my word.

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Natali,

It’s certainly a fine line we walk right now. It is frustrating to step back to see the different characters on the stage, playing their role in innocent ignorance. I do not believe that we are here trying to destroy the plan of God. On the contrary, we are all here to build the Kingdom of God. The problem is: when none of us where aware, still in our LDS cocoons, someone has planted philosophies of men inside of our hearts.

What seems to be occurring right now, to put things into perspective, is that we have been freed from bondage like the children of Israel from Egypt. Denver has created a safe environment for light to grow within us as individuals. He represents the light of the third day of creation, when the lights in the firmament were set for signs, shining light upon the work of the adversary done in our darkened state of mind. The lights are on, and those preferring to hide their works in the dark, rather than work things through in the light are simply blinded by the light. Still, even when in the light, it’s difficult to sort out our own wheat and tares, let alone to be trusted to sort someone else’s wheat and tares.

Although recognizing the tares in others may be helpful for us to not repeat the same mistake, there’s a fine line to pointing them out in others, lest they esteem you as their enemy. The “Divine Family” ought to be our objective. I’ve previously expressed how Christ’s appearance as being accompanied by the hosts of heaven. I have connected the hosts of heaven as being nothing other than the “Divine Family.” I’ll add that those of us who qualify by the way we behave, showing signs of the “Divine Family” on earth, the fruits that will result will be a restoring to out “Divine Family” in heaven, being restored to Angels. As that is not our current fruits for our present labors, I recommend a different approach, an approach done together, a family approach.

The efforts thus far have spent 10% of the time writing, and 90% of the time pitching the image of “family.” The work and glory of God is us. Our immortality. Our eternal lives. It

is not old records, etched in metal plates, gathered from lost sheep, or temple structures, or government parties. The work is us.

While I disagree with the lotsters process, vote, and petition, I cannot expect them to understand the situation as I do, think like I do, and do as I'm doing. They must be free to govern themselves according to the dictates of their own hearts, as God instructs them. As we interact, all we can do is express our opinions, and be judged for our actions. The Holy Ghost is the only one who can be received, making those who receive it into one. The source of our ill feelings seem to come when we cross over to tell others, accuse others, or put others down. We should be free to disagree and express our differences. We should all be seeking solutions from God. We should act as we claim we believe. And when we face a deadlock, we should question things more rigorously, tighten our discipline, serve more patiently, and hurry up and wait!

It's a fine line,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Jay,

The truth is not the easiest thing to sort through when an agenda has become the focus, and truth simply used as supporting evidence. Things ought to be the other way around. Truth should be the agenda and focus, and all evidences gathered ought to clarify, align with, and seek for more truth.

The source of evil is not one another. It is Satan. He was cast out of the Garden first. He was not clothed before being cast out. He has no hope for his return. He will be destroyed. He wants to take as many of us with him as possible. Our only hope, as a people, as a movement, is for us to bind Satan within us, so truth can grow.

Those who I have disagreed with in the past, please forgive my offense. Please do not view my disagreement with your idea as declaring you my enemy. I have one enemy, and that is Satan. Please clothe me in your cloak of charity, regarding my mistakes.

Good lookin' out! LATE!

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Jay,

Reading over my last post, I realize I wasn't clear who I was writing to. I know I addressed you, but you and I share similar opinions regarding this task. I guess I got caught in a momentum of thinking out loud.

Sorry,
Rob Adolpho

- OpenMind April 27, 2018

Rob don't apologize to me!!!! I'm just drinking in the Truth of your post! Just basking in it and taking in the Truth uppercut! I need to thank you for sharing! It is beautiful!

Nothing but Love Brother!! (Even if you were correcting me because Heaven knows I need correcting!)

- Anonymous April 27, 2018

Just as an observation to what Rob said about a petition vs. a declaration.

It was stated in the above comment: "Petition: a formal written request, typically one signed by many people, appealing to authority with respect to a particular cause. Your declaration fits the bill in every sense. However, the definition of declaration, not so much. Declaration: a formal or explicit statement or announcement. In the definition of declaration, there is not anything within the common definition, that specifies signing. That's why I prefer to identify your declaration as a petition. And comparing the definitions, I think my assumptions are more accurate."

I would just point out that perhaps the most famous Declaration most of us know is the "Declaration of Independence." That Declaration did, indeed, have MANY SIGNATURES upon it. A declaration can be made by as many people as agree to it and want to put their names to it.

I believe if the people who created the document at issue wanted it known as a "declaration" and not a "petition," then we can take them at their word.

Just wanted to share that as it jumped out at me when I was reading this.

- Anonymous April 27, 2018

My husband and I are LDS and first became aware of Denver Snuffer and his teachings last summer and were desperate to find a fellowship who could answer some of our questions. That's when we heard about the covenant in Boise, the news scriptures and the statement of principles that was supposed to provide some guidance for us. We took the covenant and have been waiting for the new scriptures to be finished and also followed the discussions about the statement first on the scripture project blog and now on this one. Let me just tell you guys….you have all been so helpful and we are so impressed!

Actually, that was sarcasm…….

The discussions about this statement have been appalling. And just when it seems like we are almost finished, somehow it implodes. I'm furious about it and I've given up hope. It sure would have been handy to have some quick information a year ago about the stuff Denver has been teaching all these years so we would have known where to direct our study and get some answers.

Unfortunately, we've had to crawl our way through all of this which has been worth it and are finally at a place where we feel confident in what we know, but it was in no part due to all of you. And I just have to leave you with one final thing I thought you should know.

I was very happy as an active LDS church member and wasn't looking for anything really to replace my faith, but what drew me to all of this was the idea that there really was something more to my faith worth looking into. And that something was that unlike all the pretenders in my own religion and others, Denver kept talking about actually knowing something as opposed to just guessing, hoping or even having strong faith in it. He seemed to have knowledge about God that most people don't and suggested that I could too. And I have to tell you all, if the purpose of this statement of principles project

was to inform people about what the Lord is up to right now, it is very clear to us that none of you know, and that is something we didn't anticipate because we figured if you were involved in the project, you must certainly have a firm grasp of the material. But it is very clear that you don't and we are on our own, just as we have been this past years.

How about you all stop talking about stuff you don't know until you actually know. I thought that was the whole purpose of this thing in the first place. All we've seen so far in these discussions is a whole bunch of uncertainty being passed off as authoritative opinion and speech. We don't know any of you but some of you accuse others of making false assumptions, managing public perceptions, or whatever else and all the while doing exactly the same things yourselves. You all behave the same and the hypocrisy is out of control. Zion? Really?

We believe this whole thing has a chance but for now we will continue to fellowship in our ward with our friends and neighbors until it looks safe for us to venture out more among you. They might not have all the new information that you all have, but at least they treat each other with kindness and respect.

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Re: History Repeats,

Just a quick thought about the historical pattern of decay among the ancient Christians. Not only does it inform us of what happened in the LDS, it can also provide great insight to prevent it from repeating with us. The tendency to repeat history that we have not understood is highly probable.

Denver has taught about how the ancient Christian saints fractionated, resulting in the Catholic church after Nicea. Although there were many different sects, the whole of Christianity can be categorized by Petrine/ Pauline/ and Johanine (Peter/ Paul/ John the Beloved). Before being killed, the apostles weren't fractured. However, the emphasis of their disciples were. Petrine disciples' emphasis was based on "leadership" (hierarchical). Pauline disciples focused on the letter of the law. And Johanine disciples sought a personal relationship with heaven and one another. Simply put: hierarchy/ the law/ the heavens.

"Christology" is a term that scholars use to describe three different degrees of belief in Christ: Low/ Medium/ and High Christology. Although there are many cross-overs in the details, identifying these three degrees has proven useful. They seem to couple well with the three types of disciples in early Christianity: Petrine/ Pauline/ Johanine. Low Christology recognizes Christ as just a good man (most important), sort of a Mother Theresa. Medium Christology frames Christ as a prophet, someone high in the heavens, but not necessarily the Son of God. And High Christology identifies Christ as the Only Begotten Son, Savior and Redeemer, head of the Gods, The Way/Truth/Life.

Christ returned to the early saints after the resurrection. He taught for forty days. Records of what He taught are known as "Forty Day Literature," but they have been edited out of the New Testament, leaving only hints and traces of what was taught in deep symbolisms. The early saints began as Johanine and High Christology. After the last apostle (John) walked away, the saints began the fractionation according to their hearts desire. A great portion sought to define laws that govern them and one another. Others restructured an organization. Few maintained personal connection to heaven and High Christology. It took a little more than 200 years to fractionate, and the popular categories combined to become the Catholic church as we know.

The LDS began with a personal connection to heaven and High Christology. Although

fractionation came to a head in 1838, it was certain after the death of Joseph and Hyrum. The transition was quick, enforcing “the Law,” and establishing an organization. Few if any had a personal connection to heaven and High Christology. In our day, the LDS are the new Catholics, focused on their multiplicity of laws and their hierarchical organization, without expectation of personally connecting to the heavens.

Looking back, with a view to the beginning, we can all agree that this pattern isn’t new. We can also agree that it is a pattern of decay. This is a new dispensation, where the heavens are reportedly opened for those who seek a personal relationship in High Christology once more. Let’s not repeat the past, generating laws to govern another, and back slide into another hierarchy. Although a committee might seem harmless, as soon as they enforce an outcome, it is no longer a committee, but has transitioned into a hierarchy.

Those who don’t know the past, are doomed to repeat it,

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Anonymous,

I don't know what you expected from us, as we are simply working through this just as you are. You’d think that having a bit of a head start would give us an advantage. But, as you have observed, the only advantage is a softer heart. No excuses for bad behavior, but I wouldn’t be so quick to judge the rest of us.

I'm going to make the assumption that you are referring to me, regarding accusing others of making assumptions, perception management, and acting hypocritically. You may not agree with me, and you are free to not agree, but you oughta consider the point of “assumptions.” I have no issues with people making assumptions. I honestly think that the assignment was designed with intentional vagueness, “requiring” assumptions. My comments recommend not stating assumptions as facts. Have your assumptions, but don’t state them as facts. You have done stated assumptions as facts in your comment here, assuming that the assignment was in fact supposed to get you up and running with this movement, as you have stated you have been disappointed by it’s failure to do so. I’m fine that you have made that assumption, however, the minute you have judged us based upon that criteria, you have turned an assumption into a fact. After all, how can you make a judgment based upon an assumption?

If you find yourself more comfortable with your LDS friends, surround yourself with them. My entire family are LDS and I find them extremely amazing to be around. I don’t have issue with you preferring their kindness to the difficult task of this project. Playing with this bunch, you are bound to get cuts, bumps and bruises. Take some time off, chill with your peeps, and come back when you’re ready not to be offended by the work of Governing Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ.

Best of Luck,

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 27, 2018

This is my point Rob Adolpho. You are all making assumptions and passing them off as fact, and none do it better than those who accuse others of the same! If you find yourself

pointing the finger at someone else and making accusations about their accusations, you are part and parcel to the same behavior. The only way you don't make an assumption is when you have straight up knowledge of something. I'm just so tired of this bunch bringing up the failings of the LDS church because they don't have knowledge, yet you display nothing that would lead me to believe you are doing any better. Please give me something to have some hope in!

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Anonymous,

I can certainly see your point of the Declaration of Independence. It was a "Declaration" in the sense that they were not petitioning for a course of action by the British, except for to tell them to screw-off, and leave us to govern ourselves. A petition is a signed request, appealing to authority, with respect to a certain cause.

If the Lotsters are equating their efforts with the efforts of the Declaration of Independence, then they are telling the rest of us to screw-off, leaving them to govern themselves. No one has stopped them from saying or doing so.

However, I don't see them in that light, and prefer the less confrontational, less forceful, and less contentious position, by calling it a private petition. In that view, they can sign and appeal away with respect to getting their document published. They are free to do so.

If they want to be called a "Declaration," let them be called that. But, I don't think they want to convey their separation from the movement, their cutting us off, or their abandoning those of us who disagree. Or, ...maybe they do? I prefer to assume "petition" as more appropriate, and emphasize "private," as it was not published here for 18 days from it's implementation, and only done on accident by Donald.

Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 27, 2018

Anonymous,

Have hope in: JESUS CHRIST!

You're welcome!
Rob Adolpho

- tyler April 27, 2018

With respect to Anonymous April 27, 7:30pm above, I would take the online discussions with a grain of salt.If your basing your opinion of this movement on the passionate discussions here, then your not fully grasping the goodness that can be found in face to face interactions!Since you covenanted to support all those who had likewise covenanted to seek to establish the Lord's righteousness, then please come and fellowship. How can you build or help this movement grow if you never interact with others seeking to redeem Zion?

Keep in mind that we have no heirarchy of men, to put their foot down. It can be frustrating at times, but is the Lord not refining us? Through these interactions are we not all being proven? There are plenty of fruits displayed in the comments above. Hearts

are being softened and kindness is being displayed. How we treat each other is as important as the actual document that gets agreed upon.

The Lord told us to no longer let our hearts be divided. Please come and make peace with us?

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

THIS SITE HAS EVIDENTLY NOW BECOME "ASK THE EXPERT" WITH ROB ADOLPHO WEIGHING IN ON EVERY COMMENT, AND EVERY ISSUE. UNCOMFORTABLE, TO SAY THE LEAST.

