

Quotes, Notes & References from POLYGAMY: WHAT LOVE IS THIS? Episode 4.41 (3 November 2011)

There have been many reasons and rationalizations given for the practice of polygamy.

The most popular is that God commanded it through Joseph Smith and whatever God commands is good.

The Mormon belief is that polygamy is holy, it was practiced by biblical characters & since no scorching lightning bolt from heaven put a stop to it, it must have been ok with God.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Mormons have taught the unbiblical doctrine that there was a spiritual pre-existence, and that Adam, in the pre-existence, had many wives and Eve was just one of them.

"When our father Adam came into the Garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives, with him" (Brigham Young, April 9, 1852, *Journal of Discourses* 1:50).

They also taught that Jesus was a polygamist and prophets of the Mormon Church have officially explained this doctrine: "The Scripture says that He, the Lord, came walking in the Temple, with His train; I do not know who they were, unless His wives and children." - B Young, *Journal of Discourses* Vol. 13.

Orson Hyde said: "... Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana of Galilee, ... Now there was actually a marriage; and if Jesus was not the bridegroom on that occasion, please tell who was. If any man can show this, and prove that it was not the Savior of the world, then I will acknowledge I am in error. We [The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints] say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into the relation whereby he could see his seed, before he was crucified. ... Before the Savior died, he looked upon his own natural children..." - Orson Hyde, *Journal of Discourses*, 2: p. 82, 83

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Wilford Woodruff wrote in his journal on July 22, 1883 - "Sunday I Attended the Sabbath School Conference .... Joseph F. Smith spoke ... upon the Marriage in Cana at Galilee. He taught Jesus was the Bridegroom and Mary & Martha the brides."

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Another justification for polygamy is that Polygamous marriage makes possible the procreation of hundreds of thousands and millions of spirit children to get human bodies. This of course is another myth that has no biblical or historical basis.

Another myth is that many Mormon men died from war and disease, leaving behind widows and excess females who needed husbands to support them.. There is no basis of fact to support that idea either. In fact the official census consistently showed that there were always more men than women in the territory.

Polygamy is and was an essential for eternal life in early Mormon doctrine. They either lived it or were threatened with damnation.

They taught that when a good Mormon man dies, and if he faithfully followed the doctrines of their gospel, including polygamy, he would earn status as a god, he receives his own planet to populate and be the ruler, his wives go with him and they enjoy and participate in an eternity of sexual relations to make spirit babies in order to populate his planet or planets.

This is known as eternal increase.... & eternal increase is prominent in the foundational Mormon Church doctrinal teachings.

Early Mormonism taught that "Celestial" marriage, which is and was polygamy, is indispensable for the eternal life of Mormon women. The only way that she can get to celestial heaven with him, is to marry a man with the priesthood, and priesthood men lived polygamy.

This doctrine conveniently forgets that Jesus is the Savior, neither a woman's husband, or a church, or ritual or marriage has any merit whatsoever to a woman's eternal life..

Even though the modern mormon church is disgusted with polygamy and has distanced itself from it, most generational members of the LDS Church have ancestors and some not so distant ancestors - who were polygamists - strangely enough, they are extremely proud of their polygamous heritage while at the same time hating polygamy. Go figure...

Also, modern Mormon Fundamentalists have the attitude, that if polygamy was good enough for their own parents and grandparents, it must be the right thing to do and they'll do it too.

The greatest tragedy of all this, is that they do not research what God has to say regarding polygamy, they merely take someone else's word for it, they get fuzzy feelings or guilt feelings that its right, and plunge in with all fours, never stopping to realize or seeming to care that its their own eternity they are placing in someone else's control and are gambling it away.

We often hear this culture saying, polygamy was good in the time of J Smith and Brigham Young. The families were close, they were happy and content, they learned to live and love together.

But is that true? Were the early Mormon polygamous wives happy?

We decided to focus some of our show tonight on a few quotes and comments of some early Mormon polygamist wives - so you can make your own conclusion, were these pioneer polygamist women truly happy?

Are polygamist wives today happy?

That answer depends on what they call happiness. I know one thing for sure, they are not happy in Jesus -

Jesus never taught polygamy in fact the opposite is true. He was clear in His teachings that there are no marriage relationships in heaven - and -

He - JESUS - is the Word of God, and God's word says a man is to have one wife - a woman is to have her own husband.

In our research, we've easily discovered that many women were very upset practicing LDS polygamy.

Most of them unhappily resigned themselves to the misery of the practice, some actually went insane, some died of a broken heart, some were neglected to the point of death, and some were hunted down and killed for attempting to escape.

