

This update compliments our newsletter “The Midwest Expositor” and is sent to our faithful prayer/financial partners. Your faithfulness allows us to educate Christians about the false teachings of Mormonism, and to begin the process of bringing truth to the Mormon people! “Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” Galatians 4:16

federal agents as this threat was communicated across state lines.

“id love to watch you all die”

That was the opening line of the email that was sent to us on December 23, 2006. The “id” is correct; that is the way it was sent. It was Saturday and I was downstairs with the Center open, sitting at the desk working on some paperwork, when Helen called down on the intercom from upstairs. “Is there anyone in the Center,” she asked. I said “No, I’m just working on the computer.” With urgency in her voice, she said “Lock the door and come upstairs right now!”

Sensing that something was definitely amiss, I locked up the Center and headed upstairs to the apartment were we live. When I walked into the living room, Helen had the laptop computer sitting on her lap and looked at me with tears in her eyes and said “Look at this! This is frightening. Rocky, I’m scared!”

I read the email and tried to console Helen as best I could. “This is the second threat against us this month,” she said, “This is beginning to scare me.”

I called the Chief of Police of Nauvoo and told him what we had received. He immediately dispatched one of his Officers to come and get a copy. I got on the phone and called lots of Pastors and friends and let them know what was happening and asked for prayers of protection. Thank you all for support, your kind words and most of all the lifting up of us and this ministry in your prayers.

The Criminal Analyst from the Illinois State Police came and got into our computer that the email came in on and pulled out the information on the electronic trail of the threatening email. He also told us, based off the previous information that he had, and the information in our computer, that they believed they knew who the perpetrator was. As of this writing, it appears the person is from Utah.

We are waiting to hear what the next steps will be by the Illinois State Police and possibly

THE LETTER

On December 2nd, Nauvoo held their annual “Christmas Walk,” which is intended to entice folks to come into town and shop for Christmas. All the stores are supposed to have hot chocolate and cider, cookies and Christmas candies out to make the day enjoyable. We had the Center open and several folks stopped in just to say hello and wish us a Merry Christmas. We were fairly busy that day with probably the better part of 20 plus guests. I knew everyone, or did at the end of their visit, except two women who came into the Center when I had two couples already engaged in a nice conversation.

The two women were about 30 years old, and that is about as much as I could tell you about them. When they came in I turned to them and asked if I could help them. “No, we’re just looking around,” they said. I replied, “Feel free,” and returned to the conversation with the two couples.

The two women immediately split up, one staying up at the front of the Center and the other going to the back by the rear book display counters. The woman who went to the back was only there for a minute before she returned to the front, joined up with the other woman and headed towards the front door. I turned to them and asked, “Do you have any questions?” One of them hesitatingly said, “No, we were just looking for Nativity Scenes.” I replied, “Well, there’s one in the front window there and one right here next to me on this counter.” The two women, looked over at the crystal Nativity Scene on the counter by me, turned and out the door they went.

I didn’t think too much about the whole event until that evening when I was closing up the Center. Lying on one of the back book counters was a business sized envelope that had written on the outside in large block letters “TRUTH OUTREACH” and right under that “ROCKY & HELEN HULSE.” I opened it up and inside was a whole page printed off on a computer printer about how Helen and I would be judged for

fighting against “The only true Church on the face of the earth,” which is a standard Mormon Church line about itself.

There were several unique Mormon statements in the body of the letter which were clearly Mormonese. Here’s a sample paragraph, **“Christ, Jesus appeared on the pulpit to an entire congregation at the restoral of the gospel, during a meeting to dedicate the Kirtland Temple – Christ himself appeared and accepted the dedication of the Temple for his service. Oh that you could have been there and seen such a witness of divinity – we are His, by His own mouth He has spoken it – read the preface to the Doctrine and Covenants ---”**.