M.L.

- HuhWhatda April 28, 2018

M.L.,

I just care to talk of Christ. Don't hate because I love this movement. And I sincerely love this movement. I guess my view on agency is a little different than yours. To some quality time is better than quantity time. But to me, that's just an excuse for not spending the time. I prefer quantity time, exchanging, engaging, exercising, stretching, etc. I'm sorry if you don't like it. I love it. Don't hate the playa, hate the game!

Y-U-MAD-4?

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

From Denver's April 11 Blog Post: "Don't think about this as a time to gather but as a time to prove.

And don't think that we are proving who belongs to a group from among all involved, but who would the Lord choose; what few He would gather out from among them. In His wisdom He has elected to delay the next steps in order to select carefully those who can be gathered. What exists now obviously cannot be gathered. The freedom and liberty Christ allows us is misused and misunderstood. But God is no less stringent, demanding and exact just because He gently leads along. Only a few among the people could be gathered, and the Lord knows this.

There is no command to build a temple yet, although we know there will be one given. He doesn't want the present assortment of people to be allowed to build His house. There is no place to gather identified yet. He doesn't want the rebellious or froward to know where to go or be to interfere with the peace of that land.

God knows what He is doing. This is the culmination of a plan to finish the ages and vindicate all the promises made to the fathers. The fact that there are wayward and strident children among a people does not mean they will be permitted to either stop the forward movement or to come to the Lord's Zion.

What amazes me is that He has continued to pour out teaching, guidance and profound truths that have been kept hidden from the knowledge of the world to a small body of believers. There is more light and truth being poured out now than has been given to almost any prior generation back to the time of Adam. Few have been privileged to know

what we have been allowed to speak of publicly. For some that has made a great difference. For others it has not affected their hearts and minds enough to remove their hardness, their strident and discordant voices, nor to remove their froward countenances. But, remember, the Heavenly Parents “hate” the froward. That clearly disqualifies those individuals from being invited to the Lord’s gathering.

I think the Lord knows what He is about. And has everything before Him to decide what to do, how to do it, and when to separate the chosen and bring them to a land of peace. I’m just hoping to be able to receive that invitation and bring my family there."

- HuhWhatda April 28, 2018

M.L.,

Look, I study a lot. I figure that if I can share what I’ve studied, in a very condensed way, others be inspired by the truths I’ve learned, pick it up and add to light more light. What I’ve shared above was the subject of an entire semester of ancient Christianity. It sheds light on the circumstances being repeated in LDS history, and what’s going on here. Within that course Margret Barker texts were used, Nibley texts, and a few other authors less known to us, but widely known in the scholarly world. I am by far not scholarly, but simple minded, and able to recognize patterns because I’ve engaged in scripture study seriously. I suppose, rather than refer you to the books, I could get right to the point and describe the concepts that apply, sharing freely what I have sacrificed and paid for in study time (tons), class time (a lot less than study time), and comprehension/pondering time, aside from the cost of the classes and the books.

I don’t regulate what you say. I may share an opinion, but hold myself to the standard of the Doctrine and Law of Christ. We might see things differently, but I’m willing to consider your point, and correct my own actions if you can see, clearly convey, and point out my error. I’m satisfied to stay in my lane, allowing you to stay in your lane. I really don’t understand the necessity for your ALL CAPS COMMENTARY, on the subject of the “ROB ADOLPHO SHOW.”

If what I write provides no value to you, then leave it alone, and carry on. If you like it, I offer it freely. If it angers you, consider why it does, and make peace with your reasons inside of you. If you want to lash out, speaking only for me, please feel free.

Thanks for being a guest on my show,

Rob Adolpho

- Donald April 28, 2018

Rob, have you thought about having a blog?

- Donald April 28, 2018

I've fussed for days since posting a link to the Recorders website/declaration. In my naivete I felt a response to what I perceived to be inaccuracies and accusations was needed. Given the "spirited debate" that has followed, I better understand Jim's reluctance to post that kind of information here. I apologize for posting it...I never wanted or intended to cause more contention here. I am sorry.

- Log April 28, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

You really should have a blog Rob. You have at least one OpenMind who glorifies and magnifies all your words and I think would most certainly be willing to head up the PR campaign.

- OpenMind April 28, 2018

There is very little contention here Donald! Just spirited discussion and a whole lot of Love. Please do not fabricate contention that doesn't exist just to feel better or justified about leaving us in the dust of progress! No need to apologize to us! No one is offended you posted that link. I actually thank you for bringing that to Light for whoever here was not aware of that declaration. The Light is good. I rejoice in Light, because Nephi taught us the Lord worketh not in darkness! Do your thing Brother! You never need to apologize to us, especially seeing as we are not "God's people" joined in unity with the "declaration".

- user12Visions April 28, 2018

The likes of what is to come has never been seen in the history of mankind. It will not be found by replicating some old model. The Sermon on the Mount and in Bountiful produced only a fleeting Zion. Moses didn't even get that far and in Joseph Smith's day we can't even point to anything that resembles "the pure in heart."

Even Enoch and Melchizedek's Zion fled. But apparently, there will be something that calls them back. An enduring and everlasting Zion on THIS earth, never to flee, but to stand on on the mountain tops as a beacon to all corners of Mother Earth (even the darkest).

We might do well to consider exactly whose necks those who return will be falling upon and kissing. The Gentiles' you say? While there may be gratitude for establishing Zion and being "nursing mothers and fathers," an embrace like that only comes as a familial gesture. Who did the City of Enoch leave behind? Who did the 3 Nephite disciples leave behind?

The summum bonum of the matter at hand is before us, yet we refuse to see it because of quarrels and a Gentile need for proper semantics. Well, if we will not walk into the newly opened garden with curiosity and the pure love of Christ (the love of all men, including our adversaries), then the Lord will deliver the invitation to a different set of Gentiles who are more open to His reception, in which case, this group will only bear the responsibility of being the record keepers (like Laban or the LDS) and the task of establishing Zion, with all the convincing wonders and miracles, will be offered to those (who walk the highways?) outside of this movement.

Therefore, we must approach this differently than we have to date. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains. Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands.

- OpenMind April 28, 2018

Not in the interest of defending myself (because I have no desire, command, or charge to defend myself), but in defense of the Truth I will boldly and unequivocally state that I DO NOT "glorify" the words of Rob Adolfo. I DO NOT "magnify" the words of Rob Adolfo. But, with God as my witness, I DO LOVE Rob Adolfo and have been meekly invited to do so by Christ, who IS Love, in His own Voice to me. I glorify Christ's Words alone and I magnify Christ's Words alone. Anonymous: I, in like manner, also possess deep Love for you believe it or not, though I do NOT take credit for that Love, of which I am NOT the source and which is unfeigned. You cannot offend me, which is a Fruit of unfeigned Love. It is in that Spirit of Love for you that I must beg you to please take care heeding that Spirit which caused you to write the above post. Please be careful. You are important and vital to what God is doing on this Earth.

Much Love (Brother or Sister Anonymous).
-Jay

- OpenMind April 28, 2018

Anonymous April 27, 2018 at 7:30 PM, you state "it is very clear that none of you know", referencing Denver, who most certainly does know. It is because he knows that he has stated that Prophets (plural) will be among us again. He does know what he is talking about, because he draws his information and teaching directly from a higher source. As if the pattern with a true messenger from the Lord, He does not point anyone to himself.

I would invite you to read "!2 Visions" post below April 28, 2018 at 9:38 am below.

That person does "know" as well. They are those among this group who "know" and point to our Savior under instruction from Him if any have the eyes to see.

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

-Anonymous (author of "Benevolent Universal Creator of All" comment)
I've read enough of Denver's stuff, books, talks, blog, etc., as well as all the back and forth here. And I have to say, as an investigator, his claims and the claims of this movement are very unconvincing. I don't see that you have or are creating anything different than what Joseph Smith & the Mormons did & failed to accomplish. The idea of ZION, the elite&chosen people/society/city, defies reason and inherently demands an unjust and unmerciful God-Creator who favors people for responding to privileged information that is not available to everyone. Also, I see no superiority of spirituality or character among this group, over the LDS, or many other good people. A just-fair-equitable God-Creator would not condemn or destroy people for not having crucial information or commandments or covenants available to them. If something was crucial for salvation, a just-fair-equitable God-Creator of All would make the same criteria available to everyone, not just a "chosen" "elite" "elect" few. It's utterly absurd and defies the character of a perfect Supreme Being. So what is available to All human beings, what are they born with and could stand on equal grounds to be "judged" or held to, as far as a standard of behavior or conduct is concerned? The divine light within them, conscience, the Light of God or Christ, or whatever term you want to use. This is how a Universal God-Creator of All would operate. Not using elite/elect/chosen prophets or messengers or word of mouth or books bound by language and cultural barriers. Even the promulgation method you people are proposing is inequitable. Log is a scriptural literalist who can't think past his own illogical circular reasonings & bubble/closed system of logic (which is mystical) & then uses thought-terminating scriptural cliches to end discussions, without even questioning the validity of those words/documents. This movement also seems to be doing quite a bit of extrapolation. I also see no

differentiating power or miracles manifest in this group, besides the typical self-fulfilling and self-aggrandizing grandiose delusions of spiritual experiences and visions, etc., that are common to all totalist religious or spiritual movements. Sorry, I think you're turning into a typical cult with a cult leader. Unless anyone has see legitimate powerful real miracles - God doesn't seem to be pointing to this movement with a neon sign (or any signs or miracles, for that matter) saying "Look! This is IT! The is THE TRUTH!"

- HuhWhatda April 28, 2018

Anonymous,

I'll take your comment as a compliment. However, I have no intention of starting a blog, only to talk about these governing principles. While the content is certainly blog deserving, if not much more, it applies to this effort.

Patterns repeat. When the heavens open, personal connection is available. When people get exhausted unsuccessfully striving for heavenly connection, they find their comfort extrapolating the "law." The natural progression from "law" is to produce an "enforcer" of the law, and now you have a hierarchy. It makes good sense, and applies to this effort we are engaged in.

In the absence of personal connections to heaven, or perhaps just not spoken about openly, the answer and covenant has become the "law." Definitions, quotations, and extrapolations of intentions have filled this blog, clambering the "law." Everyone with a different take, each having validity, but just not completely connecting to achieve the elusive mutual agreement. Votes, lots, and revelations have been used as an attempt to enforce different documents. If that succeeds, we have managed to begin a new religion, with a new hierarchy, with a new law. We cannot afford it, at the expense of the promised Zion.

This leaves us with an incomplete assignment, until we can find mutual agreement. I have recommended that we agree to: "Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ," placing Zion squarely in the hands of the Lord to provide, while holding ourselves accountable to learning and living the Doctrine and Law of Christ. He will produce the miracles. He will produce the angels. He will make us peculiar by increasing our understanding. Zion is His task to accomplish. We are privileged to participate.

For the anonymous' that are disgruntled, unable to see in this bunch the expected finish product of Zion, I understand your frustration with us. You can express your frustrations all you like. If I knew who you were and I was in the area, I'd give you a hug and tell you "It'll be alright." It's too bad you have the experience you are complaining about. I'm in the same environment, but my experience really doesn't match yours. And that is why I continue to return. I think Denver wrote a parable about the very concept, I think it was titled, "Hope and Tarwater." Two people with very different observations, observing the same thing. I will stick with hope. If you want to see this movement as tarwater, you are certainly free to do it. Just a heads up, that'll never endure.

Best of luck,
Rob Adolpho

- HuhWhatda April 28, 2018

Re: Void of Heaven

In the absence of heavenly connection, the only recourse is to expound "the law." When

"the law" has been expounded, and sufficient momentum produces signs of popularity, an "enforcer" of the law will automatically appear. The "enforcer" becomes the new hierarchy, and all hope for a heavenly connection is lost, in the name of organization.

I recommend that we do more work generating a personal connection to heaven, rather than setting up stakes in "the law" or in "the enforcement." Up until now, that is my assumption of how all of this has been done. By agreeing to: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ, we are able to focus more on our personal connection to heaven, rather than regulating someone else's choices.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 28, 2018

A Word to the Declarants

1. The Lord does not receive that which he has not appointed.
2. The Lord has appointed us to adopt a guide and standard by mutual agreement.
3. The Lord has not appointed us to adopt a guide and standard by any means other than mutual agreement.
4. "Mutual agreement" is not esoteric religious jargon of ambiguous, vague, unclear, or uncertain meaning, but a well-defined, commonly-used, modern English phrase.
5. "Mutual agreement" means all parties to a matter agree together concerning it.
6. "As between one another you choose not to dispute" means if anyone who has standing in the matter disputes the adoption of a particular proposal that proposal is not mutually agreed to by all concerned parties.
7. Placing a disputed proposal in the scriptures does not fulfill the Lord's requirement.
8. The Lord will not receive the placing of a disputed proposal in the scriptures.
9. Placing a disputed proposal in the scriptures and offering it up to the Lord in place of his required agreed statement of principles defrauds the Lord.
10. Defrauding the Lord is bad.
11. You will not like the consequences of defrauding the Lord.
12. Expressing disagreement with a person, position, or proposal, is to dispute.
13. The declaration expresses disagreement with the scripture committee and is therefore a disputation.
14. Even if the phrase "mutually agreeable" meant "choosing not to dispute," which is not what it means, the stated disagreement with the scripture committee constitutes an open self-contradiction on the part of those who signed the declaration.
15. The declaration is more properly characterized as an implicit threat against the scripture committee if they do not publish the Lottery document.
16. Zion cannot be built up by intimidation nor threats.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

10. Defrauding the Lord is bad.
11. You will not like the consequences of defrauding the Lord.
16. Zion cannot be built up by intimidation nor threats.