There is not a moral practice ever commanded by God that results in this kind of pain, agony, heartache, loneliness and bad fruit as polygamy.

The pain that is experienced in polygamy is unequally shared by the females - yes there is difficulty in some areas for the husband, but its small and insignificant compared to what the women suffer. God is not the author if polygamy. God has better things planned for the women of His creation.

God does not show favoritism. And we'll be happy to meet with any of our viewers if you want to contend with us on those statements.

We'll look at the evidence together and determine right from the heart of God, to discover if its consistent with His character to have planned polygamy or made it part of his sanctification process and plan for eternal life.

So let's look at some quotes, from those pioneer Mormon women who experienced Joseph Smith's polygamy:

We're going to be with the U.S. Presidential candidate Mitt Romney's ancestor, his great-grandmother, Hannah Hood Hill, was the daughter of polygamists... & she also was a plural wife.... She wrote in her autobiography about how she "used to walk the floor and shed tears of sorrow" over her own husband's multiple marriages.

<http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/2791809/posts>

Interesting that Mitt Romney proclaimed in a speech in 2008, that he would follow the faith of his fathers. The faith of Mitt Romney's fathers, is definitely polygamy.

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Sarah Pratt "Here was my husband," she said, "gray headed, taking to his bed young girls in mockery of marriage. Of course there could be no joy for him ... except the indulgence of his fanaticism and of something else, perhaps, which I hesitate to mention."

*-Sarah Pratt speaking of her husband, Orson Pratt who dated a 16 year old girl (and then married her) when he was 57.*

Isn't it rather hypocritical for the Modern LDS to Damn Warren Jeffs when their own revered apostles did the same things ?

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Mary Ann Angell - plural wife of the KING of polygamy himself, Brigham Young:

"God will be very cruel if he does not give us poor women adequate compensation for the trials we have endured in polygamy."

http://www.i4m.com/think/sexuality/polygamy_sex.htm

Sounds like Mary Ann was a miserable polygamist wife.

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Zina Huntington, widow of Smith and plural wife of Brigham Young,

"It is the duty of the first wife to regard her husband not with a selfish devotion... she must regard her husband with indifference, and with no other feeling than that of reverence, for love we regard as a false sentiment; a feeling which should have no existence in polygamy..."

*The Lion of the Lord, pp. 229-230*

How sad, that these polygamist women could not even dream of having a love affair with their own husband...

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Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, v. 9, p. 37 "Sisters, do you wish to make yourselves happy? Then what is your duty? It is for you to bear children... are you tormenting yourselves by thinking that your husbands do not love you? I would not care whether they loved a particle or not; but I would cry out, like one of old, in the joy of my heart, 'I have got a man from the Lord! Hallelujah! I am a mother...'"

... and this is why we ask PWLIT! There is no true love to be found....

How horribly revolting that a man like BY who had dozens of wives, and showed partiality - he was rude, crude, unfeeling, and tells his wives, your joy is not in the husband but in the children he gives you. We can't help but wonder how much enjoyment Brigham Young

experienced in his bedroom encounters with each woman in his harem?

We've even read the story that B Young met a nice little 10 year old boy one day on the street, and asked his mother who that proper mannered young person was. And she politely, but coldly answered, he is your son sir...and turned and walked away..

Ann Eliza Young, plural wife of Brigham Young:"One woman said to me ... while giving me some of her experiences in polygamy: 'The greatest trial I ever endured in my life was living with my husband and deceiving him, by receiving Joseph's attentions whenever he chose to come to me.' ... some of these women have since said they did not know who was the Father of her children; this is not to be wondered at, for after Joseph's declaration annulling all Gentile marriages, the greatest promiscuity was practiced; and, indeed, all sense of morality seemed to have been lost by a portion at least of the church." *Wife No. 19, 1876, pp. 70-71*

And we ask, 12 million members of the LDS Church and 50 to 100,000 polygamists place their eternity in the hands of this promiscuous self-proclaimed prophet of God? Spiritual suicide!

Do you know what willing blindness is?

Its when you have all the facts available. All the facts are knowable, and you choose not to investigate, you close mind, your eyes and ears and walk away from the opportunity to discover the truth. 12 Million Mormons and tens of thousands of polygamists are willingly blind.

Mormon polygamists declared that polygamy was the highest principle possible given by God.... Annie Clark Tanner said:

"As a girl I had been proud that my father and mother had obeyed the highest principle in the Church... I was aware now that my mother's early married life must have been humiliating and joyless on many occasions because of her position as a second wife." *A Mormon Mother, 1969, p. 133*

She also said:

"A woman in polygamy is compelled by her lone position to make a confidant of her children."