There are two unique Mormonese statements in that paragraph. First, the reference to the dedication ceremony of the Kirtland Temple (the Kirtland Temple was the first Mormon temple, which was built in Kirtland, Ohio), second, the last statement telling us to read the “preface to the Doctrine and Covenants.” The Doctrine and Covenants is a unique book of the Mormon canon. Mormons believe it contains the prophecies given to Joseph Smith; they consider this book to be scripture.

Coming into the Center and leaving the letter on the counter is very brazen, and ratchets these threats up to a new level.

AN ATTACK AGAINST OUR TV AND RADIO PROGRAMS

The outside of the envelope, as I’ve previously said, was addressed “TRUTH OUTREACH,” which is the name of our weekly TV show on the Christian Television Network. Also, one of the statements made in the letter was very clearly directed at our TV show and possibly Helen’s radio program on KAYP, an American Family Radio affiliate, and our other radio appearances. The statement in the letter read, **“If ye have a witness of it, see to it that ye testify rightly and justify not yourselves in delaying your repentance as ye are accountable for every word instructed by mouth or media.”**

I believe the **“media”** reference is quite explicitly directed at the many opportunities the Lord has opened to Helen and I on TV and radio. Obviously, the use of the “media” that the Lord

has provided is being quite effective; why else would there be such a specific mention of the **“media.”**

One other thing that is noticeable in this letter that is common to Mormonese is that Mormons like to write in King James English; especially when they believe they are invoking their authority from god. Around my family, any public prayer, especially for the food, is always in King James English (We thank **thee** for this food...In the name of **thy** son Jesus Christ, Amen).

Helen and I have received two previous threatening letters through the mail: one last summer, postmarked “Salt Lake City,” that we read on one of our TV shows and one back in April 2002, postmarked “Burlington, Iowa,” when we the Directors of Mormon Missions Midwest Outreach.

“You made your bed, now you have to lay in it”

I called my parents on the day we received the email, after the Police Officer had come and taken a copy. My father answered the phone. I told him what had happened and that I didn’t know what kind of television or newspaper coverage this event could possibly produce. I said that I wanted them, my parents, to hear about it from me first, not the news.

My dad said, “What did you expect, fighting against the Church as you do?” I said, “Dad, I expect that if someone disagrees with me, that they would come forward with what they believe I’ve said in error and we could discuss it.” His reply to me was quite unexpected, “Well, you made your bed, now you have to lay in it.”

I must admit to you all, my flesh reacted immediately to that statement. Helen was very upset by this email with a direct statement about watching us die; however, this doesn’t excuse me not controlling my flesh. My voice ranged up significantly and I defensively said, “What kind of a religion could foster in a father the ability, when his son and daughter-in-law have received overt and veiled death threats, to make such a statement as ‘you made your bed, now you lay in it.’” He said, “Rocky, you are fighting against the only true church on the face of the earth.” I replied, “So, that deserves death threats, rather than having someone showing me where I am wrong?” He said, “You’re not teachable. You have been deceived by Satan and

are doing his work.” I said, “Then why don’t you show me where I’m wrong.” He said, “We’ll just see who’s right,” and he hung up.

Was I right in my reaction? No, I shouldn’t have allowed my emotions to raise my voice and place my dad in a defensive position; however, the question still remains, “What kind of a religion could foster in a father the ability, when his son and daughter-in-law have received overt and veiled death threats, to make such a statement as ‘you made your bed, now you lay in it.’”

When my father hung up on me, I had tears streaming down my face as I walked into the living room where Helen sat and saw her with tears streaming down her face as well. Folks, pray for my family, who are lost in this false religion. Pray that they will come to know the Jesus of the Bible, for only He can save them from their sins. Pray that doors will open and my family will come to know Jesus.

**“But as for you, ye
thought evil against me;
but God meant it unto
good...”**

Genesis 50:20, I believe is certainly what has become of these threats: “But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good...” Not that we aren’t taking these threats seriously, we are. We have put in deadbolts to outside doors that didn’t previously have them and in the rear and side of the building motion lights have been put up.

