

Recovery from Mormonism (RfM) discussion forum.

Recovery Board : RfM

The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Official Racist, Anti-Black DOCTRINE

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 16, 2017 11:20PM

Let the trail of the bigoted Mormon Church's rancid, repugnant, repeatedly-regurgitated record of revolting vomit speak for itself:

In its latest lie on the subject, the Mormon Church--on its official website, no less--makes a grossly dishonest claim that the long-established official position of the Mormon Church banning Blacks from holding the priesthood was a policy and not a doctrine. In an essay entitled, "Race and the Priesthood," the Mormon Church makes the following deliberately disingenuous and factually disprovable assertion:

. . . one which the Mormon Church is currently and desperately employing in an unsuccessful effort to cover the tracks of its attack on Blacks in terms of both its:

- a) historically official doctrinal status; and
- b) its historically acknowledged tie-in to Joseph Smith.

"In two speeches delivered before the Utah territorial legislature in January and February 1852, [Mormon Church president] Brigham Young announced a POLICY restricting men of black African descent from priesthood ordination . . .

" . . . [G]iven the long history of withholding the priesthood from men of black African descent, Church leaders believed that a revelation from God was needed to alter the POLICY and they made ongoing efforts to understand what should be done."

(emphasis added)

("Race and the Priesthood," at: <http://www.lds.org/topics/race-and-the-priesthood>)

However, the highest authoritative decision-making body in the Mormon Church--the First Presidency (comprised of the Mormon Church president and his two counselors)--has directly and emphatically contradicted this latest lie from Latter-day Saint Central. The official position of the Mormon Church has historically, explicitly and

unambiguously declared the Mormon Church anti-Black priesthood ban to be one of DOCTRINE, NOT POLICY.

Further, contrary to the ongoing false claims being made by the Mormon Church, there is documented evidence from the Mormon Church First Presidency itself that Joseph Smith was behind the DOCTRINAL Mormon anti-Black priesthood ban.

The proof:

--On 17 July 1947, the Mormon Church First Presidency wrote the following to Lowry Nelson, Mormon professor at Utah State Agricultural College regarding the status of Blacks in the eyes of the Mormon God:

"Dear Brother Nelson:

". . . The basic element of your ideas and concepts seems to be that all God's children stand in equal positions before Him in all things. Your knowledge of the Gospel will indicate to you that this is contrary to the very fundamentals of God's dealings with Israel dating from the time of His promise to Abraham regarding Abraham's seed and their position vis-a-vis God Himself. Indeed, some of God's children were assigned to superior positions before the world was formed.

"We are aware that some Higher Critics do not accept this, but the Church does. Your position seems to lose sight of the revelations of the Lord touching the pre-existence of our spirits, the rebellion in heaven, and the DOCTRINES that our birth into this life and the advantages under which we may be born, have a relationship in the life heretofore. FROM THE DAYS OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH EVEN UNTIL NOW, IT HAS BEEN THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH, NEVER QUESTIONED BY ANY OF THE CHURCH LEADERS, THAT THE NEGROES ARE NOT ENTITLED TO THE FULL BLESSINGS OF THE GOSPEL.

"Furthermore, your ideas, as we understand them, appear to contemplate the intermarriage of the Negro and White races, a concept which has heretofore been most repugnant to most normal-minded people from the ancient patriarchs till now. God's rule for Israel, His Chosen People, has been endogamous [meaning 'marriage within a specific tribe or similar social unit']. Modern Israel has been similarly directed. We are not unmindful of the fact that there is a growing tendency, particularly among some educators, as it manifests itself in this are, toward the breaking down of race barriers in the matter of intermarriage between Whites and Blacks, but it does not have the

sanction of the Church and is contrary to Church doctrine.

"Faithfully yours,

George Albert Smith

J. Reuben Clark, Jr.

David O. McKay"

(emphasis added)

Nelson responded on 8 October:

"The attitude of the Church in regard to the Negro makes me very sad. I do not believe God is a racist."

The First Presidency answered:

"We feel very sure that you are aware of THE DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH. They are either true or not true. Our testimony is that they are true. Under these circumstances we may not permit ourselves to be too much impressed by the reasonings of men, however well founded they may seem to be. We should like to say this to you in all sincerity, that you are too fine a man to permit yourself to be led off from the principles of the Gospel by worldly learning.

"You have too much of a potentiality for doing good and we therefore prayerfully hope that you can re-orient your thinking and bring it in line with the revealed Word of God."

