

Show Notes for Episode 5.23 (14 June 2012)

MYTH 1.

The Purpose for polygamy was to provide for widows and orphans. Many women lost their husbands during their pilgrimage West and needed a man to provide for them and their children.

MYTH 2:

That there were more women than men and the women needed husbands.

1850	712 more males
1860	237 more males
1870	1,456 more males
1880	6,055 more males
1890	13,171 more males
1900	6,625 more males

MYTH 3:

Polygamy was only for a short period of time, and that time has passed.

MYTH 4:

It hasn't been fully proven that Joseph Smith practiced polygamy. Women were sealed to him, but it was after his death and any sealings done while he was alive were for eternity only. There was no sexual activity between J. Smith and his plural wives.

Todd Compton quotes Joseph Smith -

"...the whole object and end of matrimony was the procreation of our species..."

MYTH 5.

The polygamist men had wonderful relationships with all their children, they had peaceful homes with their polygamist wives. The plural wives preferred plural marriages, they wanted to share their husbands ... the polygamist families were close and affectionate.

MYTH 6.

It was always the woman's choice whether her husband took a plural wife. She was free to insist that she marry a man that would not practice polygamy. The woman always had the final say whether her husband took a plural wife.

MYTH 7.

Only a few men, only those who had a "calling" from a church authority practiced polygamy, It was lived by only 2 to 5 % of the Mormons and was generally only for the leaders of the Church, not necessarily for the lay members.

1 Timothy 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife...

1 Timothy 3:12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife,

Titus 1:6 [the bishops were to be] ...the husband of one wife...

Deuteronomy 17:17 Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away:

QUOTE FROM WIFE NO 19, by ANN ELIZA YOUNG, 1875:

"Marrying and giving in marriage was carried on to such an extent, that, the ceremony of sealing was literally going on day and night.

"The man who refuses to enter polygamy will be eternally damned," announced Brigham Young from the Tabernacle.

Polygamy was preached from the platform and taught by the ward teachers in private. It was not only advised, it was commanded... there was not a family in the Territory at that time which was not increased by a plurality of wives. Men married in the most reckless fashion, with nothing in the world on which to support their families."

MYTH 8

Jesus himself lived polygamy, He married Mary & Martha. The marriage in Cana in John Ch. 2 was Jesus' wedding. God the father is a polygamist and one of his wives is our "heavenly mother".

"to seek and to save that which was lost"

~ Luke 19:10

1 John 3:8 - The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

God is a spirit, John 4:24.

A spirit does not have flesh and bones, Luke 24:39

MYTH 9.

Only the righteous lived polygamy -- meaning the most righteous Mormons! Polygamy is righteous and holy, and requires love and compassion.

Isaiah 64:6 "All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away."

Galatians 2:16 "know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified."

MYTH 10.

Polygamy is a higher law. Only if you are very close to God could you understand it. A polygamist had to put aside jealousy and personal wishes and be completely worthy in order to live this higher law.

Exodus 34:1 & 28;

Deuteronomy 5:22, 10:1 and 10:4 God wrote on the second set of stones the same words that He had written on the first set - TEN commandments were given the first time and the identical 10 commandments were give the 2nd time.

Proverbs 30:5-6 "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

MYTH 11.

Those who don't or can't accept polygamy, cannot go to heaven they have something seriously "wrong" with them!

MYTH 12.

Polygamy will be re-established and practiced in the Millennium. There will be more women than men during the Millennium, so the Mormon men will have to step up to the plate and marry multiple women to give them Celestial glory.

Men will be required to have plural wives in Heaven, because more woman than men will make it to the celestial kingdom.

Acts 4:12 - there is none other name given among men under heaven by which we must be saved....

Isaiah 43:11 "I, even I, am the LORD, And there is no Savior besides Me."

MYTH 13

Only the ugly women were taken as polygamist wives because that would be the only way they could ever get married, and a person must be married to be exalted.

MYTH 14.

A small number of Mormons practiced polygamy so they could take care of the widows of the Mormon men who died or were lynched during the Civil War for being abolitionists against slavery.

MYTH 15.

Polygamy is Biblical because Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Boaz, David and Solomon had multiple wives.

After all, polygamy is in the Bible.