These threats, however, have resulted in four local newspapers writing articles which have brought our situation to the attention of many people in the area. Also, these articles are now listed on the “Google” search engine on the internet, which gives us huge exposure worldwide. So, what these persons have meant for evil, God can use for good.

I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

In the first chapter of the book of Romans, verse 16, Paul says “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew

first, and also to the Greek.” Those that send these threats are obviously ashamed of what they believe, because they don’t ever sign their names or provide return addresses so that we can contact them and attempt to answer whatever it was that offended them. If Mormonism is true, why are they so ashamed of it? Helen and I don’t do anything clandestinely; everything is out in the open. Our newsletters, website, TV shows, it doesn’t matter, all of the things we produce at this ministry are clearly marked and identified with us. Isn’t it amazing those who claim to be members of “the only true church on the face of the earth,” are ashamed to let their identities be known? Not really. Jesus says in John 3:19: “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

Instead of dialogue, they choose intimidation. If you have facts present them; if you have evidence, bring it forth; if you have truth, proclaim it; if however, you have none of the above, you have to resort to intimidation. I spent 33 years in the Navy, 26 of those years married to Helen (so she served right along with me), protecting the civil rights of Americans and citizens of the world, and I simply refuse to allow someone to try and intimidate me out of mine. I refuse to be intimidated for telling the truth!

Please pray with Helen and I for those who have sent these threats. Pray that their eyes may be opened. Pray that they may be loosed from the god of this world (II Cor 4:4) who has blinded their eyes.

Please pray for Helen and me also. Pray that we will have the fortitude to stand in the face of these threats and boldly proclaim the truth of God’s Word, compared to the false teachings of Mormonism.

Second Nauvoo Interfaith Symposium

On January 18th the Nauvoo Ministerial Association held its second Nauvoo Interfaith Symposium. In the July 2006 Midwest Expositor, we reported on last years symposium where the panel refused to answer our questions.

This year’s topic was “Rules of engagement: The conditions for continued Ecumenical Dialogue.” This year’s topic was a direct result

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of their refusal to answer our questions last year.

Attendance was way down compared to last year; less than 150 people, compared to last year's 400.

Pastor Pope, of Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA), was first and stated that panel members need to be honest. She said the Ministerial Assoc. could work together to promote the general well being of Nauvoo; however, they could not work together for spiritual integrity because they have incompatible differences.

Lee Ourth of the Community of Christ stated firmly no question should be asked which required a panel member to defend their faith.

Mark Anderson, Lay Minister from the Presbyterian Church said no question should attack the integrity of anyone's faith.

Bishop Wright, LDS, said questions should seek to point out similarities vice differences and no question should be asked that would disrespect someone's doctrines.

Father Tony from St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church stated the whole premise of these symposiums was "What's the truth here?" He said the only way the symposiums could continue is if there was open, transparent, honest, loving and truthful dialogue.

Finishing out the panelists was a statement from Dorothy Fellhauer of the United Methodist Church saying "Judge not, that ye be not judged." Matt 7:1

Here's my take: Pastor Pope and Father Tony want these symposiums to be honest dialogue about each others theological positions.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Their common denominator was honesty. The two churches founded on Joseph Smith had a common denominator as well: no tough questions. The reason for their position is simple, if you allow them no wiggle room on their doctrine, they will be embarrassed because the teachings of Joseph Smith are radically unorthodox compared to Christianity.

Asking tough questions doesn't disrespect anyone. Why is asking for an honest answer about one's theological position disrespectful to start with? Matt 7:1: "Judge not, that ye be not judged", has four verses after it that when put in context say: It's alright to judge, just not hypocritically.

So, we'll see what happens in the next few months. It will be interesting

to see what theological question is first out of the gate. One thing for sure – the Joseph Smith based religions will not be truthful in their theological answers, because they can't. Truthful, answers about their theology will be embarrassing. Demanding the truth is never wrong!

In His Service and yours,
Rocky Hulse.

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