(emphasis added)

--An official First Presidency statement, dated 17 August 1949, again noting that the Mormon Church's priesthood ban imposed against Blacks was a clear matter of DOCTRINE, NOT POLICY:

"THE ATTITUDE OF THE CHURCH WITH REFERENCE TO NEGROES REMAINS AS IT HAS ALWAYS STOOD. IT IS NOT A MATTER OF THE DECLARATION OF A POLICY BUT OF DIRECT COMMANDMENT FOM THE LORD, ON WHICH IS FOUNDED THE DOCTRINE OF

THE CHURCH FROM THE DAYS OF ITS ORGANIZATION, to the effect that Negroes may become members of the Church BUT THEY ARE NOT ENTITLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD AT THE PRESENT TIME. THE PROPHETS OF THE LORD HAVE MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS AS TO THE OPERATION OF THE PRINCIPLE. President Brigham Young said: 'Why are so many of the inhabitants of the earth cursed with a skin of blackness? It comes in consequence of their fathers rejecting the power of the holy priesthood, and the law of God. They will go down to death.'

(emphasis added)

--During the 1960s civil rights movement where the Mormon Church was coming under increasing fire for its bigoted anti-Black priesthood stance, Mormon church leaders circled the wagons and again issued another official First Presidency statement, dated 15 December 1969, invoking the words of then-Mormon Church president, David O. McKay and laying the origins of the ban at the feet of Mormonism's inventor, Joseph Smith:

"To General Authorities, Regional Representatives of the Twelve, Stake Presidents, Mission Presidents, and Bishops.

"Dear Brethren:

"In view of confusion that has arisen, it was decided at a meeting of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve to restate THE POSITION OF THE CHURCH WITH REGARD TO THE NEGRO BOTH IN SOCIETY AND IN THE CHURCH.

"A word of explanation concerning THE POSITION OF THE CHURCH.

"FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS DISPENSATION, JOSEPH SMITH AND ALL SUCCEEDING PRESIDENTS OF THE CHURCH HAVE TAUGHT THAT NEGROES, while spirit children of a common Father, and the progeny of our earthly parents Adam and Eve, WERE NOT YET TO RECEIVE THE PRIESTHOOD, for reasons which we believe are known to God, but which He has not made fully known to man.

"Our living prophet, President David O. McKay, has said, 'The seeming discrimination by the Church toward the Negro is not something which originated with man; but goes back into the beginning with God. . . . 'Revelation assures us that this plan antedates

man's mortal existence, extending back to man's pre-existent state.' President McKay has also said, 'Sometime in God's eternal plan, the Negro will be given the right to hold the priesthood.'

"Faithfully your brethren,

"The First Presidency

" Hugh B. Brown

N. Eldon Tanner"

(emphasis added)

Finally, for the DOCTRINAL, NOT POLICY, status which clearly and historically attended the Mormon Church's anti-Black priesthood ban, see "Mormon Racism As doctrine, Not Merely Folklore or Tradition,"

Here's their daily Mormon scripture study guide on the racism of their Mormon God, as noted in the article, "Racism as Doctrine, Not Merely Folklore or Tradition":

--"Mormon Scripture: God Curses Bad Races with Black Skin

"2 Nephi 5:21: 'And the Lord had caused the cursing to come upon them, yea, even a sore cursing, because of their iniquity. For behold, they had hardened their hearts against him, that they had become like unto a flint; wherefore, as they were white, and exceedingly fair and delightsome, that they might not be enticing unto my people the Lord God did cause a skin of blackness to come upon them.'

"Alma 3: 6: 'And the skins of the Lamanites were dark, according to the mark which was set upon their fathers, which was a curse upon them because of their transgression and their rebellion against their brethren, who consisted of Nephi, Jacob, and Joseph, and Sam, who were just and holy men.'

"3 Nephi 2:14-1: 'And it came to pass that those Lamanites who had united with the Nephites were numbered among the Nephites; And their curse was taken from them, and their skin became white like unto the Nephites.'

"Moses 7:22: 'And Enoch also beheld the residue of the people which were the sons of Adam; and they were a mixture of all the seed of Adam save it was the seed of Cain, for the seed of Cain were black, and had not place among them.'

"Abraham 1:21-24,27: 'Now this king of Egypt was a descendant from the loins of Ham, and was a partaker of the blood of the Canaanites by birth. From this descent sprang all the Egyptians, and thus the blood of the Canaanites was preserved in the land.'

"The land of Egypt being first discovered by a woman, who was the daughter of Ham, and the daughter of Egyptus, which in the Chaldean signifies Egypt, which signifies that which is forbidden; When this woman discovered the land it was under water, who afterward settled her sons in it; and thus, from Ham, sprang that race which preserved the curse in the land."

