



Response to the Book



When our pastor put this book in my hands for review, little did I suspect that it was a bolt of lightning from heaven. But it was. It is an incitement and a challenge. If you read what the author has to say with an open mind, it WILL cause you to choose. But whatever you may think, you will not be able to dismiss it without an opinion.

When I started reading the book I was shocked at the bold declarations put forth, yet I have always believed we are to judge all things by their fruits; that all good comes from God and that we are not to call good evil, nor evil good. We are told to try the spirits, and the Spirit verified the words I was reading by bringing to memory dreams and teachings of the Holy Ghost that I have received over 50 years. In my opinion, this book is of the Lord inasmuch as it is in harmony with the Restored Gospel's doctrine (which is noted in this review). What's happening is truly inspiring. Jesus is among us and coming. The following testimony is evidence of it.

This morning, July 28, 2009, I received a phone call from a friend who heard a marvelous story. Good and bad news travels fast, and the thoughts of an imminent coming of Jesus is spreading like lightning. It's news everyone wants to share, and should. But then a grapevine is, as we know, the grapevine.

Here's the story: Jill was in an airport recently and approached a lonely looking man in an attempt to see if she might assist him in some way. He said to her, "*Gabriel is about ready to blow his first trumpet.*" And then he disappeared. She stood there a little perplexed when an airport security man came over and asked Jill if she was alright. She replied that he wouldn't believe her, so dismissed his inquiry. His reply was, "Try me." So Jill told him, whereupon he told her that she was the seventh person to tell him that. Interesting!

We can see by the signs of the times as world events close in around us, that this could very well be true. We need to be ready to meet the Master. This book is written to assist that preparation.



DO YOU KNOW--

1. that Israelites are scattered in all churches and nations worldwide waiting to be gathered to Zion? (Rev. 5:9-10; DC 45:14)
2. that Zion is God's kingdom come on earth?
3. that everyone who believes in Jesus Christ and is baptized becomes an Israelite through the faith of Abraham? (Romans 4:13-16 & 9:4-8)
4. that Jesus said all who are baptized and believe in Him will have power through His name to cast out devils, speak with a new tongue, lay hands on the sick and they shall recover, and do all those things that we have been taught are reserved only for the priesthood to do? (Mark 16:14-19; Mormon 4:87-88; DC 34:3)
5. that God hears and answers the prayers of these Israelites who have faith? (I Peter 3:12; I John 5:14-15)
6. that these Israelites are preaching with power and receiving great inspiration in the Protestant world? (1N 3:230-231; Mormon 4:84-88; Alma 14:103)

7. that many of these Israelites are being martyred for refusing to deny Jesus Christ today? (Rev. 6:9-11 & 7:13-14) (p. 15)
8. that the hurting and hungry are not impressed with legalism, words, or status, for they understand that the gospel of Jesus is always accompanied with power?
9. that if power isn't present, it's because of wickedness and unbelief? (Matt. 17:20; Mormon 1:15 & 4:83)
10. that women and men are laying on hands and healing among Protestants? (pgs. 63, 120-121)
11. that the deaf, blind, and sick are being healed daily, and the dead are raised? (pgs. 10-13)
12. that orphaned children in war-torn nations are being fed by the loaves-and-fishes miracle? (p. 14)
13. that Jesus is appearing in dreams and visions to Muslims teaching and converting them by the hundreds? (p. 16-17)

It is imperative that Restoration Saints can answer these questions positively; that they know what God is doing in the Protestant and Islamic world. These people are being prepared to hear the Fullness of the Gospel taken to them by an endowed Restored Priesthood who is commissioned to seal up the testimony and bind up the law. All this is in preparation for the Glory Coming of Jesus Christ.

*“The hope of Zion is still alive in the hearts and minds of many, and they **will come to join your ranks** in building up my Kingdom. Be not overly judgmental in receiving those that want to come. Receive them with open arms, but be cautious to keep intact the sanctity and purity of my ordinances.”* (Doctrine and Covenants, R153-2b, April 3, 2009, Independence, Missouri, Frederick N. Larsen, President of the Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.)