????????????

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

Hmmmmm, well....weather you want a following or not, I think you might have one. Better keep an on that though as you and your wife might be approaching stalk-ee status:

“I’m just drinking in the Truth of your post!”

“Just basking in it and taking in the Truth uppercut!”

"I want to meet you so bad!"

“I just want to say every time I read one of your posts my head spins and my mind is blown from the Wisdom density in your words.”

“I can barely take it in.”

“About the highest wisdom density that I figure can exist in the English language”

OpenMind.....don't you think that's just a little bit over the top? Take it easy big guy.....

- Log April 28, 2018

For those who might not understand the distinction between a warning, on the one hand, and threats and intimidation on the other hand, these references may help.

warning
threat
intimidation

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

James Russell Uhl says...
There is a simple way to resolve all this debate.
Each proposal includes the Doctrine of Christ. Each proposal includes the Law of Christ, meaning the Sermon on the Mount/Bountiful.
Since these are the common elements found in each proposal, the path ahead is clear: The Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on the Mount/Bountiful should be the accepted Guide and Standard.
Anything more or less is not agreeable to all concerned and therefore does not qualify.
This is how to achieve a mutually agreed upon Guide & Standard.
Thank you.
James Russell Uhl

- TwoCents April 28, 2018

Anon 2:41
OpenMind has a good heart. What's your point in making your comments?

Q

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

That is true but does not fulfill the requirement that the G&S/SoP inform people who

know nothing of the Lord's work which is now underway. This is where Jared & Co. are constantly missing the boat. How can that be the answer when those things have been around for thousands of years? It doesn't make sense in context of everything describing the assignment.

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

Still don't get it. What response are you intending on getting out of people if not fear of harm or a painful 'consequence?' Or are you speaking for the Lord, saying that the threat is from him and not you?

- HuhWhatda April 28, 2018

Anonymous,

That is merely your assumption that it doesn't inform people who know nothing of the Lord's work now under way. Why do you think you know the work the Lord is doing now underway? While those things have been around for thousands of years, there hasn't yet been a people who governed themselves by it. Instead, they go to laws, and enforcers of laws.

James,

That is what I propose, to: Govern Ourselves by the Doctrine and Law of Christ. It is kind, it informs people who know nothing of what is now underway, including among us.

Rob Adolpho

- Log April 28, 2018

It is the Holy Ghost, given when men sincerely believe and obey the gospel, which informs men of the Lord's work now underway (A&C p. 3).

The Rock of Jesus Christ, if sincerely believed and executed as written, will bring the Holy Ghost to the believer.

That is the doctrine of Christ.

Jared L.

- Log April 28, 2018

"But I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands."

As Joseph taught:

I * * * spoke to the people, showing them that to get salvation we must not only do some things, but everything which God has commanded. Men may preach and practice everything except those things which God commands us to do, and will be damned at last. We may tithe mint and rue, and all manner of herbs, and still not obey and teach others to obey God in just what He tells us to do. It mattereth not whether the principle is popular or unpopular, I will always maintain a true principle, even if I stand alone in it. (Feb. 21, 1844.) DHC 6:223.

If therefore a person or group of people choose to defraud the Lord in this matter, the body cannot be saved, because the body will be unable to accomplish other works the Lord will require at our hands. And, since God is just, he will spare those who have been faithful to the covenant.

Not only that, but as Cain discovered, the Lord does not accept offerings he has not commanded. Cain did not like the consequences of defrauding the Lord, either, as he found out after he'd done it.

Hope this helps.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 28, 2018

James Russell Uhl says...
Since the Lord specified that the G&S should be mutually agreed upon.
Is it difficult to understand that using that which is agreed upon by all concerned would fulfill the requirement?
The Doctrine of Christ is mentioned only in the Book of Mormon. It is not mentioned in other scriptures. Therefore, it does inform those who know nothing of the Lord's work. It is the Lord's guide to bring souls to eternal life.
The Sermon on the Mount/Bountiful teaches the Higher Law, the strait and narrow path to eternal life. Is that not a fitting standard to teach to those who do not know the workings of the Lord? It has been in the scriptures for thousands of years, but how many live it? Is it not then a suitable standard to teach people to live by?
This should be mutually agreeable to all concerned if they carefully and prayerfully consider the Lords' requirement.
James Russell Uhl

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I don't doubt his heart Q, I'm sure he's a better person than I. It's just the nonstop overstatements and word gymnastics that I find nauseating. Instead of being firm minded, we would rather let excessive zeal, patronization, and circular speech substitute for genuine humility and circumspect self analysis. We are all so far off the mark, and so full of pride that listening to someone heap praise upon another, no matter how well intentioned, is like being awarded the first place trophy after having cheated in the race.

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

Log: "And, since God is just, he will spare those who have been faithful to the covenant."

Don't you mean since God is merciful, he will spare those who have been faithful to the covenant?

I mean it's not like any of us are really capable of accomplishing any good on our own, are we?

If you alone (or maybe only you and a handful of others) have understood and obeyed the covenant, isn't that only due to God's mercy?

- Log April 29, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 29, 2018

"It is not enough to receive my covenant, but you must also abide it. And all who abide it, whether on this land or any other land, will be mine and I will watch over them and protect them in the day of harvest, and gather them in as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. I will number you among the remnant of Jacob, no longer outcasts, and you will inherit the promises of Israel. You shall be my people and I will be your God and the sword will not devour you. And unto those who will receive will more be given until they know the mysteries of God in full."

"Who am I that made man, saith the Lord, that will hold him guiltless that obeys not my commandments? Who am I, saith the Lord, that have promised and have not fulfilled? I command and men obey not; I revoke and they receive not the blessing."

"I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise."

Because God is just, he will spare those who have been faithful to the covenant. Those who defraud the Lord have no promise.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

To log:

It's been said that mercy is a higher form of justice, so wouldn't it be just as accurate to say that it's because God is merciful that he will spare those who are faithful to the covenant?

You don't disagree with that do you?

I mean if you and maybe a handful of others are the only ones to correctly understand your covenant obligatians, and obey them, wouldn't God still deserve all the credit for anything you've done right?

And for anything you've taught correctly?

And if you turn out to be the only one who is faithful, wouldn't that still be mostly God's work?

Wouldn't he still deserve most or all of the credit?

- Log April 29, 2018

It seems we aren't conversing.

JL

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I asked you an honest question, and we would be conversing if you did me the courtesy of giving me an answer.

Would you or would you not agree that none of us can really do or teach anything worthwhile on our own, and that God deserves the credit for anything we get right?

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

And anything we do right?

- Log April 29, 2018

Make your point.

JL

- OpenMind April 29, 2018

Anon, I'm not heaping praise, but Love. I'm sorry anonymous for my language I can't help it. If I could express that love with a hug and service Instead I would but we are currently geographically seperated so I can't. My heart burns with Love for the Adolfo's and so many others in this group I have met. Please be patient with us and try to overlook our weaknesses. We acknowledge we have weaknesses. I'm not a better person than you. We are equal. Your unique talents and gifts are needed by the Lord for His work in this part of His vineyard. I wish I knew your name so I could pray directly for you that you would understand that you are precious to us and we want you with us. I have been asked to take a step back from this online forum but will just make this one more comment. Please bear with us anonymous. I witness there are miracles happening among this group.

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

"Make your point."

If you have a chip on your shoulder please remove it.

You've made some good points here.

All I asked was whether you'd agree that you can't take any credit for any good you've done, or any truth you've taught.

Would you not agree that any such credit belongs to God?

That's as all I asked.

Do you mind answering the question?

- Log April 29, 2018

The points I have made are the only points I am conversing about.

You apparently don't want to address those points, but wish to talk about something else.

So make your point.

JL

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I stated what was on my mind when I said that none of us can take any credit for anything, because any good we do or teach is of God.

That's my only point--if I must have one.

Can you say "Amen"!

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

Can you say "Amen"?

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

James Russell Uhl says...
There would be less contention and disagreement if many of you would stop hiding behind "anonymous". Using your real name breeds courtesy and forbearance and gives credibility to your comments.
I made a proposal which is simple and meets the Lord's requirements.
So far no reply. That is disrespectful and froward.
You anonymous people who only seem to want to bait Jared should man up and use your real names and stick to the real question of finding a G&S which is mutually agreeable.
Hear the Lord's word:
"All you who have turned from your wicked ways and repented of your evil doings, of lying and deceiving, and of all whoredoms, and of secret abominations, idolatries, murders, priestcraft, envying, and strife, and from all wickedness and abominations, and HAVE COME UNTO ME, and been baptized in my name, and have received a remission of your sins, and RECEIVED THE HOLY GHOST, are now numbered with my people who are of the house of Israel."
Maybe you should ask yourselves before you comment whether you are one of those whom the Lord was addressing. If not, repent ye and come unto the Lord with a broken heart and a contrite spirit.
James Russell Uhl

- HuhWhatda April 29, 2018

You don’t like the compliments when it isn’t in favor of your preference, but you haven’t made a peep of complaint about all the celebration regarding the Lots document repeatedly complimented, the Jim O’Rullian celebrations, or the James Fargo praises. So is it really the compliments?

I really don’t care for or against the compliments. It doesn’t impact my position about how I see truth. I don’t really see why you ought to be bothered by it, sufficient to to make an idolatry comment as you made. But, we all gotta judge, and be willing to be judged by how we judge. If you’re gonna be fair, you’re gonna need to register for the “compliment” police badge, so you can cite people’s unauthorized complimenting, with the authority vested by the new administration that controls the vast majority voice of the people.

Don’t regulate! Be free, compliment, or just comment. But be free!

Rob Adolpho

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

"James Russell Uhl says...
There would be less contention and disagreement if many of you would stop hiding behind 'anonymous'."

I don't think so.

Posting anonymously helps the immature to avoid a logical fallacy called argumentum ad hominem.

As you may know, argumentum ad hominem is a fallacious argumentative strategy whereby genuine discussion of the topic at hand is avoided by attacking the character, motive, or other attribute of a person.

Posting anonymously helps those so inclined to avoid that fallacy, and keeps them from intentionally or unintentionally deceiving others by using it.

Were you unaware of this fallacy?

And if not, why do you keep trying to get those posting anonymously to stop?

I for one will continue posting anonymously in the interest of focusing on ideas.

One idea I have, that I believe is true, is that whatever evil, or sin we see in others, we always can and should say "there but for the grace of God go I"

The flip side of that is that no matter how righteous we are, we can never really take any credit for it.

I simply asked log if he agreed, and have yet to receive an answer.

If he does agree I really don't see why he didn't just say "amen" instead of challenging me to make some point when I have no other point to make.

Or why you don't simply say "amen" instead of attacking someone you don't even know.

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I meant to say "And if so, why do you keep trying to get those posting anonymously to stop?"

I mean, if you were aware that focusing on personalities instead of ideas was a logical fallacy, why do you keep trying to make it easier to fall into such a fallacy by attacking those who post anonymously?

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I wonder if this format of comment based discussion for those still interested in this topic is ill-suited for the purpose. Seems like discussions about an original post quickly morph into other things altogether different from the subject leaving people confused as to relevance and direction. I see long term discussions leapfrogging from one post to the next most recent one.

Perhaps we leave this forum for stand alone posts with comments disabled and then

have a SLACK (or similar thing) group discussion board that would be easier to follow organized by topic?

- Log April 29, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 29, 2018

James,

The two sentences accompanying the summary statement of the doctrine of Christ from 3 Nephi 11 and the Lukan sermon in The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles are necessary to provide a guide and a standard, as well as making from the doctrine and sermon a statement of principles.

Some have objected that the summary statement of the doctrine and the sermon have been around for a while - and they haven't "worked." In reality, they haven't been tried, because they have not been understood nor believed by the vast majority of people who have read them - including the majority of the Boise covenant participants, as the Lord made clear in the A&C.

"Each of you must equally walk truly in my path, not only to profess, but also to do as you profess. [M]any of you are like those who reject the Book of Mormon, because you say, but you do not do. As a people you honor with your lips, but your hearts are corrupt, filled with envy and malice, returning evil for good, sparing none, even those with pure hearts among you, from your unjustified accusations and unkind backbiting."

The doctrine and the sermon must be accepted, practiced, and taught or else they are nothing but empty words, as they have been for centuries. Since we already have a document which provides that necessary context to the doctrine and the sermon, The Rock of Jesus Christ, there is no need to look elsewhere.

The G&S problem has been solved: I will not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, neither will I yield in disputing every single other proposal both past, present, and future, therefore any discussion of any other proposal is rendered irrelevant.