Ibid pg 236

Its pitiful that her husband was not fulfilling that position ... he is the one who should be her lover and confidant...

Sarah Pratt wife of Orson Pratt:

"Polygamy completely demoralizes good men and makes bad men correspondingly worse. As for the women—well, God help them! First wives it renders desperate, or else heart-broken, mean-spirited creatures."

And I'm here to tell you, I have seen that to be true.

There was and is much Cruelty in polygamy:Ann Eliza Young, letter to Mormon Women, "It is the very refinement of cruelty, this polygamy, and it's hurt are deeper and more

poisonous than any other wounds can be. They never heal, but grow constantly more painful, until it makes life unendurable."

"Letter Number Two," in Froiseth, ed. *The Women of Mormonism*, pp. 169-170

-----Vilate Kimball wife of Heber C Kimball:

"She [the plural wife] must lay aside wholly all interest or thought in what her husband was doing while he was away from her... [and be] pleased to see him when he came in as she was pleased to see any friend."

"*Theatrical and Social Affairs in Utah*," by S.A. Cooks, pp. 5-6, Bancroft Library, see *Isn't One Wife Enough*, p. 209

We wonder how Vilate put up with her polygamist husband when we consider his infamous comment: "I think no more of taking another wife than I do of buying a cow, and if you want to build up the kingdom you must take more wives."

Heber C. Kimball, quoted in Jennie Anderson Froiseth, ed., *The Women of Mormonism: or the Story of Polygamy As Told by the Victims Themselves*, 1886;

see Abanes, *One Nation Under Gods*, p. 295

GET ORIGINAL QUOTE SANDRA GAVE ME-----

Helen Mar Kimball (14 year-old wife of Joseph)

and daughter of HCK and Vilate said:

"I had, ... when seeing the trials of my mother, felt to rebel. I hated polygamy in my heart."

<http://www.wivesofjosephsmith.org/26-HelenMarKimball.htm>

She also wrote:

"I would never have been sealed to Joseph had I known it was anything more than ceremony. I was young, and they deceived me, by saying the salvation of our whole family depended on it."

-Helen Mar Kimball, *Mormon Polygamy: A History*, p. 53

Obviously sexual activity was the "more than a ceremony" part of her marriage to pedophile Joseph Smith.

Emmeline B. Wells: "O, if my husband could only love me even a little and not seem to be perfectly indifferent to any sensation of that kind.... O my poor aching heart when shall it rest its burden only on the Lord." *diary date of September 30, 1874*, quoted in Van Wagoner, *Mormon Polygamy*, p. 94

... again we have to ask: What kind of love is this polygamy? Obviously not the kind of love that God ordained for a man to have for his wife in their mutual commitment to a lifelong, monogamous marriage.

Brigham Young gave Mormon women a 2-week deadline: Leave or stop complaining about polygamy. "... it is frequently happening that women say they are UNHAPPY. Men will say, 'My wife, though a most excellent woman, has NOT SEEN A HAPPY DAY SINCE I TOOK MY

SECOND WIFE,' 'No, NOT A HAPPY DAY FOR A YEAR,' says one; and another HAS NOT SEEN A HAPPY DAY FOR FIVE YEARS. It is said that women are tied down and abused: that they are misused and have not the liberty they ought to have; that many of them ARE WADING THROUGH A PERFECT FLOOD OF TEARS,...

"... I am going to give you from this time to the 6th day of October next... that you may determine whether you wish to stay with your husbands or not, and then I am going TO SET EVERY WOMAN AT LIBERTY...

AND MY WIVES have got to do one of two things; either round up their shoulders ... and live their religion, OR THEY MAY LEAVE ... I will go into heaven alone, rather than have SCRATCHING AND FIGHTING AROUND ME. I WILL SET ALL AT LIBERTY.....

.... but if you stay... you shall comply with the law of God, and that ... WITHOUT ANY MURMURING AND WHINING.

... "SISTERS, I AM NOT JOKING, I KNOW THAT THERE IS NO CESSATION TO THE EVERLASTING WHINING OF MANY OF THE WOMEN IN THIS TERRITORY;

...if the women will turn from the commandments of God and continue to despise the order of heaven, I will pray that the curse of the Almighty may be close to their heels, and that it may be following them all the day long....