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“Follow Me”

WITH CHRIST

It's not so much where you have been,
but where you are going.
It's not so much that you have hurt,
but that you will heal.
It's not so much what you have done,
but what you will do.
It's not whether you have fallen,
but whether you will get up.
It's not who you are,
but who you will be.
He cares for You.
He says, "Follow Me."



Will You Miss It?

Musician playing violin in a Washington DC Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007

(This is going around the Internet)

“You won’t get this unless you read the very end... how true!

He played six Bach pieces for about 60 minutes. During that time approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After:

3 minutes: A middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.

4 minutes: The violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the till and without stopping, continued to walk.

6 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

10 minutes: A three year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly, as the kid stopped to look at the violinist. Finally the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced them to move on.

45 minutes: The musician played. Only 6 people stopped and stayed for a while. About 20 gave him money but continued to walk their normal pace. He collected \$32.

1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

This is a real story. The Washington Post, as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities, arranged the entire scenario. Playing incognito, no one knew the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the best musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days prior to this, Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the tickets averaged \$100 per seat.

The questions raised:

In a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty; do we stop to appreciate it; do we recognize talent in such an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments How many other things are we missing?" (Matt. 25:12)



Thy Kingdom Come

We are about to witness the greatest event to ever happen on earth except for the birth and life of Jesus Christ. The kingdom of God is ready to burst the darkness by which Satan has cloaked this earth. God is already moving to establish His kingdom of Zion here. We only need to be looking in the right direction to see it.

To understand what is happening we need to go back to the beginning in the Garden of Eden when our parents, Adam and Eve, like teenagers asserting their perceived self-sufficiency, decided to use their agency to defy their dad, God, the Father. Their Dad told them to leave the house because His house could abide no rebellion—they didn't keep their room clean, and it messed up the house. While gone they produced a *large* family.

Another one created for the family of this earth, Satan, decided he wanted to rule the whole family and get all the glory that belonged to their Father. God said no, and kicked him out for good, and 1/3rd of the family went with him.

So the Father and true heir, the firstborn, Jesus, came up with a way to bring those of the family who wanted to return back into harmony. Jesus would help them so they could inherit the family legacy. The Father and Jesus called it the Plan of Salvation. An over simplification to be sure, but that's about it.



THE PLAN

1. Satan and his followers are confined on earth with power to tempt mankind to follow him and set up his own kingdom. The more men sin, the more his domain expands. (Rev. 12:6-12; 1N 1:122-125)

2. God's plan was to send Jesus on earth to teach men how to overcome Satan with His laws, and set up God's kingdom.
3. It's spiritual war, the kingdoms of good vs. evil.
4. God's kingdom is a gathering of men who want to live according to His rules of righteousness. (Isa. 2:3)
5. Satan's kingdom is all that this world stands for—rebellion toward God and His Son, Jesus Christ.
6. The work that affects us began with Abraham. From his grandsons came the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Through this family God plans to set up His kingdom and redeem the earth; take it away from Satan, and get rid of him and his rebels for eternity. Satan was allotted a certain amount of time to do his thing. It's almost over.
7. God sent His power through Abraham's family, the Israelites. They abused it and rebelled until they had to be scattered on the earth. Now they are about to be gathered back into the family again in one of the greatest family reunions ever.
8. God calls it the Restoration of Israel, the Marvelous Work and a Wonder. (D.C. 12:5 & 1N 3:214-216; 1N 7:17-23; 2N 11:28-34 & 144-147)
9. This event will be so earth-shaking that people will no longer speak of Moses and the opening of the Red Sea, they will talk of how God brought out the Ten Lost Tribes from their hiding place, and restored them to their promised land in America. (Jer. 16:14-15)
10. God has already set up the Southern Kingdom of Judah again when the nation of Israel was founded in 1948.
11. When the children of Israel are again living in their own lands, the city of Zion will be established, God's city, and the power of heaven will be with His people until the whole earth has learned of Him, and righteousness and peace will reign on the earth like He wanted it in the beginning. That's the Plan. (Mosiah 1:121-123)

What does all this have to do with Pastor Bill Johnson's book? The testimonies here show how God is actively working to set up His kingdom on earth. God is no respecter of persons and the call is to everyone who will come and be a part of His work.

*Thy Kingdom come
Thy Will be done
on Earth
as it is in Heaven*

Zion

