The Salvation Discrepancy

Our Problem

- Why do we have these discrepancies?
- Because We did not study the Book of Mormon first.
 - We did not seek its principles
 - We did not understand its lessons on God, Salvation, Covenant.



Two Different Stories on Salvation.

• Both Ask How to be saved but.....Their approach is as far apart as possible

Ruler #1

Assumes only another work is required for Salvation

Ruler #2

<u>Realizes it is wickedness in his</u>

heart separating him from God

Ruler #1

Assumes <u>only another work</u> is required for Salvation

When Faced with his biggest struggle, shrinks and walks away from God.

Ruler #2

Realizes it is <u>wickedness in his</u> <u>heart</u> separating him from God

When faced with His biggest struggle, <u>confesses his Sin and</u> <u>God Enters In</u>. He receives

<u>Ruler #1</u>

Assumes <u>only another work</u> is required for Salvation

When Faced with his biggest struggle, shrinks and walks away from God.

He has no change of Heart and continues in his sin. Confused.

<u>Ruler #2</u>

Realizes it is **wickedness in his** <u>heart</u> separating him from God

When faced with His biggest struggle, <u>confesses his Sin and</u> <u>God Enters In</u>. He receives

Salvation marked by His Change of Heart and forever departs from sin. Assured.

<u>Ruler #1</u>

Assumes <u>only another work</u> is required for Salvation

When Faced with his biggest struggle, shrinks and walks away from God.

He has no change of Heart.

Mormonism / D&C have forever taught it just takes better works. This is the salvation we trust in.

Ruler #2

Realizes it is <u>wickedness in his</u> <u>heart</u> separating him from God

When faced with His biggest struggle, <u>confesses his Sin and</u> <u>God Enters In</u>. He receives Salvation marked by His Change of Heart.

The Book of Mormon have forever taught repentance, but we do not know or trust in this salvation.

Ruler #1-by works

Neither this ruler nor anyone around him is converted

Ruler #2-by repentance

This ruler and all his house are converted.

Ruler #1-by works

Has been talking to God and never realizes who He is.

Ruler #1-by works

Leaves in sorrow

Ruler #2-by repentance

Never before realized God, but calls out by repentance God enters and fully transforms him.

Ruler #2-by repentance

Lives Rejoicing.

Not long ago....

- Spent considerable time Comparing Salvation by Book of Mormon to D&C 76.
- Tried to draw similarities
- Drew from the stories of Prison House, Enoch.
-No

The Book of Mormon Teaches Salvation

- THERE IS NO IN-BETWEEN STATE OF SALVATION
- We are all under Justice.
- We will receive either JUSTICE or MERCY.
- Neither JUSTICE nor MERCY are mentioned in DC 76.
- Mercy through Jesus is the Only Offering of Salvation
- Salvation is about removal of SIN.
- Sin is removed completely, or completely retained.
- Salvation is full return to God or full separation from God.

The Fact that we don't Believe that JESUS IS GOD only further complicates our misunderstanding.

The Belief in God as 3 Levels is False

- God-rules over Celestial
- Jesus-Rules over Terrestrial
- The Spirit-Rules over Telestial.....
- Only confuses our understanding. These are incorrect.

We were cast out of God's Presence

- We exercised our will.
- The punishment was eternal separation from the Holy God.
- The ONLY way to return is to have our Sin removed.
- The cost of Humanities Sin was/is INFINITE. Our lives would end in Eternal Death, an INFINITE DEATH.
- Separation from God was Justice.
- Also, that God does not retract his words is also Justice.
- JUSTICE CAN NOT BE DENIED or BYPASSED.

Mosiah 8:65 Yea, neither can the Lord redeem such, For He cannot **den**y Himself, For He cannot **den**y **justice** when it hath its claim.

To Return to God's Presence

- ONLY THE PERFECT GOD COULD OFFER AN OFFERING to PAY THE ETERNAL DEBT.
- We must Exercise our Will to TURN FROM OUR SIN.
- When we turn from Sin and covenant to Keep His Commandments, God blesses with Holy Spirit.
- We walk a new life, not turning back to sin.
- Our Sin is removed by His blood.

Alma 16:213, 215 Therefore, there is nothing which is short of an infinite atonement which will suffice for the sins of the world, Therefore, it is expedient that there should be a great and last sacrifice.

And behold, this is the whole meaning of the law, every whit a pointing to that great and last sacrifice, And that great and last sacrifice will be the Son of God, yea, **infinite** and eternal. "And thus He shall bring salvation to all those who shall believe on His name,

To Return to God's Presence

- We are judged by our works in this life after we die. Our works become evidence of a changed heart.
- If our works were GOOD, Grace is applied and our sin FULLY REMOVED.
- If our works were EVIL, Grace is not applied and sin FULLY RETAINED.