"Prepare yourselves for two weeks from to-morrow; and I will tell you now, that if you will tarry with your husbands, after I HAVE SET YOU FREE, YOU MUST BOW DOWN TO IT, and SUBMIT yourselves to the CELESTIAL LAW. You may go where you please, after two weeks from to-morrow; but, remember, that I WILL NOT HEAR ANY MORE OF THIS WHINING."

(Sermon by Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 4., pp. 55-57; also printed in Deseret News, Vol. 6, pp. 235-236)

Brigham Young would have not been forced to proclaim this ultimatum if the polygamist women were free and happy with polygamy, with their husbands and with their sister wives. Notice the remarks of the complaining, whining, murmuring, scratching and fighting. Sounds like polygamy was heaven on earth doesn't it?

Why would Brigham Young have the power and authority to set the women at liberty?

Only slaves need liberty, a free person doesn't need permission to be set free.

That remark clearly shows that Early Mormonism was autocratic - theocratic - despotic - and cruel - and that the female population was indeed enslaved to polygamy, to Mormonism and to their men.

Also, this setting free offer to the women was a safe ultimatum, because if a wife decided she wanted out, they wouldn't let her take her kids - she'd have to leave alone -

where would she go?

Who would she go to?

Brigham Young knew his ultimatum was safe and would never be acted upon by the women who were enslaved by polygamy.

On top of that, B Young promised that he would pray a curse on every woman who made the choice to leave. That's Christian isn't it?

Didn't Jesus say to pray for our enemies, to bless them not to curse them?

The foundation of Mormonism is not Christian, and they never wanted to be referred to as Christian, and their practices were decidedly not Christian Biblical practices.

How about some quotes from contemporary polygamist women, we'll start with Mary Mackert, from the DVD, Lifting the Veil of Polygamy:

"You stuff your feelings so long that you just don't feel your feelings anymore."

Author of "The Sixth of Seven Wives"

Susan Ray Schmidt, was also in LTVOP and the 6th wife of Verlan LeBaron: "After reading Section 132 of the D&C, I came to the only conclusion possible, that God loved his sons much more than his daughters. How could this be possible? We were created in His image, weren't we? Did he love and value my son more than my daughter? Oh, this just didn't make sense.

She cried out to God with a broken heart:

"God, Oh, Heavenly Father, Can this be true? If it is, then you obviously love your sons much more than your daughters! Aren't we just as lovely and valuable a creation?

Why should a man deserve so many women to love and care for him, to desire and adore him so that he's never lonely, and yet his wives are heartbroken, abandoned and forlorn?

We raise our children by ourselves and they hardly know their father, I don't understand! Why? The men get to be gods, and we're just their handmaidens! Is that fair? Is it? Can this be right? God! Why did you bother to give women a heart and a mind and a brain? Please help me. I'm confused..." *His Favorite Wife, pg 352*

Carolyn Jessop polygamist wife to Merrill Jessop of the FLDS, who BTW, is the one whose trial began this week:

After her marriage to Merrill, she was introduced to some men at a restaurant as his new wife, "...they were happy and excited for Merrill. I felt like a complete object. One of the men made some lame joke that compared a new wife to a dog. Merrill laughed and said dogs were better because they were more loyal. He made another joke comparing marriage to a bath. 'Once you get into it, it's not so hot.' The men laughed. I never felt so degraded."

Carolyn Jessop, author of *Escape!* Pg 81

IRENE SPENCER, the 2nd wife of Verlan LeBaron, "I've personally known hundreds of plural wives. Their smiles are a facade required of them by their husbands and spiritual leaders. It's up to the women to make plural marriage appear to be the superior mode of marriage. It's demanded that the wives present themselves as united with one another, with their husbands, and with their religious communities. The success of plural marriage depends entirely on their willingness to play the sacrificial role and play it well."

Shattered Dreams, pg 382

Jenny Jessop Larson of the FLDS wrote: "God really does have it in for women!

God tells men who to marry and yet we're all supposed to be his children. No one ever

talked about God asking if the girls minded who he had chosen for them. Besides, why did he have to tell it to a man? Didn't he think girls had ears? I know of quite a few girls that were told who to marry, they didn't like the idea at all. Even tears didn't keep them from being given to some old geezer they didn't want.

If its God's will and you get your reward in heaven, you must keep in mind that the more you suffer here the bigger the reward in Heaven. Hogwash! If that's the kind of God we have sitting up there in Heaven either looking down on us with a frown or a smile, depending on if we are obedient to what those men say, then I'll take Hell! Can't those brainwashed women see through the scheme?

Jenny Jessop Larson, From Brainwash to Hogwash, pg 85-86