

## The Living Christ

There is no other church or organization upon the face of the earth that does more to promote and spread throughout the world the witness of the reality of the Lord Jesus Christ - his premortal immanence, his earthly ministry of love and unselfishness, his atoning sacrifice, his resurrection, and, his active involvement in the lives of men and women today, than the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"...without correct ideas of his character the minds of men could not have sufficient power with God to the exercise of faith necessary to the enjoyment of eternal life."

- Joseph Smith  
Lectures on Faith

"There are but a very few people in the world who understand rightly the character of God. The great majority of mankind do not comprehend anything, either that which is past, or that which is to come, as it respects their relationship to God. They do not know, neither do they understand the nature of that relationship and consequently they know but little above the brute beast, or more than to eat, drink and sleep. This is all man knows about God or his existence, unless it is given by the inspiration of the Almighty.

If a man learns nothing more than to eat, drink and sleep, and does not comprehend any of the designs of God, the beast comprehends the same things. It eats, drinks, sleeps, and knows nothing more about God; yet it knows as much as we, unless we are able to comprehend by the inspiration of Almighty God. If men do not comprehend the character of God, they do not comprehend themselves. I want to go back to the beginning, and so lift your minds into a more lofty sphere and a more exalted understanding than what the human mind generally aspires to."

- Joseph Smith  
"King Follett" Discourse

The world abounds with preachers and televangelists that teach the philosophies of men mixed with scripture. One popular preacher is noted for his promotion of attitude as a vital ingredient in life. Thousands of religious teachers explain to their congregations that faith is all you need -our works have nothing to do with salvation. One preacher, high aloft his podium in a spectacular, modern day cathedral exclaims, "tough times don't last, tough people do". Others focus singularly on a certain type of ministry such as music or youth motivation. So many miss the mark. So many "draw close to the Lord with their lips, but their hearts are from him".

The following points help to illustrate how central Christ is to our religion:

- o The name of the church
- o The Book of Mormon, Another Testament of Jesus Christ
- o Doctrine and Covenants
- o Temples
- o General Conference
- o Doctrine of the church
- o The Testimony of the Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints