

Review: Jolene and Greg Cole, *The Mormon Experience*, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR, 1985

Pages: 189

Inside the Destructive Life of a Mormon

An inside look at the havoc Mormonism causes, plus an invaluable case study into II Corinthians 6.14 on being unequally yoked with unbelievers. On this latter point, one can feel the damage being caused as Jolene divorces Greg to marry a Mormon, then amazingly after reconciling with him they both enter the Mormon church!

It exposes the fake Jesus and Christianity Mormons practise, also, how they effectively market families (“Families are Forever”) in order to gain converts.

A useful appendix has core Mormon beliefs incompatible with the Bible.

I) The Family of Gods (pp. 11-22)

The “patriarchal blessing” includes a foretelling of future events and is usually given at age 18 or 19.

“Families are Forever” is the Mormon slogan.

Mormons are taught the Word of Wisdom (no caffeine, tobacco, or alcohol) and Joseph Smith’s 13 Articles of Faith.

One’s level in heaven is solely dependent on good works.

Monthly “Fast and Testimony” meetings are held.

The Mormon’s aim is perfection in order to be ready for godhood.

II) Mixed Blessings (p. 23-33)

Asking too many doctrinal questions in the Church is looked down upon.

The cross is said to be a disrespectful way to look at Jesus (“you don’t see Mormons wearing crosses”).

Mormons are taught that a bishop or stake president is needed to be mediator between God and man.

III) Irreconcilable Differences (pp. 35-45)

Marriage would be for time and eternity.

“We are gods in embryo”.

Godhood cannot be attained unless one is in partnership with a spouse and only if sealed in a Mormon temple.

Countless spirits in their preexistent state can only come to earth if they have requisite bodies, and then have a chance to progress to godhood.

The authors were taught the Bible was God’s Word but had been corrupted.

IV) Irreconcilable Differences (pp. 47-57)

Jolene’s parents warned her she was sacrificing her godhood by marrying Greg, and their children would have to wander around heaven without a family (!).

Marriage outside a Mormon temple is invalid in God’s eyes.

Mormon marriage seals the bride for time and eternity; she receives a secret name which her husband has to call her up to heaven after death at his discretion. Marriage also ensures children are sealed to them.

V) In My Father’s House (pp. 58-66)

The Mormon Relief Society meets three hours per week: women learn chastity, purity, cooking, sewing, and how to be a good wife and mother.

One is said to enter the Kingdom as part of a family rather than an individual.

Understanding the Book of Mormon (BoM) was not so important and most teaching comes from Doctrine and Covenants.

VI) A Marriage of Convenience (pp. 67-73)

VII) The Masquerade (pp. 74-82)

Jolene's Mormon husband 'Ronny': "In the early days of Mormonism, husbands even had the right to murder their wives for disobedience and disrespect".

VIII) Between Two Worlds (pp. 83-88)

After leaving Ron due to domestic violence, Jolene's only income was Greg's child support cheque.

"From chemical reactions thou hast come, and unto chemicals thou shalt return."

Feminism is pervaded by evolutionist.

IX) Between Two Families (pp. 89-94)

Since their divorce, Greg would only see his children every Saturday (he had not remarried).

X) Going Public (pp. 95-101)

XI) A House Divided (pp. 103-111)

To participate in Temple worship, Mormons must be able to answer: "Do you associate with any apostate members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?".

XII) A Visitation (pp. 113-117)

XIII) Spiritual Warfare (pp. 118-124)

XIV) A Winter Chill (pp. 125-128)

XV) An Ill Wind (pp. 129-134)

XVI) A Relapse (pp. 135-142)

The Mormon church does offer many social programs Christian churches don't.

A Mormon service consists of: opening prayer; singing; announcements; communion (this is bread and water – water to avoid any risk of fermented fruit of the vine).

Mormon communion is not a remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice, rather, a believer's commitment to his principles.

Twelve-year old boys are “Aaronic deacons”!

The Church changes its doctrines because of “continued revelations”.

XVII) Playing With Fire (pp. 143-150)

XVIII) Not Thy Will (pp. 151-163)

Jolene and Greg got baptised into the Mormon church whose false teachings they had been exposing for the past years!

XIX) Not My Will (pp. 164-168)

Appendix: Investigations and an Invitation (pp. 169-189)

Smith founded the Mormon Church in 1820.

Alma 7.10 states Jesus was born in Jerusalem (!).

Mormonism teaches all people are eternally existing intelligences, conceived by god with one of his wives.

“Life did not commence upon this earth spontaneously..the Lord our God, transplanted upon it from some other earth, the life which is found here.”
(*Doctrines of Salvation*, Vol. I, pp. 139-40)

“Father Adam was made as we make adobes fro, the earth, you tell me what I deem an idle tale...Mankind are...brought here from another planet.”
(Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses*, Vol. VII, pp. 285-86)

“If it had not been for Joseph Smith and the restoration, there would be no salvation.”

The Mormon Church is structures by a priesthood of two orders, the Melchizedek order (the higher) and the Aaronic (the lesser) (*Doctrine and Covenants* 107.1).

Mormonism distinguishes between general and individual salvation, the former means the resurrection.