Right now, we're just waiting for everyone to make up their individual minds whether they indeed want to be the Lord's people, in which case they will accept and do as the Lord has required, or whether they will instead follow men and defraud the Lord by placing a disputed proposal in the scriptures.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

I don't currently dispute or support any statement of principles, but I haven't seen anything even remotely close to the kind of vanity displayed in the comments quoted above affixed to either of the individuals you mentioned or the lots process or document. Please do not use my comments as a basis to pursue your rather obvious agenda to discredit anything having to do with lots.

I'm just asking all of you to keep it all real and grounded. Christ exemplifies perfectly how to express love, and it never appeals to vanity or pride. One way was to choose not to dispute when he had every opportunity to do so. He could have responded and

corrected every false idea he encountered but he chose not to. We can be circumspect and do the same.

You don't have to respond to each and every thing, dominate each and discussion, and be the last person to speak in all conversations. It's not a show of virtue or righteousness to be able to say you were willing to discuss an issue the longest... As if you care more about it than the others who are participating with you. Personally I see greater strength and power in brevity and words chosen carefully leaving me to ponder the depth and meaning without it being spelled out for me.

I'm trying hard to stay interested in this with you but like so many in the movement, these kinds of things do not invite, they discourage. Please consider that perspective I've heard from so many as you move along here.

- Anonymous April 29, 2018

Came across this today when reading the Prayer for a covenant, which came almost a year ago, that helped me to see that the Lord really did intend for this statement of principles to be finished long ago before the Boise Conference suggesting that the notion we can take as long as we feel like it to complete the project is fundamentally flawed:

"Despite three attempts by representatives of twenty-three fellowships there remains disputes
and no agreed statement of principles has been composed and accepted by the people, AS YOU DIRECTED. Forgive those who have worked UNSUCCESSFULLY. I ask that you look at the earnest desires of those involved and FORGIVE THIS FAILURE ."

I don't know how it can be argued that it is an assumption that this project needs to be finished long ago and that it likewise needs to be included in the scriptures. Taken in context with the Answer, it's pretty darn clear to me. But...go ahead and continue the debate anyway. I'm sure all is well.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Very well stated, Anonymous. You express what so many of us see and think.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Thank you Anonymous @ 8:28. I concur with your findings.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

"Came across this today when reading the Prayer for a covenant, which came almost a year ago, that helped me to see that the Lord really did intend for this statement of principles to be finished long ago before the Boise Conference suggesting that the notion we can take as long as we feel like it to complete the project is fundamentally flawed."

God is merciful, and the answer to a prayer for a covenant would seem to suggest that he extended the time.

After he extended the time allowed, maybe Jared was the first to come up with a proposal that's acceptable to him.

But it seems strange that his wife has submitted an almost identical proposal, and he keeps saying that he will dispute any proposal except his own (presumably including her's.)

And I think the answer to a prayer for a covenant also says something about the need for humility.

Can we all agree that we have no righteousness of our own, and that God deserves the credit for any righteousness we do have?

And for any truth we've seen or taught?

Can we all agree that none of us can do anything right on our own?

Jared, can you say Amen to that?

And concerning all those wicked people trying to defraud the Lord, can you join me in saying there but for the grace of God go I?

- Log April 30, 2018

On the one hand, Anonymous says discussing personalities - that is, talking about people - is some kind of fallacy or whatnot, and that's why he is Anonymous.

On the other hand, Anonymous seems to only talk about people - me, usually.

Jared L.

- Log April 30, 2018

Like Nephi, let us liken the scriptures.

15 Holy, holy God; we believe that thou art God, and we believe that thou art holy, and that thou wast a spirit, and that thou art a spirit, and that thou wilt be a spirit forever.

16 Holy God, we believe that thou hast separated us from our brethren [by thy grace]; and we do not believe in the tradition of our brethren, which was handed down to them by the childishness of their fathers; but we believe that thou hast elected us [by thy grace] to be thy holy children; and also thou hast made it known unto us that there shall be no Christ.

17 But thou art the same yesterday, today, and forever; and thou hast elected us [by thy grace] that we shall be saved, whilst all around us are elected to be cast by thy wrath down to hell; for the which holiness [and grace], O God, we thank thee; and we also thank thee that thou hast elected us [by thy grace], that we may not be led away after the foolish traditions of our brethren, which doth bind them down to a belief of Christ, which doth lead their hearts to wander far from thee, our God.

18 And again we thank thee, O God, that we are a chosen and a holy people [by thy grace]. Amen.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

To Jared:

You've said
"The G&S problem has been solved: I will not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, neither will I yield in disputing every single other proposal both past, present, and future, therefore any discussion of any other proposal is rendered irrelevant."

But couldn't you in fact find yourself in mutual agreement with anyone who accepts "a proposal to keep the commandments of God and offer the first fruits" as their guide and standard?

And aren't you in fact getting a little carried away, and exaggerating your own position, when you make such statements?

- Log April 30, 2018

My position has been fully explicated.

JL

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

So you actually do dispute Fawn's proposal in favor of your own (even though there seems to be no real difference in content)?

If there is some real, significant difference in content, that you dispute, could you please tell us what it is?

- Log April 30, 2018

Which part of my position confuses you?

JL

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

The part where you say that you dispute "I will not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, neither will I yield in disputing every single other proposal both past, present, and future."

Does that include "a proposal to keep the commandments of God and offer the first fruits"?

If so, what is it in that proposal that you dispute?

Except for the preamble, the way the words are arranged, the title, and the name attached to it, it seems identical to your "rock of Jesus Christ."

What is it dispute?

That's the part of your position that confuses me.

Could you please tell us?

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

The part where you say that you dispute "every single other proposal both past, present, and future."

Does that include "a proposal to keep the commandments of God and offer the first fruits"?

If so, what is it in that proposal that you dispute?

Except for the preamble, the way the words are arranged, the title, and the name attached to it, it seems identical to your "rock of Jesus Christ."

What is it dispute?

That's the part of your position that confuses me.

Could you please tell us?

- Log April 30, 2018

"Every:" (per Google) "(preceding a singular noun) used to refer to all the individual members of a set without exception."

Now you shouldn't be confused.

JL

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

OK, so you're plainly saying that you dispute adopting Fawn Livesey's " a proposal to keep the commandments of God and offer the first fruits" as a guide and standard to be added to the scriptures agreed upon in Boise.

I thank you for clarifying that.

But I'm still confused as to why you would dispute that document when I see no real difference between it and your own proposal.

Could you please tell us what difference you see, and why you would dispute it?

The thank you.

- etluxentenebrislucet April 30, 2018

Thank you, Jay. I have been finding this doc so helpful. I know it took some time in your part to compile and create. God bless.

- Log April 30, 2018

It is not relevant to you why I have made the choice I made.

To you it is only relevant that I have made that choice.

That simplifies your choices to either choosing to cease to dispute The Rock of Jesus Christ or else choosing to defraud the Lord.

It is your choice.

Choose.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

(Reposted due to typos.)

OK, so you're plainly saying that you dispute adopting Fawn Livesey's "a proposal to keep the commandments of God and offer the first fruits" as a guide and standard to be added to the scriptures agreed upon in Boise.

I thank you for clarifying that.

But I'm still confused as to why you would dispute that document when I see no real difference between it and your own proposal.

Could you please tell us what difference you see, and why you would dispute it?

Thank you.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Please let me decide what I find relevant.

And please, if there's any real, substantive difference between your proposal and Fawn's, point it out to us.

Thank you.

- Log April 30, 2018

Refer to the prior post for response.

JL

- Log April 30, 2018

As long as you understand I have made that choice, there is no need for further discussion.

JL.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

If there is some substantive difference between your proposal and your wife's (which you say you dispute) I would find it extremely relevant (as I believe others would.)

And if there's not you would seem to be argimentative, and ready to dispute any proposal but one you've made, whether or not there's anything to disagree with.

I think that's called being contentious, and I again ask you to please tell us what there is

in Fawn's proposal that you actually find objectionable (as a guide and standard for the covenant body.)

Thank you.

- Log April 30, 2018

Whether I'm being contentious or not is between me and God, not me and you.

Your choice whether to defraud the Lord is between you and the Lord, and not between you and me.

My duty to you is simply to inform you of the choice you face, and the consequences of that choice, and I have done so.

Choosing your course in this matter is up to you.

JL

- Log April 30, 2018

Since you understand the choice I have made, and you understand the choice you face, there's nothing else to discuss between me and you.

You may, of course, seek to label me contentious, disputatious, argumentative, self-righteous, hypocritical, evil, wicked, stupid, insane, or whatever you like.

Your judgement of me does not alter my position.

Your choice remains the same in the end: accept and do as the Lord requires and adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ as the G&S, or defraud him by placing a disputed document in the scriptures as the G&S.

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Then please go the extra mile and tell us why you dispute your wife's proposal.

Thank you.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Christ did say something about going the extra mile, and you do want to go beyond mere duty, don't you?

- Log April 30, 2018

There really ought be no confusion as to why I dispute my wife's proposal.

My wife's proposal is not The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

What part of my position is confusing to you?

Jared L.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

"What part of my position is confusing to you?"

The part where you dispute your wife's proposal.

You say it's not "the Rock of Jesus Christ, a statement of our principles," but aside from some different packaging here and there, the content seems the same.

She even quotes your document in some of her packaging statements.

What confuses me is that I see no difference in content, and have no idea what you're disputing.

A link to your wife's document can be found here.

http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/03/an-additional-g-proposal.html?m=1

Can you please tell us what there is in this document that you dispute?

Would you really hold up the completion of the assignment given in Boise if we all agreed to accept your wife's proposal as a statement of our guiding principles?

That's the part I don't don't understand.

Do you really dispute every proposal that's been made, or will be made, except for your own (as you've said you do)?

Wouldn't your wife's proposal be an additional exception you could agree to?

If not, could you please tell us why not?

The link is there, could you please point out what you find objectionable?

- Log April 30, 2018

You shouldn't be confused.

Jared L.

- Dani April 30, 2018

Anon,
If you read my proposal carefully, you will see that I propose ultimately to adopt the Rock of Jesus Christ. Why? Because it's the only proposal that has the possibility of mutual agreement. There is no unrighteousness in the document. And every Covenant holder has already agreed to abide by its contents. Why wouldn't we embrace The Words of Christ as our guide and standard, particularly since he has asked us to do just that? It is, after all, the Commandments of God which reflect God's will, and therefore, it is those commandment to which we should align our wills.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Then it's not really a separate proposal at all, is it?

And Jared, you don't really dispute it, do you?

- Log April 30, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log April 30, 2018

How embarrassing for me.

I forgot my wife's proposal was a procedural proposal to adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles as the G&S, and that my wife's proposal was not a proposed G&S.

Since my wife's proposal is not a proposed G&S and it cannot result in a disputed G&S being placed in the scriptures even if followed exactly, I have nothing to say about it.

Jared L.

- Dani April 30, 2018

That depends on what you mean by separate. The presentation is my own. I have had to come to the conclusion about the Doctrine of Christ and the Sermon on my own. The idea that we should offer back to the Lord what He has given us as in thanksgiving and obedience to His requests is my own. just because others have come to the same conclusion does not mean I haven't had to work this out with the Lord for myself. The conclusion that The Rock is a G&S that will "bless, benefit, and inform" others is a no-brainer. There is no better guide that can be offered than that of the words of Christ given through scripture, through the Holy Ghost, and from the Savior Himself. There is no better standard by which to measure ourselves than the works of Christ.

- Dani April 30, 2018

I know where you stand, my honey. :)

It's an interesting paradox, this task. Because of the requirement of the Lord, every person should dispute the adoption of any document until every person comes to agreement about the adoption of one document.

Not all people believe as I believe, but all of us can come to agreement in this thing if we will let go of all our need to control and just believe God.

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Did you really forget that your wife's proposal wasn't really a proposed G&S Jared?

And when you said that you would only support "the Rock of Jesus Christ, a statement of our principles," and would dispute "every other proposal made, without exception, past present, and future," did you really mean to include Fawn's proposal?

Or is it possible that you weren't speaking literally, and were instead exaggerating a little to make a point.

Is that possible Jared?

- Log April 30, 2018

1. Yes.

2. I dispute the adoption of every document that has been, is, and may yet be, proposed for adoption by the body of Boise covenant participants as the guide and standard, excepting only the document I proposed, which document is entitled The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

3. You may wait and see if I was speaking literally or else instead lying to make a point.

JL

- Anonymous April 30, 2018

Utterly ridiculous & un-ZION-like. The Sermon/Law & Doctrine of Christ are clearly still relevant but do nothing to inform people who nothing about what is currently underway - administered by/through Denver - therefore they can't possibly fulfill the assignment as revealed, but must be a subset of it, to even make sense. Alone they do not even properly inform someone how to correctly exercise faith, repent, & be baptized, which are prerequisites to receiving the Holy Ghost. "The Rock" by itself is insufficiently explanatory. One could read it and simply conclude that any baptism performed in any manner by any person is sufficient. This is paradoxical. God would have stated things differently if this is all that was intended - in fact, if this is what was intended, the assignment itself is meaningless & nonsensical. Log's/JL's approach amounts to nothing more nor less than filibustering or extortion under the guise of "mutual agreement" as he will not agree to Sermon/Law+Doctrine with additional contextual explanation. His scriptural literalism is also paradoxical with his inability to agree with his adversaries, or to be of one heart & mind. Who is really defrauding & extorting here? Ludicrous.

