SECTION 90 - Doctrine and Covenants

4a And now, verily, I say unto you, I was in the beginning with the Father and am the Firstborn; and all those who are begotten through me are partakers of the glory of the same and are the church of the Firstborn.

4b Ye were also in the beginning with the Father-that which is Spirit, even the Spirit of truth. And **truth is knowledge of things as they are, and as they were, and as they are to come**. And whatsoever is more or less than this is the spirit of that wicked one, who was a liar from the beginning.

4c The Spirit of truth is of God. I am the Spirit of truth.

4d And John bore record of me, saying, He received a fullness of truth, yea, even of all truth; and no man receiveth a fullness unless he keepeth his commandments.

4e He that keepeth his commandments receiveth truth and light until he is glorified in truth and knoweth all things.

^{5a} Man was also in the beginning with God. **Intelligence, or the light of truth**, was not created or made, neither indeed can be.

5b All truth is independent in that sphere in which God has placed it, to act for itself, as all intelligence also; otherwise, there is no existence. [Gen 2:11-12 (IV), Gen 2:9 (KJV)]

5c Behold, here is the agency of man, and here is the condemnation of man: Because that which was from the beginning is plainly manifest unto them, and they receive not the light.

5d And every man whose spirit receiveth not the light is under condemnation, for man is spirit.

5e The elements are eternal; and spirit and element, inseparably connected, receiveth a fullness of joy; and when separated, man cannot receive a fullness of joy.

5f The elements are the tabernacle of God; yea, man is the tabernacle of God, even temples; and whatsoever temple is defiled, God shall destroy that temple. [1 Cor 6:19]

^{6a} The glory of God is **intelligence or, in other words, light and truth**; and light and truth forsaketh that evil one.

6b Every spirit of man was innocent in the beginning; and, God having redeemed man from the fall, men became again in their infant state, innocent before God.

6c And that wicked one cometh and taketh away **light and truth**, <u>through disobedience</u>, from the children of men, and because of the tradition of their fathers.

6d But I have commanded you to bring up your children in light and truth.

SECTION 83 - Doctrine and Covenants

7a And now I give unto you a commandment to beware concerning yourselves-to give diligent heed to the words of eternal life; for you shall live by every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God.

7b For the word of the Lord is truth; and whatsoever is truth is light; and whatsoever is light is Spirit, even the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

7c And the Spirit giveth light to every man that cometh into the world; and the Spirit enlighteneth every man through the world that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit;

7d and everyone that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit cometh unto God, even the Father;

7e and the Father teacheth him of the covenant which he has renewed and confirmed upon you, which is confirmed upon you for your sakes-and not for your sakes only, but for the sake of the whole world.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. [Isa 29:25 (IV); Heb 13:8; Alma 5:35; Mor 4:68; Mni 7:10; DC 67:2d]

Mat 24:39 (IV) And whoso treasureth up my words shall not be deceived.

John 4:23-26 (IV), John 4: 21-24 (KJV)

23 Jesus said unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh when ye shall neither in this mountain nor yet at Jerusalem worship the Father.

24 Ye worship ye know not what; we know what we worship; and salvation is of the Jews.

25 And the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

26 For unto such hath God promised his Spirit. And they who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth. [Alma 16:237; Alma 20:10]

John 14:5-6

5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest. And how can we know the way?

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me.

[Gen 6:53 (IV);Acts 4:12; 1 Nep 11:39; II Nep 13:31; Mos 1:116; Hel 2:71; Alma 18:11]

John 15:26-27

26 But when **the Comforter** is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, **even the Spirit of truth**, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me;

27 And ye also shall bear witness because ye have been with me from the beginning.

John 16:13-14

13 Howbeit when he, the **Spirit of truth**, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine and shall show it unto you.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.

<u>Joshua 24:14</u> Now, therefore, fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord.

Zechariah 8:16 These are the things that ye shall do: **Speak ye, every man, the truth** to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates.

<u>1 Corinthians 13:6</u> Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth,

Ephesians 4:25 Wherefore, putting away lying, **speak every man truth** with his neighbor; for we are members one of another.

Ephesians 5:9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, and righteousness, and truth.)

Proverbs 3:3-4

3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart;

4 So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report--if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Joseph Smith Jr. Testimony

[Church History Vol 1, Ch 2, Pgs 8-11]

"In the midst of this war of words and tumult of opinions I often said to myself, What is to be done? Who of all these parties are right? Or, are they all wrong together? If any one of them be right, which is it, and how shall I know it?