"Now, Pharaoh being of that lineage by which he could not have the right of Priesthood, notwithstanding the Pharaohs would fain claim it from Noah, through Ham, therefore my father was led away by their idolatry.'

--"Official LDS Church Publications Explain Racist LDS Scriptures

"The Book of Abraham is rich both in doctrine and in historical incidents. Of the latter the fact of the large influence (if not identity) of Egyptian religious ideas in Chaldea in the days of Abraham is established; the descent of the black race, Negro, from Cain, the first murderer; the preservation of that race through the flood by the wife of Ham--"Egyptus," which in the Chaldean signifies "Egypt," "which signifies that which is forbidden"--the descendants of "Egyptus" were cursed as pertaining to the priesthood--that is, they were barred from holding that divine power; the origin also of the Egyptians--these things, together with the account of Abraham migrating from Chaldea to Egypt, constitute the chief historical items that are contained in the book./ (:Comprehensive History of the Church,' vol. 2, Ch .47, p. 128)

"From this it is very clear that the mark which was set upon the descendants of Cain was a skin of blackness, and there can be no doubt that this was the mark that Cain himself received; in fact, it has been noticed in our day that men who have lost the spirit of the Lord, and from whom His blessings have been withdrawn, have turned dark to such an extent as to excite the comments of all who have known them.'

(Official LDS Church manual, 'The Juvenile Instructor,' vol. 26, p. 635)

"We will first inquire into the results of the approbation or displeasure of God upon a people, starting with the belief that a black skin is a mark of the curse of heaven placed upon some portions of mankind. Some, however, will argue that a black skin is not a curse, nor a white skin a blessing. In fact, some have been so foolish as to believe and say that a black skin is a blessing, and that the negro is the finest type of a perfect man that exists on the earth; but to us such teachings are foolishness. We understand that when God made man in his own image and pronounced him very good, that he made him white. We have no record of any of God's favored servants being of a black race. . . . [E]very angel who ever brought a message of God's mercy to man was beautiful to look upon, clad in the purest white and with a countenance bright as the noonday sun." (Official LDS Church manual, 'The Juvenile Instructor,' vol. 3, p. 157)

"For instance, the descendants of Cain cannot cast off their skin of blackness, at once, and immediately, although every soul of them should repent,... Cain and his posterity must wear the mark which God put upon them; and his white friends may wash the race of Cain with fuller's soap every day, they cannot wash away God's mark;. . . . ' (LDS Publication, 'The Millennial Star, ' vol. 14, p. 418)

"Their skin is quite black, their hair woolly and black, their intelligence stunted, and they appear never to have arisen from the most savage state of barbarism." (Official LDS Church manual, 'The Juvenile Instructor,' vol. 3, p. 157)

"Is or is it not apparent from reason and analogy as drawn from a careful reading of the Scriptures, that God causes the saints, or people that fall away from his church to be cursed in time, with a black skin? Was or was not Cain, being marked, obliged to inherit the curse, he and his children, forever? And if so, as Ham, like other sons of God, might break the rule of God, by marrying out of the church, did or did he not, have a Canaanite wife, whereby some of the black seed was preserved through the flood, and his son, Canaan, after he laughed at his grandfather's nakedness, heired three curses: one from Cain for killing Abel; one from Ham for marrying a black wife, and one from Noah for ridiculing what God had respect for? Are or are not the Indians a sample of marking with blackness for rebellion against God's holy word and holy order? And can or can we not observe in the countenances of almost all nations, except the Gentile, a dark, sallow hue, which tells the sons of God, without a line of history, that they have fallen or changed from the original beauty and grace of father Adam? (Official LDS Publication, 'The Messenger and Advocate' (March 1835), p. 82)

"History and common observation show that these predictions have been fulfilled to the letter. The descendants of Ham, besides a black skin which has ever been a curse that has followed an apostate of the holy priesthood, as well as a black heart, have been servants to both Shem and Japheth, and the abolitionists are trying to make void the curse of God, but it will require more power than man possesses to counteract the decrees of eternal wisdom." (Official LDS Publication, 'The Times and Seasons,' vol. 6, p. 857)

"The LDS Church's racism isn't just from some isolated quote from one or two Church leaders. The racist teaching from the Mormon pulpit is prolific and consistent over time. If God didn't agree with his prophets teaching these things in His Church, then why did they continue over generations? There's a big difference between folklore and Mormon scripture. When the president and prophet of the church stands at the pulpit and teaches the laws of God, that isn't folklore.

"Some Church members make the mistake of dismissing the racist statements of 19th-century Mormon leaders as 'their own opinion,' 'not official doctrine,' 'products of their times,' etc.