- Log April 30, 2018

Extortion - per Google - "the practice of obtaining something, especially money, through force or threats."

My not agreeing with you is neither force nor is it a threat.

Filibustering - per Google - "act in an obstructive manner in a legislature, especially by speaking at inordinate length."

We aren't a legislature.

And D&C 121 doesn't apply, since I'm not making any appeal to the priesthood - at all.

If you feel The Rock of Jesus Christ is incomplete or requires further contextual explanation, then you may remedy whatever defects you seem to see in it - within the confines of your own fellowship.

Before you reject The Rock of Jesus Christ, I would encourage you to ask yourself the following questions:

1. Am I giving to every man that asks?
2. Am I lending to all comers without asking for repayment?

3. If someone takes my cloak, do I refrain from telling them they can't have my coat?
4. Do I turn the other cheek when struck without reviling my assailant?
5. Do I refrain from asking for my stuff back from those who take it?
6. Do I return good for evil?
7. Do I love my enemies by doing good to them - the kinds of things I wish people would to to me?
8. Am I doing to others every last thing I wish others would do to me, as the Lord has commanded me?

If the answer to any of these questions is "no," or if you disbelieve the Lord has commanded these things as they are written, then you have no basis for saying The Rock of Jesus Christ would not bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

JL

- Dani April 30, 2018

We are given a chance here to proclaim Christ and not man because we are not seeking (I hope, I hope!) to build up the church of a man.

Christ says if we will receive and understand His work as given in the Book of Mormon, we can obtain salvation.

Does this question say anything about Denver?
""Do you have faith in these things [the things found in the A & C] and receive the scriptures approved by the Lord as a standard to govern you in your daily walk in life, to accept the obligations established by the Book of Mormon as a covenant and to use the scriptures to correct yourselves and to guide your words, thoughts and deeds?"

-Receive the scriptures
-Accept the obligations in the Book of Mormon
-Use the scriptures to guide your words, thoughts, and deeds

Christ says, "All must come unto me or they cannot be saved. And how do men come unto me? It is by faith, repentance, and baptism, which bring the Holy Ghost to then show you all things you must know" (A&C, p. 3).

-Please note: "all things". See also 2 Nephi 14:1.

So how can we walk by faith? How can we repent? How can we know things for ourselves?

The Lord says, "Do my works and you will know my doctrine" (A&C, p. 7).

Through keeping His commandments, and in no other way, can we obtain the record of heaven and know the truth of all things.

- Dani April 30, 2018

Believe.

- Anonymous May 01, 2018

Once again, too literalistic, and missing the point, and yet, at the very same time, contradicting yourself. It's almost amusing at this point.

The fact remains that your interpretation of the assignment provides no context or explanation to a new person and yet you insist that providing any kind of context constitutes preaching "more or less" than the Sermon/Law & Doctrine. The A & C are actually "more" & unnecessary as well, according to your interpretation, so this assignment itself should not exist. Circular loop. If you all we need is the Spirit, then there should be no Denver, and no You - people telling other people what's what. The fact that you are even setting yourself up as a teacher is a contradiction to your own message. The scriptures have been here for thousands of years - people should just be led by the Spirit to read and properly understand them. Everything else is unnecessary.

- Log May 01, 2018

Anonymous,

None of that changes the choice you face: to either accept and do as the Lord has required, or else defraud him.

All that remains is to see whether you will accept and do as the Lord has required and adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, which is the one statement of principles that can possibly be agreed to by all Boise covenant participants.

Jared L.

- JamesII May 01, 2018

I think Anonymous and Jared both have some points. We aren't the first group of people to go through this process. And while we don't necessarily want to repeat failed approaches, there might be some things we can learn from past attempts.

For example, the Nephites did not baptize a person until AFTER they had shown fruits of repentance. We don't have a clear idea of exactly how a person presented their fruits. Maybe they declared them to all the people. Maybe they declared them to God and then let the ones baptizing know it had been done. I won't rehash it here, but the AC speaks extensively of "fruits," and that no one qualifies to be "my people" unless there are fruits that we live His doctrine.

Therefore, this debate, I think, is largely moot. Jared has been asked about what his fruits are and he says to go to the Lord to find out if they exist. Anonymous(es) say that there is no way we can convince others that the Lord is involved with this movement if those who know nothing of it cannot see the fruits. It is prophesied that there will be a "convincing power" (fruits) displayed by the Gentiles which will bring many to the truth.

Should we not be concentrating on the fruits instead of digging our heels in the ground, not budging to accept anything but our own favorite statement?

If Jared and others believe that his Rock of Jesus Christ will bless the lives of others and convince them to join this movement, then let's see the witness. If Anonymous(es) think there is some other approach which is better, let them show us. Let's see the fruits. Let's see who "My People" are. If it is you, then BE the fruit. The Statement will follow (in retrospect) because it will have already been proven.

PS - In one of Denver's latest posts, he says, "He doesn’t want the rebellious or froward

to know where to go or be to interfere with the peace of that land." This tells me that when the fruits do appear, they won't be something announced over a podium or on a blog.

- Log May 01, 2018

Said Joseph:

"The greatest, the best, and the most useful gifts would be known nothing about by an observer. It is the true that man might prophesy, which is a great gift, and one that Paul told the people--the Church--to seek after and to covet, rather than to speak in tongues; but what does the world know about prophesying? Paul says that it 'serveth only to those that believe.' But does not the Scriptures say that they spake in tongues and prophesied? Yes; but who is it that writes these Scriptures? Not the men of the world or mere casual observers, but the Apostles--men who knew one gift from another, and of course were capable of writing about it; if we had the testimony of the Scribes and Pharisees concerning the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, they would have told us that it was no gift, but that the people were 'drunken with new wine,' and we shall finally have to come to the same conclusion that Paul did--'No man knows the things of God but by the Spirit of God[.]'"

Said Jesus:

1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.

3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?

4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

JL

- Log May 01, 2018

Also, said Jesus:

8 Wherefore, beware lest ye are deceived; and that ye may not be deceived seek ye earnestly the best gifts, always remembering for what they are given;

9 For verily I say unto you, they are given for the benefit of those who love me and keep all my commandments, and him that seeketh so to do; that all may be benefited that seek or that ask of me, that ask and not for a sign that they may consume it upon their lusts.

- Log May 01, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 01, 2018

So, to answer this question: "Should we not be concentrating on the fruits instead of digging our heels in the ground, not budging to accept anything but our own favorite statement?"

I respond: One of the intended outcomes of the "restoration" that we are allegedly "preserving" is that men should no more counsel their fellows, neither should they trust in the arm of flesh - that is, that men will no more arrogate to themselves the role of guide to their fellow man, neither will men take men for their guides. I hope that outcome occurs among us.

"If Jared and others believe that his Rock of Jesus Christ will bless the lives of others and convince them to join this movement, then let's see the witness."

You misunderstand the intent of The Rock of Jesus Christ. It is not an invitation to join a fellowship of mortals, but instead it is an invitation to the discipleship of Jesus Christ, that those who believe and repent and are baptized may enter into his fellowship.

The Lord didn't ask us to proselytize anyone into the Boise covenant as part of the covenant. Those who do so do it without authorization from within the text of the covenant itself.

Jared L.

- JimmyTownsend May 01, 2018

This post is an interesting microcosm of the vast differences that I see in everything about the movement with what Jared sees.
I envision a future where children are still born and need to be taught, where there are new people who come on board who need to be taught, and even a group of spiritually mature people with difference backgrounds and strengths, gifts, and weaknesses who can come together and all be edified of all. A group of people that I love discussing the Gospel with and just being around. Would I ever withhold something that has been beneficial in my life because that would encourage others to "trust in flesh"? I would not. I hope encourage all others to attain a point higher than I am so that they know all I know and more, but even in that case would I not be fool for not learning truth that others have? Log's position seems to be "You guys have nothing to offer me in the slightest, so take what I offer or else." I guess that position makes sense in his Zion, where there is literally nothing for anyone to say to another, because everyone has the Holy Spirit as their guide. But my understanding is so different.
Furthermore, "It is not an invitation to join a fellowship of mortals" is also foreign to me. I see the Lord's work in our day being two-fold: to love God, but also to love our fellow mortal. Part of that is to prepare ourselves in a way that we can establish Zion. That is at least partly a fellowship of mortals. I find it would be cruel of God to put a group of people together for a thousand years who don't have a deep and abiding love for one another. And I am not talking about pixie dust love that sprouts of nothing, but one where people genuinely like being around each other. I can only speak of my own observations, if Log's online persona is anything like his face to face, spending 1000 years with him would be torture to me. But again, mortal fellowship does not seem to make the important list. For me, I changed jobs and moved across the country so that I could fellowship with mortals.
And the Boise covenant was a deeply spiritual event for me. I do consider the Answer and Covenant from God. And it has benefitted me. Of course I would want others to share in the blessings that can be had from it. Log rues the day he accepted it and considers himself cursed since having taken it. It totally makes sense that he would not

want to share it with others.
All that to say this: this post is not directed at Jared. Yes, it is in response to what he said. I wonder if many of the differences people still have with the Guide and Standard stem from a difference of understanding what the movement is all about. For some like me, fellowship is a critical part of preparation for Zion along with developing a personal relationship with Christ. I see it as a "you have to have both". So for me, having the basics of baptism, priesthood, and the sacrament are vital information to provide people who know nothing about the movement. But maybe other people have different visions about how things will work. Rather than approaching the G&S from a content perspective, maybe we should start with a vision and then the document will fall out? Just a thought.

- Log May 01, 2018

The document is already written.

All that is being hashed out right now is who will accept and do as the Lord has required, and who will not.

JL

- Anonymous May 01, 2018

So ridiculous. Your position is so implacable & ironic, it defies sense. And you have hijacked this movement. Proof that it only takes on disagreeable and self-righteous (right in their own eyes) person to destroy a cooperative mission. My LDS Ward is better than this - real people helping and loving each other. This is more like online role playing or cos-play. Farewell & God bless!

- JamesII May 01, 2018

There is a difference between seeking to see or show a sign to consume on lusts and seeking to prove the word to those who might believe. Look at the 3 Nephites. They went out with their "best gifts" and saved a generation... Not one soul was lost in that initial effort. While it ultimately failed, at least they were on to something.

But I can see that any efforts to reason together here are met with proof-texting and sanctimony. So I join Anonymous to find mutual agreement elsewhere. I've seen enough fruit here to make a decision. Ciao.

- Log May 02, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 02, 2018

You bring up an interesting subject, Anonymous.

When choosing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his gospel alone, as my guide and standard, and not departing from it, is termed "hijacking" this "movement," then what does that logically imply about the purpose and direction of the "unhijacked" "movement?"

A: the purpose of the "movement" is not to practice nor teach Christ's gospel and the "movement" is not moving towards Christ.

You have helped make that clear.

Jared L.

- Log May 02, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 02, 2018

Indeed, when choosing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his gospel alone, as my guide and standard, and not departing from it, is termed "hijacking" this "movement," then that labelling implies this "movement" is not built upon his gospel, but is built upon the works of men, or the works of the devil.

3 Nephi 27 is pointed right at these "discussions."

What does actual righteousness appear to be to the unrighteous? If Paul is to be believed, it would look like self-righteousness (Romans 2:1). That's probably why Jesus said "Judge not, lest ye be judged. For with the same judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged."

Jared Livesey

- Log May 02, 2018

So: am I indeed hijacking this movement by choosing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his gospel alone, for my guide and standard, and not departing from it?

Jared L.

- Log May 02, 2018

When we are in school, assignments and tests become easier when we have prepared ourselves by diligently doing the homework assigned for the course in the syllabus, and asking the teacher to clear up any difficulties as they arise in our studies.

However, when in our heart we aren't interested in the subject of the class, not finding it as interesting as other pursuits, and we therefore do not do our homework, occasionally whining at the teacher to make the assignments and tests easier, asking forgiveness for missed assignments and absences from class, and protesting to the administrators that the teacher's grading isn't fair and he plays favorites, then things don't go so well. Even if we get out of the class with a passing grade due to the administrator's interference, we are bereft of the knowledge of the class subject the grade was supposed to indicate - that is, we would have the form of knowledge but not its substance, having cheated the educational process for the purpose of impressing other people.

Why would anyone imagine the gospel to be any different than any other subject?