No Prison House Salvation

• No Repentance Offered After this life.

Mosiah 1:126-127 Whereof they shall be judged, every man according to his works, whether they be good or whether they be evil. 'And if they be evil, they are consigned to an awful view of their own guilt and abominations, Which doth cause them to shrink from the presence of the Lord into a state of misery and endless torment from whence they can no more return; Therefore, they have drunk damnation to their own souls. (LDS: Mosiah 3:24)

1 Nephi 4:52

For the day should come that they must be **judged of their works**, **Yea, even the works which were done by the temporal body in their days of probation.** (LDS: <u>1 Nephi 15:32</u>)

But even DC 76 meaning was changed...

<u>Morphing Mormonism...Innumerable Inhabitants</u> <u>Misreading / Misunderstanding</u>

DC 76:7t But, behold, and lo, we saw the glory and <u>the inhabitants of the</u> <u>telestial world, that they were as innumerable as the stars in the firmament</u> of heaven, or as the sand upon the seashore, and heard the voice of the Lord saying...

...morphed into....

How many kingdoms there are has not been told to us; they are innumerable. (Discourses of Brigham Young, p.382)

How many glories and kingdoms will there be in eternity? You will see the same variety in eternity as you see in the world. (Discourses of Brigham Young, p.382)

Innumerable Inhabitants morphed into....

From this later scripture, (D&C, Sec. 76), we learn that there are three well-defined degrees in the future state, with numerous, perhaps numberless, gradations. . . . We hold that there is a wide difference between salvation and exaltation; that there are infinite gradations beyond the grave as there are here, and as there were in the state preceding this.

(The Story and Philosophy of "Mormonism,", p.131 James E. Talmage)

Innumerable Inhabitants morphed into....

We read in the Bible that there is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars.

In the book of Doctrine and Covenants, these glories are called telestial, terrestrial and celestial, which is the highest.

<u>These are worlds, different departments, or mansions, in our</u> <u>Father's house.</u> (Discourses of Brigham Young, p.382)

The God has held back his word or... God has Given his word...

DC 28:8b but remember that all my judgments are not given unto men; and as the words have gone forth out of my mouth, even so shall they be fulfilled;

2 Nephi 11:42 And the nations which shall possess them shall be judged of them, according to the words which are written; (LDS: 2 Nephi 25:22)

JUSTICE AND MERCY ARE PARALLEL PATHS GOING ON FOREVER.

The lines of Justice and Mercy never cross.

We can not suppose those receiving JUSTICE will later be allowed MERCY.

THIS WOULD DESTROY JUSTICE AND MERCY

Alma 9:53 For on such the plan of redemption could have no power, for **the works of justice could not be destroyed** according to the supreme goodness of God. (LDS: Alma 12:32)

Mercy can SATISFY JUSTICE, allowing full release of JUSTICE

Alma 16:217 And thus mercy can satisfy the demands of justice and encircles them in the arms of safety, While he that exerciseth no faith unto repentance is <u>exposed to the whole law</u> of the demands of justice; Therefore, only unto him that hath faith unto repentance is brought about the great and eternal plan of redemption.

(LDS: <u>Alma 34:16</u>)

IF Justice were destroyed, God would cease to be God.

Alma 19:95 Now the work of justice could not be destroyed - If so, God would cease to be God. (LDS: Alma 42:13)

MERCY MUST BE SOUGHT FOR IN THE FLESH.

Jesus stands between us and Justice.

There was ONLY ONE TREE in the Book of Mormon representing Salvation, not a grove of various trees.

There IS NO SALVATION APART FROM GOD.

Our Sin must fully be removed.

This comes by willingly repenting, turning from sin.

God is willing to forgive.

HIS DEATH PAID THE PRICE OF JUSTICE IF WE RESPOND. THIS IS GRACE.

GRACE IS APPLIED AFTER THE WORK OF RECONCILING YOUR WILL TO GOD'S WILL.

In the End...GOD TESTS THE MOST CRITICAL SIN IN OUR LIVES

Ruler #1-by works

Was Willing to give up NOTHING

Ruler #2-by repentance

Was Willing to give up EVERYTHING.

In the End

Ruler #1-by works

Was Willing to give up NOTHING

Ruler #2-by repentance

Was Willing to give up EVERYTHING.

But we don't know whether he did or had to. Perhaps he ended up with more. Doesn't Matter.

THE POINT IS THAT THESE THINGS DIDN'T MATTER TO HIM ANYMORE