"Those same Church members assert that the only 'official doctrine' is the Standard Works and official statements of the First Presidency, and that if some leaders said something that didn't come from those sources, it isn't 'binding on the membership,' and it isn't "canon" or "official doctrine."

"However, an official statement of the LDS Church First Presidency issued on August 17, 1951, reads:

"The position of the LDS Church regarding the Negro may be understood when another doctrine of the church is kept in mind, namely, that the conduct of spirits in the pre-mortal existence has some determining effect upon the conditions and circumstances under which these spirits take on mortality, and that while the details of this principle have not been made known, the principle itself indicates that the coming to this earth and taking on mortality is a privilege that is given to those who maintained their first estate; and that the worth of the privilege is so great that spirits are willing to come to earth and take on bodies no matter what the handicap may be as to the kind of bodies they are to secure; and that among the handicaps, failure of the right to enjoy in mortality the blessings of the priesthood is a handicap which spirits are willing to assume in order that they might come to earth. Under this principle there is no injustice whatsoever involved in this deprivation as to the holding of the

priesthood by the Negroes... . . . '

"Man will be punished for his own sins and not for Adam's transgression. If this is carried further, it would imply that the Negro is punished or allotted to a certain position on this earth, not because of Cain's transgression, but came to earth through the loins of Cain because of his failure to achieve other stature in the spirit world." (William E. Berrett's 'The Church and the Negroid People,' pp. 16-17)

"Since it's obvious from this official First Presidency statement that Church leaders taught and believed that people are born as Negroes because of their behavior in the pre-existence---

---"as well as being from the lineage of the 'accursed' Cain---

---"and the 'sign' of Cain's curse was the black skin and flat nose, according to Church leaders---

---"then the fact that Negroes are still being born by the tens of thousands every day tells us that the God of Mormonism has never lifted the 'curse of Cain,' despite having the priesthood ban rescinded.

"Church members are terribly mistaken when they say that the 'curse of Cain' teachings were 'folklore' and 'not official doctrine.'

"If the people of Jamaica can recognize the LDS Church's racism, why can't church members?: 'The Embarrassing Truth about Mormonism, by Mark Wignall, "The Jamaica Observer," 25 September 2005, at: <http://www.i4m.com/think/comments/mormon-racism.htm>; source for first article: at: http://www.i4m.com/think/history/mormon_racism.htm)

Based upon its demonstrated track record, the racist Mormon Church clearly has an official policy of regularly lying about its official doctrines, policies and practices when it comes to its recorded history of blatant, anti-Black bigotry.

Edited 4 time(s). Last edit at 01/17/2017 01:04AM by steve benson.

Re: The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Rancid, Racist, Official Anti-black t

Posted by: **GNPE** ()

Date: January 16, 2017 11:23PM

IT WASN'T JUST THE PH!

I'm surprised that the BAN on black females / temple ordinances is seldom mentioned...

to make matters Worse, they publish semi-official statements & encourage ppl to read from sources that are less than endorsed;
this is walking a line between truthful-factual accurate information & saying NOTHING regarding troublesome history.

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 01/16/2017 11:32PM by GNPE.

Re: The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Rancid, Racist, Official Anti-black t

Posted by: **josephsmithseer** ()

Date: January 16, 2017 11:57PM

Actually this may help LDS keep on going. I mean KKK would more than likely join LDS. Need put some holes in bakers hats pull them down over face. Got garments already rock it! You could start the decons in wearing these clothes.

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 01/16/2017 11:57PM by josephsmithseer.

Re: The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Official Racist, Anti-Black DOCTRINE

Posted by: **Leaving** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 12:39AM

Look no further than the white and delightful Q12. The day that a man of color (young enough to rise to the presidency) is called to that quorum is the day that you know that they aren't racist anymore.

Re: The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Official Racist, Anti-Black DOCTRINE

Posted by: **TXRancher** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 01:07AM

I discussed the "gospel" with my 21 year old daughter, who is no longer active and not getting married in the temple this year. First time in a long time. She mentioned being aware of a couple of these communications from the church...and how they sound so much like "a cult." I told her that I agree. I was so glad that she sees the morg for what it is. This is one of the things the broke my shelf, especially since one of my girlfriends was Black.

What a crock. No inspiration and a lot of bigotry.

Church assignments limit time to research

Posted by: **Honest TBM** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 09:13AM

We really don't have much time to research any of this stuff you point out Mr. Benson because our church assignments and responsibilities keep us pretty busy. What I can tell you is that whatever Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, or any church leader taught in their sermons, unless specifically clarified by them as not being doctrinal, is the unchanging eternal word of God. Furthermore, it is a testament to how much the church leaders love the words of Brigham Young in how they have made the BYU brand so strong now. They even renamed Ricks College in honor of Brother Brigham because of the deep love that the Hinckley era FP/12 (i.e. pretty much the same group of men as running things today) have for the sacred words of beloved Brigham regarding racial harmony.