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 02, 2018

-Anonymous (author of the Benevolent Universal God-Creator)

Jared, why are you playing this G&S game with the DS Movement anyway? Why not just go live the standard & Gospel as you & your wife see fit? You seem to be in basic disagreement with this movement, its leader/prophet, a lot of its teachings, and its general population. The Covenant itself even just seems like extraneous nonsense in your paradigm, or even a misstep on your part. Why not just go live the Sermon & Doctrine on your own, or try to gather a group that agrees with you & try to build a ZION yourself (as you see it or you think the Lord sees it)? Are you really trying to hijack this movement, make it your own, or do you truly believe it is what it claims to be, and Denver is who he claims to be (if that even matters)? Is it even necessary, according to your view? If not, why try to convince so many people who obviously disagree with you and are tired of arguing with you and with whom you also disagree - why not just depart in peace? I don't get it. As for me, I'm going to depart in peace - I don't think this group, or Denver, or you, has any real power or any real Covenant (elite/special/chosen-making agreement or status or privilege), or a spiritual leg up on many other good and well-meaning people and their faith groups. The fact that you all seem convinced that you are spiritually special/chosen/elect/elite is truly ludicrous. It's like you think you're doing the dance just right, and are the only ones who know and understand the TRUE dance, the only dance God will accept, even though God hasn't made the dance available or known to everyone. You're God's favorites! Seriously?

- Log May 02, 2018

Anonymous,

There is no game being played here.

As to the rest, I guess you'll have to find your own answers.

JL

- Dani May 02, 2018

Anon,
I can only speak for myself. I don't think I am chosen or elect or special. Making covenants with God means to me setting aside myself---my will, my fear, my desires--and just doing what the Lord asks. Do I think people outside this movement are capable of doing that too? Sure. This is a covenant of service and responsibility, not greater privilege. We will be held accountable for our promises, but I will undoubtedly continue to err as well. I am not a good person, but I would like the Lord to make me better than I am. Go where God leads you. If it is not here, it is not here. But I encourage you to not let perceived personalities lead you any specific direction, just God.

- Anonymous May 02, 2018

What has gone on here is insane.

- A different anonymous.

- Anonymous May 03, 2018

There are actually many people who are quietly serving and doing, and not particularly saying and commenting publicly in blogs. They are known to the Lord. The time will come when that kind of fruit will be harvested full to overflowing in this forward movement towards becoming a true Covenant people.

- Anonymous May 03, 2018

The tragic thing isn't that Jared or any other disputer has hijacked what could have been a peaceful process. It's that we allowed it to happen. Shame on us not them.

- Anonymous May 03, 2018

It appears that the comment sections in blogs like this seem to attract those types of people who talk more, and do less in the say and do continuum.

ML

- Anonymous May 04, 2018

If this were universal truth, you should be able to give reasonable, universal answers and explain them in a context that applies to every human being - you would be able to give a reason for the hope that is in you as Peter put it.

Your goto or default response when you can't or won't answer someone's questions seems to be: Go ask God. That's a copout, especially since you are setting yourself up as a teacher. It would be better if you said: I don't know, you should ask God. Your method also comes across as self-righteous. Yes, that's a value judgment, but your behavior is repetitive and fits the pattern. Not that you care. You've clearly chosen to live by the "doctrine over self" cult mind control technique anyway. I hope you, and all of you, wake up out of this nightmare. Your version of Deity, the Divine Creator/Parents, the Lord-God, is so judgmental and angry - They/God loves you, but only if you act perfectly so, and keep all the commandments, and if not, you will be destroyed, eternal damnation, suffering, etc. Wow that's depressing and repressing! And so not real! It would truly be better not to exist at all than to exist in a reality governed by such a Being as you and this group and Denver describe, this "tough as nails", angry, and inequitable God. The real and true God is Benevolent and does not play favorites, as you seem to think you are, and has prepared a way for all of Their creations and children to learn and advance, over many lifetimes and eons of time, or eternity. I hope that helps some of you who are willing to consider other possibilities, such as that your spiritual experiences very likely may not mean what you have interpreted them to mean: that this path you are on is the ONLY TRUE path. Extremely unlikely when put into universal context. Hence the term "bubble consciousness" and groupthink.

- Log May 04, 2018

Because I do not give "reasonable, universal answers and explain them in a context that applies to every human being" it does not imply that I cannot.

The argument from ignorance remains a fallacy.

If you want the truth, go to God.

JL

- Anonymous May 04, 2018

Whoever is in charge of this site, please close it down.

- Anonymous May 04, 2018

Ha, ha - there you go again! I have & will continue to. If that's all you have to share or teach, why say anything else or at all? You seem to pick and choose what you will answer or expound upon and when you just give your pat/default/goto/copout answer. Don't teach if you're not going to teach and answer questions & explain things. If you were, say, a university professor, I'd fire you because your answer is equivalent to telling a student "go figure it out" or "go read the book" - "you don't need a teacher" (even though you're standing there pretending to be a teacher). If you can give an answer or help someone understand something, why don't you? This is part of your methodology that comes off as very self-righteous.

- Anonymous May 04, 2018

Whoever is in charge of this movement, please shut it down.

- Log May 04, 2018

You are, as always, welcome to your opinions.

JL

- Donald May 04, 2018

1 Ne 3:7
...I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them.

- Anonymous May 05, 2018

To be clear, the questions in my comments were not rhetorical. You've chosen not to answer them.

- Log May 05, 2018

OK.

JL

- Log May 05, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 05, 2018

The commandment may be accomplished as easily as ceasing to dispute the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, as well as ceasing to pressure the scripture committee into defrauding the Lord by placing a disputed statement in the scriptures, as well as ceasing to encourage others to individually defraud the Lord by placing a disputed statement in their scriptures.

Does the Lord's nominal people actually want to accomplish the thing which he requires of them?

JL

- Donald May 06, 2018

O children of Men! Know ye not why we created you all from the same dust?
That no one should exalt himself over the other.
Ponder at all times in your hearts how ye were created.
Since We have created you all from one same substance it is incumbent upon you to be even as one soul,
to walk with the same feet,
eat with the same mouth,
and dwell in the same land,
that your inmost deeds and actions,
the signs of oneness,
and the essence of detachment may be made manifest.
Such is My counsel to you,
O concourse of light! Heed ye this counsel that ye may obtain the fruit of holiness from the tree of wonderous glory.

- Log May 06, 2018

Donald,

Judgement, reviling, threats, intimidation, ostracization, chastisement, unbidden counsel, mockery, scorn, laying snares, watching for iniquity, making a man an offender for a word -

These are not the signs of oneness.

JL

- Anonymous May 06, 2018

In other words, your definition of “mutual agreement” or unanimity is “your way or no way” - that’s your twisted version of a ZION society, one in which you are correct & everyone must agree with you. It’s ridiculous.

- Donald May 06, 2018

agreed...ergo my pray and plea for unity.

- Donald May 06, 2018

prayer...

- Anonymous May 06, 2018

Neither is your self-rightness, obstinacy, and disagreeableness.

- Log May 06, 2018

When the Lord's nominal people can accomplish that which the Lord has required in righteousness by quite literally doing nothing - and they choose instead blaming, accusing, intimidating, lying, reviling, chastising, mocking, scorning, reviling, ostracizing, pointing fingers, wagging heads, tongue-clucking, tsk-tsking, laying snares for him that reproveth in the gate, watching for iniquity, making a man an offender for a word - it

becomes an open question whether they want to be the Lord's people indeed.

But, then, that's the nature of the test of this assignment: "Do you indeed desire to be my people? Then accept and do as I have required."

And all they have to do is nothing, for the document is written and contains no unrighteousness, and is mutually agreeable to every covenant participant who understands what he has agreed to. The Rock of Jesus Christ establishes the Lord's righteousness, and gives means to any who believe it and do it to obtain the visitation of fire and of the Holy Ghost, that they may be led by God and not men.

The lengths the Lord's nominal people will go to to avoid doing what the Lord has required demonstrate that they apparently do not want to be his people indeed, but rather instead only desire to appear to men to be the Lord's people without doing the deeds he requires of them.

Since all things in the church must be done by common consent (T&C 10:4, 6:1) - a synonym for mutual agreement - and since the Lord does not change, the choice of the declarants to willfully and publicly reject the requirement of the Lord and substitute that which the Lord has not appointed in its place is a dire omen for this people.

JL

- Log — May 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log — May 06, 2018

Your plea is incompatible with your name being found here.

JL

- Anonymous — May 06, 2018

There are several problems with your judgmental diatribe:

You have set yourself up as the reprover in the gate, the cries of repentance - you've put yourself in the position of righteousness and everyone else in the position of in need of repentance.

But you are also the primary disagreeing party. Your document is and must be the only correct and acceptable one, even though it does not reasonably meet the stated requirements, which include informing those who know nothing about the work "currently underway" and which clearly & obviously includes more than just what you've required as the Doctrine & Law but the explanations on HOW to actually implement them under current covenant requirements.

You are the obstinate and inflexible one. It is as clear as day. You just won't see it & so you keep spouting your self-righteous contradictions.

- Log — May 06, 2018

Since, as you say, I am "the obstinate and inflexible one," then if the nominal people of God wish to accept and do as the Lord has required, they will inevitably:

1. Cease disputing against The Rock of Jesus Christ.
2. Cease all attempts at intimidating the scripture committee into defrauding the Lord by placing a disputed document in the scriptures.
3. Cease all ecouraging of others to individually defraud the Lord by placing a disputed document in their scriptures.

If not, then not.

JL

- Log May 06, 2018

"You have set yourself up as the reprover in the gate, the cries of repentance - you've put yourself in the position of righteousness and everyone else in the position of in need of repentance."

Defrauding the Lord is, by definition, unrighteous.

And every covenant participant is obligated to help all other covenant participants to correct themselves (A&C Question 3).

JL

- Log May 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 06, 2018

Lastly, as I have pointed out multiple times, if The Rock of Jesus Christ is sincerely believed and actually executed, it does everything the Lord asked for from the guide and standard.

Those who object that it does not do not prevail, but by their objection declare they do not believe it and do not do it.

After all, how much explanation should the Lord's people require to understand and do something like "give to every man that asketh of thee?"

Shouldn't they be giving to every man that asks them to?

Isn't that exactly what the covenant obligates them to do (A&C Question 2, see 3 Nephi 12:42)?

How hard is it to understand, or what possible explanations could make this any clearer at all to those who desire to accept and do what the Lord requires of them?

What word or words is confusing?

"Give?"
"To?"
"Every?"
"Man?"
"That?"

"Asketh?"
"Of?"
"Thee?"

And if they understand what is required and will not do it, how are they the Lord's people at all?

Jared L.

- Donald May 06, 2018

Yeah....you're probably right....but I will still pray for peace and unity...and I do occasionally comment here...and most likely will continue on occasion....as "incompatible" and poorly as I express myself.

-kind regards

- Log May 06, 2018

The Lottery document - and anything like unto it - does the opposite of what the Lord asked for.

It curses rather than blesses.
It harms rather than benefits.
It leads astray rather than informs.

And by the law of God - "all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so unto them" - I must disagree with adopting it, for I do not want to be cursed, harmed, nor led astray, therefore I cannot agree to curse, harm, and lead men astray by putting the Lottery document before them for them to follow.

As I said, The Rock of Jesus Christ is mutually agreeable to any covenant participant who understands what they have agreed to - while the Lottery document, and any document like unto it, is not.

Indeed, The Rock of Jesus Christ is mutually agreeable to any who are God's in truth and in spirit.

JL

- Log May 06, 2018

Your prayers for peace and unity are in vain as long as you seek to intimidate, which is what your name being attached to that "declaration" means.

While you may gain compliance from the scripture committee ultimately - however, it could be that there are some principled among them who will not yield to implicit threats - you won't have unity.

Intimidation is opposed to unity.

JL

- Anonymous May 06, 2018

The Lord has expressly endorsed the Lots document as the G&S. He has not endorsed any other. We must do as the Lord requires and accept His chosen G&S.

- Log May 06, 2018

I do not receive the Woodard Revelation.

You may choose to receive it for yourself if you wish, of course.

If you will accept and do as the Lord requires, you will cease disputing against The Rock of Jesus Christ.

If not, then not.

JL

- Donald May 06, 2018

oh dear Jared,

I hardly seek EVER to intimidate. You are sadly mistaken if you believe that I seek to gain compliance (or anything else) from the scripture committee. I have had my answer on the G&S...it is for me...and I would and will never consider my answer on this binding on anyone else other than me. And I do reserve the right to act freely in good conscience in my choices. I respect your right to do likewise. Try to behave yourself Jared. :)

-kind regards

- Log May 06, 2018

The intent of the "declaration" is clear, and you signed it, Donald.

And the signed "declarants" were not keen on having the "declaration's" existence be widely known, which is also not a good sign.

Did you know all things are written by the Father (3 Nephi 26:27)?

Matthew 10:26 [F]or there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

JL

- Donald May 06, 2018

Try to have a reasonable day Jared.

- Anonymous May 06, 2018

Log, take your meds and chill, bro. Give it a rest. Find an outlet.

- Unknown May 06, 2018

You're free to accept as much or as little of the Lord's words as you choose, but I would submit that it is unwise to invite others to go against the word of the Lord.

- Log May 06, 2018

Then you would be unwise to encourage others to dispute The Rock of Jesus Christ, by your own argument.

Jared L.

- Log May 06, 2018

And, by your own argument, you would be unwise to encourage others to defraud the Lord by placing a disputed document in their scriptures.

And, by your own argument, you would be unwise to sign a "declaration" which has as its clear intent the intimidation of the scripture committee into defrauding the Lord by placing a disputed document in it.

Since you understand these things are unwise of you to do, by your own argument, I would surmise you do none of them.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 06, 2018

Has the Lord endorsed your statement as the G&S?