"While I was laboring under the extreme difficulties caused by the contests of these parties of religionists, I was one day reading the epistle of James, first chapter and fifth verse, which reads: '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.' Never did any passage of scripture come with more power to the heart of man than this did at this time to mine. It seemed to enter with great force into every feeling of my heart. I reflected on it again and again, knowing that if any person needed wisdom from God I did, for how to act I did not know, and unless I could get more wisdom than I then had would never know; for the teachers of religion of the different sects understood the same passage so differently as to destroy all confidence in settling the question by all appeal to the Bible. At length I came to the conclusion that I must either remain in darkness and confusion, or else I must do as James directs; that is, ask of God. I at length came to the determination to 'ask of God,' concluding that if he gave wisdom to them that lacked wisdom and would give liberally, and not upbraid, I might venture. So in accordance with this determination, to ask of God, I retired to the woods to make the attempt. It was on the morning of a beautiful clear day, early in the spring of eighteen hundred and twenty. It was the first time in my life that I had made such an attempt, for amidst all my anxieties I had never as yet made the attempt to pray vocally.

"After I had retired into the place where I had previously designed to go, having looked around me and finding myself alone, I kneeled down and began to offer up the desires of my heart to God. I had scarcely done so when immediately I was seized upon by some power which entirely overcame me, and had such astonishing influence over me as to bind my tongue so that I could not speak. Thick darkness gathered around me, and it seemed to me for a time as if I were doomed to sudden destruction. But exerting all my powers to call upon God to deliver me out of the power of this enemy which had seized upon me, and at the very moment when I was ready to sink into despair and abandon myself to destruction, (not to an imaginary ruin, but to the power of some actual being from the unseen world who had such a marvelous power as I had never before felt in my being,) just at this moment of great alarm, I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun; which descended gradually until it fell upon me. It no sooner appeared than I found myself delivered from the enemy which held me bound. When the light rested upon me I saw two personages (whose brightness and glory defy all description) standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name, and said, (pointing to the other,) 'This is my beloved Son, hear him.'

"My object in going to inquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right, that I might know which to join. No sooner therefore did I get possession of myself, so as to be able to speak, than I asked the personages who stood above me in the light, which of all the sects was right, (for at this time it had never entered into my heart that all were wrong,) and which I should join. I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all wrong, and the personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; that those professors were all corrupt; 'they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; they teach for doctrine the commandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof.' He again forbade me to join with any of them: and many other things did he say unto me which I cannot write at this time. When I came to myself again I found myself lying on my back, looking up into heaven. Some few days after I had this vision I happened to be in company with one of the Methodist preachers who was very active in the before-mentioned religious excitement, and conversing with him on the subject of religion I took occasion to give him an account of the vision which I had had. I was greatly surprised at his behavior; he treated my communication not only lightly, but with great contempt, saying it was all of the Devil; that there was no such thing as visions or revelations in these days; that all such things had ceased with the apostles, and that there never would be any more of them. I soon found, however, that my telling the story had excited a great deal of prejudice against me among professors of religion, and was the cause of great persecution, which continued to increase; and though I was an obscure boy only between fourteen and fifteen years of age, and my circumstances in life such as to make a boy of no consequence in the world, yet men of high standing would take notice sufficient to excite the public mind against me, and create a hot persecution; and this was common among all the sects; all united to persecute me. It has often caused me serious reflection both then and since, how very strange it was that an obscure boy of a little over fourteen years of age, and one too who was doomed to the necessity of obtaining a scanty maintenance by his daily labor, should be thought a character of sufficient importance to attract the attention of the great ones of the most popular sects of the day, so as to create in them a spirit of the hottest

Discerning Truth in an Age of Deception by Sean Telljohann 10/5/2023

persecution and reviling. But strange or not, so it was, and was often cause of great sorrow to myself. However, it was nevertheless a fact that I had had 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 unto his latest breath, that he had both seen a light, and heard a voice speaking to him, and all the world could not make him think or believe otherwise. 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 unto me, or one of them did; 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 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 dare I do it; at least I knew that by so doing I would offend God and come under condemnation.

76% of all statistics are made up...



Gaslighting: to psychologically manipulate (a person) usually over an extended period of time so that the victim questions the validity of their own thoughts, perception of reality, or memories and experiences confusion, loss of confidence and self-esteem, and doubts concerning their own emotional or mental stability.

Deep Fake: an image or recording that has been convincingly altered and manipulated to misrepresent someone as doing or saying something that was not actually done or said.

Artificial Intelligence (AI): software designed to imitate aspects of intelligent human behavior.

Catfish: to deceive (someone) by creating a false personal profile online.

Social Media – forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (such as videos).