Now don't forget the 1978 declaration. But that doesn't change the fact that Joseph Smith taught that the Book of Mormon was the most correct book on earth. In there we learn a lot of what God thinks about skin color.

Now before you flame me may I remind you that I was born long after Brigham Young and Joseph Smith had died. So please don't blame me. However I suppose that every time I scrub one of the Lord's sacred toilets in his chapels so Heavenly Father can save some money on hiring janitors then I'm sustaining the church's history and

the Book of Mormon regarding racism matters. But alas the church leaders don't seem to emphasize much that we need to study church history on racism as they seem to emphasize much more the need for us to fulfill these sacred assignments such as scrubbing the Lord's toilets.

Honest TBM is parody

Posted by: **Concrete Zipper** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 02:41PM

Sorry, I hate to point it out again, but Honest TBM is parody. Please read the post in that light.

If you don't want to be sorry about it again, then make clear it's satire

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 02:45PM

That's your responsibility, not mine. Perhaps a sticky notice would help, thus relieving you of the the burden of having to repeatedly inform posters here that someone is being allowed by Admin to post in this forum as an "honest TBM" when they are anything but.

Edited 3 time(s). Last edit at 01/17/2017 03:00PM by steve benson.

my fault, not Concrete Zipper

Posted by: **Honest TBM** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 02:56PM

Blame me, not Concrete Zipper, on this.

Admin allows you to post; hence, it is their ultimate responsibility. (n/t)

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 03:03PM

If you can't tell that this is a parody...

Posted by: **randyj** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 05:51PM

...from this line alone:

"every time I scrub one of the Lord's sacred toilets in his chapels so Heavenly Father can save some money on hiring janitors then I'm sustaining the church's history and the Book of Mormon regarding racism matters"

...then one needs to upgrade their parody detector.

[delete \(n/t\)](#)

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 01:48PM

Edited 7 time(s). Last edit at 01/17/2017 02:48PM by steve benson.

Oops

Posted by: **Honest TBM** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 02:39PM

I bear you my testimony that you can know that what I write is never satire in accordance to the truthfulness of the holy Kinderhook Plates.

Congrats. You've got the looney lingo down pat. (n/t)

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 02:41PM

Re: The LDS Church Has NOT Repudiated Its Official Racist, Anti-Black DOCTRINE

Posted by: **cinda** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 04:06PM

Thank you for this most informative post, Steve. The article by Mark Wignall, "The Jamaica Observer", is definitely worth the read! I enjoyed it very much.

The LDS Cult's "You-Mix-Your-Blood-with-Blacks-You-Die" Official Doctrine

Posted by: **steve benson** ()

Date: January 17, 2017 05:11PM

Mormon Cult president Brigham Young , along his fellow anti-Black bigot in Caucasian Christ Wilford Woodruff, officially warned against single-drop-blood-mixing with Negroes, with Woodruff, in the name of the Mormon Jesus, calling for offenders to be beheaded:

"The Lord said I will not kill Cane But I will put a mark upon him and it is seen in the [face?] of every Negro on the Earth And it is the decree of God that that mark shall remain upon the seed of Cane & the Curse [remain] untill all the seed of Abel should be re[deem?]ed and Cane will not receive the priesthood untill or salvation untill all the seed of Abel are Redeemed.

"Any man having one drop of the seed of Cane in him Cannot hold the priesthood & if no other Prophet ever spake it Before I will say it now in the name of Jesus Christ. I know it is true & they know it. The Negro cannot hold one particle of Government But the day will Come when all the seed of Cane will be Redeemed & have all the Blessings we have now & a great deal more. But the seed of Abel will be ahead of the seed of Cane to all Eternity.

"Let me consent to day to mingle my seed with the seed of Cane. It would Bring the same curse upon me And it would upon any man. And if any man mingles his seed with the seed of Cane the ownly way he Could get rid of it or have salvation would be to Come forward & have his head Cut off & spill his Blood upon the ground. It would also take [require] the life of his Children/"

("Waiting for World's End: The Diaries of Wilford Woodruff, Susan Staker, ed., p. 300. Wilford Woodruff recounting Brigham Young's remarks on February 7, 1852. Brackets, spelling, and punctuation in original, <http://www.mrm.org/quotes-on-blacks-priesthood>)

Edited 3 time(s). Last edit at 01/17/2017 06:13PM by steve benson.