- Log May 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 06, 2018

Ask him and find out for yourself.

Here is the formula for inquiring of the Lord and getting an answer.

1 Nephi 15:11
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

- MichaelBurke May 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke May 06, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke May 06, 2018

Jared doesn't believe in meds, the psychiatric proffession, or even medical doctors.

I have COPD, and he once suggested that if I used my rescue inhaler when I was having a flar up I was trying to save my life, and would therefore lose it.

He counseled me to do without the inhaler until God healed me, or I died patiently enduring whatever He willed me to suffer.

But it seemed to me then, and it seems to me now, that Jesus was talking about risking your life to preach the gospel, and that Jared was taking what He said out of context.

But be that as it may, he's unlikely to take your advice here because he doesn't believe in medicine, doctors, or psychiatrists.

- MichaelBurke May 07, 2018

Anon, what is "the doctrine over self cult mind control technique"???

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

I have. And I was told to support the Lots document. So I will support that and no other.

- Log May 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 07, 2018

The bit about being diligent in keeping the commandments of the Lord is key to not being deceived.

If you intend to fulfill the Lord's requirement, you shall inevitably cease disputing the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ.

If not, then not.

It is not the Lord that tells men to defraud the Lord.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

Michael,

Here is a set of Thought Reform methods/techniques, many of which apply to both Mormonism & this DS movement:
http://recoveringagency.com/articles/the-methods-of-thought-reform/

And that is a very revealing example of Log's/JL's extreme scriptural literalism.

And Log/JL, how is setting yourself up as the reprover in the gate & the crier of repentance congruent with a society of equals? You seem to have a "prophet complex" in which you are right and everyone else is wrong. Your document is correct and every other is wrong.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

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- Log May 07, 2018

I think I already answered that, Anonymous.

JL

- Log May 07, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 07, 2018

And, be it understood, that answer falsifies your claim that I have set myself up as the reprover in the gate.

Every covenant participant is obligated by the covenant to assist all others to correct themselves.

JL

- Log May 07, 2018

You see, this is all very simple.

1. I am a covenant participant and have standing in the matter of the adoption of the G&S.

2. I have made a choice to permanently and perpetually dispute the adoption of any other proposed document as the G&S other than the document that I, myself, submitted, which document is entitled The Rock of Jesus Christ.

3. Because I have made this choice, only one document proposed for adoption as the G&S can possibly lead to the fulfillment of the Lord's requirement that the G&S be adopted by mutual agreement - for the simple reason that I disagree with the adoption of any other document as the G&S.

4. Because I will not yield on the adoption of The Rock of Jesus Christ, and also because I will not yield on disputing the adoption of each and every other document, the choice facing every other covenant participant has been reduced to a perfect dichotomy: either accept and do as the Lord has required, in which case The Rock of Jesus Christ shall inevitably be adopted as the G&S because no other document can possibly be agreed to, or else defraud the Lord by placing a disputed document in the / their

scriptures as the G&S.

5. I make no revelatory claims.

6. I make no appeals to the priesthood.

7. I cannot compel the agreement of even a single soul in this matter.

8. I do not receive the Woodard Revelation.

9. I disputed the content of the Lottery document when it was announced in an email sent both to Karen Strong and Lynne McKinney, thus fulfilling the law of witnesses.

10. The Lottery group therefore never had unity with the body at any point, falsifying a key claim in the Woodard Revelation.

11. Explanations for the wisdom of choosing The Rock of Jesus Christ are available on my blog in posts dating to Friday, October 13, 2017.

12. There is no further discussion to be had on this subject.

13. The only thing being hashed out right now by each individual covenant participant is whether they shall individually defraud the Lord in the matter of the G&S.

14. If the body chooses to defraud the Lord by placing a disputed document in the scriptures as a G&S, then the body shall be unable to accomplish other works that the Lord shall require of it.

15. Not accomplishing other works the Lord shall require logically entails the destruction of the body, because the salvation of the body requires that the body do all things whatsoever the Lord shall command of it.

16. Those who are faithful to the covenant - those that choose not to defraud the Lord but instead do all that they agreed to do - shall be spared, because God is just (A&C p. 7).

17. The faithless have no such promise.

18. It is prophesied that this people, the remnant of the Gentiles, shall treat spitefully the servants of God, and slay them, and in their turn they shall be slain and their city be burned when the Lord shall send his armies against them (RE Matthew 10:17).

19. The armies spoken of are most likely the remnant of Jacob (3 Nephi 16:15).

20. It will be a remnant of the Lord's people, not a majority, who builds the temple which has not yet been commanded (A&C p. 11).

21. I would prefer my people not be destroyed.

22. It was for disobedience to the things contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ that the LDS Church was condemned.

23. There is less excuse for this people in this thing (Question 2, Question 4, G&S assignment).

24. Y'all are agents unto yourselves, and there is no further need for conversation.

25. My choices in the matter of the G&S assignment are not subject to your review.

26. Your choices in the matter of the G&S assignment are not subject to my review.

27. You have been fully warned.

Jared Livesey

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

In re #10 - Or it means that the Lord didn't consider you to be a part of the body of covenant participants.

- Log May 07, 2018

As I am not the only one to dispute the adoption of the Lottery document, point 10 stands regardless of my status.

But even if I were the only one to dispute the adoption of the Lottery document - and I am not the only one - staking the body's salvation to a gamble on my covenant status is unwise.

"If you agree, please stand wherever you are located, either here or in a remote location, to be recognized and numbered by God and His angels. All those standing please confirm you are willing to accept this covenant by saying, Yes."

I testify I was at Boise and was standing and said "yes" when the officiator asked the audience to so do. That is the sole legal requirement for participation in the covenant.

"None but fools will trifle (gamble, in this context) with the souls of men." Joseph Smith

JL

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

How is it a gamble to follow through spirit? If it's the Lord's will, then it's not a gamble.

- Log May 07, 2018

Unless you are keeping all of the Lord's commandments, you are gambling on the source of any answer you allege you have received from the Lord.

JL

- Log May 07, 2018

1 Nephi 15:11
If ye will not harden your hearts
and ask me in faith
believing that ye shall receive
with diligence in keeping my commandments
surely these things shall be made known unto you.

D&C 82:10 I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say,

ye have no promise.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

For someone who claims to encourage people to live by the spirit, you seem to be very negative when people actually do it.

And between your "logic" and the dictates of the spirit, it is easy to know which to heed. It would be far more of a gamble to listen to your attempts at logic than it would to live by the spirit.

- Log May 07, 2018

If you disbelieve and disobey the commandments of the Lord and therefore have no promise that the Lord will answer you and therefore have no faith, it is your privilege to listen to whichever spirit chooses to answer your prayers, and call it "the Lord" if it pleases you.

JL

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

You are clearly, uncloaked, a self-righteous extortionist. You are not interested in mutual agreement - you are interested in yourself & your opinions of what is righteous. Defrauding the Lord, hogwash. Your approach and methods are disgusting and spit upon the Golden Rule. No one wishes to be treated the way you are treating others. This is ludicrous. You have set yourself up. Your warnings are hollow.

- Log May 07, 2018

Wait and see.

JL

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

Log wrote:

"Unless you are keeping all of the Lord's commandments, you are gambling on the source of any answer you allege you have received from the Lord."

Can you testify that you were keeping all of the Lord's commands (perfectly) before you received your answer, and that you really know that you received it from the Lord?

Do you really know He was the source?

And do you really know that it was His presence you were admitted into before the conference, and then cut off from when you accepted the covenant?

And if you were lying to God, angels, and your fellow men when you answered the question you were asked immediately before being asked to stand and be counted by angels (as you yourself say you did, when you said you knew the covenant being offered was of God), do you really know that you were counted and accepted as part of the

covenant body? Or are you only pushing your beliefs, opinions, and deductions here?

- Log May 07, 2018

As I pointed out, it is unwise to gamble on the notion that I am not a covenant participant.

But you are free to choose for yourself.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

But do you really KNOW what you're talking about, or are you just gambling too?

Were you keeping all of the Lord's commandments perfectly before you received your answer, and do you KNOW the source, or are you just gambling that you are a covenant participant, and asking the rest of us to do the same?

- Log May 07, 2018

The relevant question to you is whether YOU know what YOU'RE talking about.

I'm not asking anyone to do anything.

JL

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

Would you please be so kind as to tell us whether you can honestly say that YOU KNOW what you're talking about, given your criteria.

Would you please tell us if you were keeping all the Lord's commandments perfectly before you received your answers, and if you can honestly tell us that you KNOW their source?

- Log May 07, 2018

Here is how you may inquire of the Lord and obtain an answer.

Then you will know for yourself.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

But the question TO YOU is DO YOU KNOW?

PLEASE ANSWER IT!

- Log May 07, 2018

See point 5 above.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

Does that mean you don't yet KNOW?

You only believe, and and reason, and deduce, and pray for guidance like the rest of us (or, at least, those of us who are sincere)?

- Log May 07, 2018

It means I am making no claims to revelation.

You may draw whatever inferences you like in your ignorance. That's on you.

The argument from ignorance is a fallacy.

Jared L.

- Log May 07, 2018

To be explicit:

That I do not make claims to revelation does not mean I have received none.

That I do not make claims to revelation does not mean I have recevied some.

It merely means I make no claims to revelation, and it means neither more nor less than this.

We are all supposed to be equal. That means no pulling rank (re: LDS D&C 121).

Jared L.

- Log May 07, 2018

JST Mark 9:44 Therefore, let every man stand or fall, by himself, and not for another; or not trusting another.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

But wouldn't your seeing and hearing the Lord, and being in his immediate physical presence prior to Boise, and then being denied that presence after you accepted the covenant in Boise because you trusted Denver, qualify as revelatory?

And by sharing that with us haven't you already made a revelatory claim?

And doesn't that revelation support your teaching?

Isn't that why you shared it with us?

All I'm asking is if you feel you can be sure that revelation (and any you've received and accepted since then) is of God--the way you tell us to be sure?

I mean because you know you've been perfectly obedient to every commandment of

God?

Do you really know that, and can you really know you've been talking to God?

Please tell us.

- Log May 07, 2018

Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

You'll have to decide for yourself on your own whether to believe the Lord or not.

Jared L.

- Log May 07, 2018

We're done.

JL

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

Are you really, finally? You’re done being absurd & disagreeable & self-righteous & practicing hostage holding & extortion to the mutual agreement requirement given through the man you claim we shouldn’t be listening to but who administered the covenant you accepted? You’re done violating the Golden Rule by rejecting every proposal but your own, which if everyone did likewise mutual agreement could never be achieved? You’re done not cooperating? You’re ready to work together & agree on something?

- Anonymous May 07, 2018

As someone who vociferously states we should give to every man who asketh, you seem to refuse to do so an awful lot. And only minutes after chiding others for not giving to every man who asketh.

- Log May 07, 2018

This is all very simple.

There's no further explanation needed, which is why we're done.

Jared L.

- Log May 07, 2018

"Seem."

JL

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

"We're done."

Peter didn't say that to Thomas, and neither did Jesus.

Do you really KNOW you've been in His presence, and heard His voice?

Or have you just decided, on your own, to believe someone?

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

Oh? Did you give him the info he asked for and I just missed it?

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

Utterly ridiculous. I hope we never see another post from you Jared/Log. As you've said REPEATEDLY, we have now heard everything you've have to say, over and over and over. And, for my part, I think your position is really crazy. Please stop posting. We bid you peace & goodwill & farewell.

- Log May 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 08, 2018

I'll be around until this people chooses to succeed at this assignment, or until this people irrevocably chooses to fail this assignment.

And I'll probably be around for every further assignment - after all, all things in the church shall be done by common consent, which is synonymous with mutual agreement (T&C 6:1, etc.).

The Lord, as it is written, changes not.

And, as the Lord has said, "I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands."

Evil precedents, such as defrauding the Lord by substituting something else for his required mutual agreement, have a way of sticking with a people and being the cause of their downfall.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

I'm not a part of this movement anymore but I enjoy checking in to this website when I get an itch for a good drama. Log is the only one who gets it. Log is built on The Rock (aka Jesus Christ (not Denver) since most of you forgot who you follow). That's why he's immovable. Way to endure the crosses of the world and despise the shame of it Log.

Sincerely,
A spectator

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

"When you have an agreed statement of principles I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, benefit and inform them—so I command you to be wise in word and kind in deed as you write what I require of you."

Your statement does nothing to inform others of the work currently underway - period. And your gymnastics explanation of how your statement does this doesn't fit your normal rule of literal interpretation. The fact is many things underway currently require some additional explanation and context which your statement does not provide. You are unwilling to acknowledge this. Many will never agree to your statement. You are the defrauder. You can't admit when you're wrong. Being immovable isn't always good, unless you're actually totally right. Otherwise it's just self-righteousness.

- Log May 08, 2018

Unless you are keeping the commandments of Jesus Christ as contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ, you do not know whether The Rock of Jesus Christ does, in fact, bless, benefit, and inform those who as yet know nothing concerning the Lord's work now underway.

And, unless you are keeping the commandments of Jesus Christ as contained in The Rock of Jesus Christ, do not be so sure you do understand the Lord's work now underway.

For the Lord gives his spirit to be with them always who obey him, as promised in the prayer for the sacramental bread, while those who do not obey him have no promise.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

That's an illogical statement. The interpretation of the Answer is simple and straightforward. And, again, you assert your self-righteousness and break the Golden Rule by assuming/inferring that others are not keeping all of the commandments and that you, yourself, are righteous and are keeping all of the commandments. Many other statements include the Doctrine & Law of Christ as well as information (informing others) about the work currently underway which expounds upon the Doctrine & Law. Your assumptions, inferences, and judgments are wrong, i.e. wrong.

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

Hi spectator, why did you leave, if you don't mind sharing?

- Log May 08, 2018

And here we have the beauty of the requirement of mutual agreement: I don't need to persuade you, and you are unable to persuade me.

So, your choice is simple, if you are a covenant participant: accept and do as the Lord requires, or else defraud him. There is no third way.

Jared L.

- Log May 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 08, 2018

After all, if you really do accept, practice, and teach the doctrine, law, and commandments of Christ, you should really agree with The Rock of Jesus Christ. The Rock of Jesus Christ would already really be your guide and standard, and hence it would be utterly unobjectionable.

If you think you can improve upon the Lord's doctrine, law, and commandments, which are his principles, which are his guide and standard, you can always make up for whatever deficiencies you think you see in the document - within your own fellowship.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

Incorrect, illogical, false dichotomy. And so ironic that you break commandments in the act of advocating them. You've done some twisted redefining of what words mean. Stalemate, you lose too. You accuse everyone who won't give in to your passive-aggressive manipulation of the language involved here as "defrauding the Lord" - so absurd.

- Log May 08, 2018

No, I inform those who purport to fulfill the Lord's requirement for adding an agreed-upon statement of principles to the scriptures that unless that document is The Rock of Jesus Christ, they are engaged in defrauding the Lord, because the statement they are adding is disputed and not agreed to.

It's really all very simple.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 08, 2018

Well, once again, you've made a false/incorrect assumption. I do not propose that a disputed statement be added. So I am not "defrauding the Lord" according to your definition. I'm calling you out on your constant disputation and disagreement of everything except your own version and your self-righteous inferences/assumptions. I disagree that your version does anything to inform people about what is currently underway - it explains nothing of the sort - and there is no reasonable context in which it fulfills that language - it is not the simplest or even literal interpretation - you've twisted it to mean what you say it means. You also seem to be in a contradictory position by saying that including any of Denver's words or explanation of the Doctrine & Law, as they currently apply, would be trusting in the arm of flesh - you contradict this by accepting that the covenant delivered through him was valid and that you accepted it. It makes no sense. So I refuse to accept your document because it does not fulfill all the requirements and I refuse to acknowledge your unrighteous judgments, accusation, assumptions, and inferences that anyone who disagrees with adopting your version of the document is not living all of the commandments. You are not living the Golden Rule unless you would have everyone disagree with you, which is how you treat others. Extremely illogical and unreasonable. A ZION built using your passive-aggressive manipulation techniques would be short-lived - because if you follow this pattern every

time - when anything requires mutual agreement, or unity or unanimity, you will extort everyone by withholding your agreement, until everyone agrees with you. You have a very inflexible view of reality. This is not Love, or Charity, which you have apparently also redefined. I don't think the Lord operates this way, the way you operate. Finis.

- Log May 08, 2018

You are not compelled to agree to adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

If you intend to fulfill the Lord's requirement, assuming you are a covenant participant, you will adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

That's the only way you can fulfill the Lord's requirement.

The dichotomy is perfect: there is no middle ground; there is no third way.

Jared L.

- Log May 08, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- Log May 08, 2018

And nobody is compelled to fulfill the Lord's requirement, either.

Defrauding the Lord is apparently a live option among this people, as the various efforts to get the Lottery document into the scriptures attest.

Everyone's free to choose, and they are indeed choosing, and publicly.

Jared L.

- MichaelBurke May 09, 2018

To the anonymous poster who said he was calling Jared out.

Are you a covenant participant?

I wasn't at Boise, and I'm not, but I do have an interest in this, because I do want to be a follower of Jesus Christ, and I think Jared may think he's talking to me when he's talking to you.

Were you in Boise, and did you accept the covenant that was offered there?

- MichaelBurke May 09, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke May 09, 2018

This comment has been removed by the author.

- MichaelBurke May 09, 2018

"Oh? Did you give him the info he asked for and I just missed it?"

Forget me, he still hasn't given Adrian Larsen information he requested months ago.

To Adrian, certain things he said in a blog post he entitled "Arise and Awake" clearly implied that he had had visitations from our Lord, and that those visitations stopped after he accepted the covenant offered in Boise, and all Adrian asked him to do was to clarify those statenents, and to tell us if he was speaking literally.

And I believe Jared continues to ignore that request, and refusses to give Adrian (and the rest of us) the information he asked for months ago.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

You are not compelled to agree to adopt The Lots G&S Document (or any of the other S&G's that include the Doctrine & Law and some reasonable explanation about how to apply them currently).

If you intend to fulfill the Lord's requirement, assuming you are a covenant participant, you will adopt The Lots G&S Document (or any of the other S&G's that include the Doctrine & Law and some reasonable explanation about how to apply them currently).

That's the only way you can fulfill the Lord's requirement.

The dichotomy is perfect: there is no middle ground; there is no third way.

Anon

Karma & Impasse. Right back at you buddy.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

Btw, according to your literal interpretation and view concerning addressed audiences, in the scriptures, for example. You/we would all be exempt from any scripture or revelation for which we were not the explicit audience, or in fact were not present when it was given. So none of the scriptures or revelations would apply to us but those which were present in the audience. This is how you exempted yourself from the commandments not to contend.

And haven't you already accepted several of Denver's revelations and commandments, the ones that have been included in the RE Scriptures - they contain many words given through him. So how are you offended by including some of his explanatory and expounding words which pertain to the Doctrine & Law as a means of fulfilling the informing others of what is currently underway requirement?

Your comments and positions contain many logical errors, yet you invoke logical fallacies such as the "argument from ignorance" when it suits you. It does not appear that you are treating others the way you yourself would want to be treated. I'm glad to see that you've moved on from you original literal interpretation of "give to every man that asks of you" - in regards to answering questions, you used to follow that literally - now you seem content with just giving them some kind of generic reply, rather than actually answering their specific questions. That's improvement right there.

- Log May 09, 2018

Interesting.

JL

- Log May 09, 2018

I understand that it must be frustrating being unable to show a direct self-contradiction in my arguments and positions that I have not already made public and fully addressed elsewhere.

Innuendo, while it appeals to the confirmation bias of those who already agree with one, and may well deceive those who are weak of mind and ignorant, doesn't really satisfy the abundantly demonstrated need to establish with concreteness the error(s) one wishes existed in what I say.

Jared L.

- Log May 09, 2018

And even if you were ever able to establish that I have ever contradicted myself, it doesn't get you where you need to go, since the argumentum tu quoque - the argument from hypocrisy - is also a fallacy.

And even if you were able to persuade every single other covenant participant that I am the biggest hypocrite ever to walk the earth, it wouldn't change the choice you face, if you are indeed a covenant participant.

Your options would remain: either accept and do as the Lord has required and adopt The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles, or to defraud the Lord.

Because all of us minus one of us is failure in this matter. And you cannot have my agreement to a G&S unless that G&S is The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles.

Thus your choice remains unchanged even after all you can say about me.

Jared L.

- Log May 09, 2018

I'm only waiting for you to choose to succeed or for you to irrevocably choose to fail.

Then we're on to the next assignment, which, if the Lord does as he has done in the past, will also require mutual agreement.

And, if you have chosen to fail in this assignment by placing a disputed G&S in the scriptures and thus defrauding the Lord in order to impress men (as must necessarily be the case for the Lord cannot be deceived), well, the precedent has been set.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

No, the third option is one, several, or all of the rest of the group taking the same

position that you have, i.e. "right back at you":

https://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2018/04/statement-of-principles-by-lots-group.html?showComment=1525880442274#c1341391828477025699

In other words, you face the same choice that you are giving others. And, yes, it is a passive-aggressive manipulation technique that you've clearly employed over and over, ad nauseam. You are unpersuadable, immovable, implacable, right in your own eyes, unwilling to work toward agreement of any kind. Sorry, dude, this isn't how the Lord works, or loves, or persuades, or how ZION will work. You are right about the D&L being essential parts, even the foundation of, the G&S, but that's it - you're unwilling to see where you are wrong.

And you didn't address some real contradictions you've made, nor did you make reference to where you supposedly admitted or explained them. It appears that you like to be extremely literal when it suits you and to extrapolate or infer additional information when it suits you. This is how you seem to have skirted the reasonable interpretations of the non-contention and Golden Rule commandments.

- Log May 09, 2018

I don't face any choice at all, for my choice was made on 11/27/17.

I simply wait for you to choose to succeed or to irrevocably choose to fail.

I understand your inability to demonstrate any real contradiction - actual, first-order contradictions, mind, not contestable matters of "interpretation" - in my arguments or positions must be extremely frustrating.

And I understand you wish to prove, and cannot prove, that my choice to permanently and perpetually dispute the adoption of any other proposed G&S than The Rock of Jesus Christ: A Statement of Our Principles is somehow wrong.

The Lord works in mysterious ways. I suggest you re-read John 6.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

Well, with that statement, it seems you were never really interested in reaching mutual agreement after all. Or you would have been and still be working toward agreement with others. Instead you use ultimatums & apply/quote warnings & fear-tactics/threats, via misapplication of the scriptures, as if your position is the Lord’s position & He is going to punish anyone who does not accept your position. Even though your Rock document clearly does not meet ALL of the stated criteria & does not attempt to explain or put the Doctrinw & Law in context in any way for those who know nothing concerning these things, which is both unwise & unkind.

All you're really saying in your previous comment is that you are unwilling to reconsider your 11/27/17 choice, you're unwilling to consider that you might be wrong. Can you even admit when you are wrong or might be wrong? Why do you speak with the pretense or tone of authority? No signs of humility, evidence of self-rightness (implacably “right” & uncompromising), signs of prophet-complex (like you have some “mission” or calling to teach and correct & talk down to others because you assume your

knowledge & righteousness are superior - implying that you keep the commandments perfectly) - these are signs of possible mental illness or personality disorder. Implacability is a huge red flag for a mortal. You might be wrong, Jared, your case is not airtight & yet you just keep throwing down your gauntlet/ultimatum.

Do you accept all the stuff in the RE Scriptures that came through Denver, Sections 166-174?

- Log May 09, 2018

I have informed you of the choice you face, and have forewarned you of the consequences of defrauding the Lord.

You are left to choose for yourself whether you will accept and do as the Lord has required, or whether you will defraud him.

Jared L.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

Wrong again, I'm not "defrauding" anybody, the Lord especially. I'm not advocating for adoption of a "disputed" document - which you've defined previously as "defrauding the Lord" (i.e. bypassing "mutual agreement" or unanimity). Why do you keep saying that? We've already been over this. How about you try engaging on my actual comments & content. What are you forewarning me about? Why do you speak as if you represent the Lord, that accepting your version of the G&S is "doing as the Lord required"? Self-righteous & ridiculous, dude, over and over.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

And what happened to "we're done"? You keep posting. What did you actually mean by that?

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

It's okay, man, you can retract - you can admit you weren't really done - that you misspoke - come on, you can do it, it's not that hard to admit you're human, prone to error, wrong. Joseph & Paul & Nephi did it constantly, and they were all prophets.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

Just read this and have a question about it:
http://guideandstandard.blogspot.com/2017/11/committee-g-update-answering-questions.html
[What is the meaning of the term “Mutual Agreement?”
There have been many prayers asking about this subject, as well as a lot of heartache as people have disputed the definition of this term. In response to prayers and pleadings, the Lord answered with a definition to Denver. He defines mutual agreement, as used in the Answer to Prayer for Covenant, this way: “As between one another, you choose to not dispute.” Simply put, even if we disagree, if we choose not to dispute, we have mutual agreement. For example, if someone insists that they will not accept any G&S other than their chosen version, those who do not dispute with them still have mutual agreement.
That definition fits well into the text of the Answer, which reads (in part), that we should: “Pray together in humility and together meekly present your dispute to me, and if you are

contrite before me, I will tell you my part.” It appears that sometimes it takes a while for a group to become sufficiently contrite. This definition also will hopefully allow for us to reach a conclusion on this effort sometime in the near future. We will post an update on next steps for the inclusion of a final G&S once the current effort to gauge the body’s reaction is completed.]

Log/Jared said he does not accept this revelation & definition. Is this what he's referring to as the "Woodard revelation". Was this revelation of the definition of "mutual agreement" given directly by/through Denver? Why is it not on his site? Jared's entire argument/position hinges on his definition of "mutual agreement" being the simplest dictionary definition of "unanimity" (of covenant holders). Please answer, someone who knows.

- Anonymous May 09, 2018

Some people just must have the last word in any conversation. It's OCD.The solution? Let them. Then just move on elsewhere.

- Anonymous May 10, 2018

Log/Jared - what's your take on the above?



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