

# Mitt Romney and the Mormon Church

## *Questions*

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**Mitt Romney and the Mormon Church:  
Questions**

By  
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by  
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## Introduction

Does it matter whether Barack Obama is a Muslim, Mitt Romney is a Mormon, John Kennedy was a Catholic or that George W. Bush was a Christian Fundamentalist? It all depends upon whether a president's religious beliefs causes him or her to act in a manner that is harmful to the national interest.

Necessarily, an informed evaluation of a candidate's qualifications requires answers to legitimate questions about their personal religious obligations which may conflict with their public responsibilities.

The People of the United States are still living with the consequences of the last time their president acted upon his internal religious beliefs instead of the external truth. George Bush deeply believed "he was called by God to lead the nation" and that he was "an instrument of Providence." Bush said, "Events aren't moved by blind change and chance ... [but] by the hand of a just and faithful God." Bush started an illegal and unjustified war in Iraq, which has cost the American People a trillion dollars, thousands of lives and untold suffering because "God told me to strike at al Qaeda and I struck them, and then he instructed me to strike at Saddam, which I did."

Mitt Romney believes that "Radical violent Islam seeks to destroy" America, and 34 percent of conservative Republicans persist in the belief that Barack Obama is a secret Muslim. Among those who accept that Obama is a Christian, however, 82 percent are comfortable with his religion, whereas only 75 percent of Republicans are comfortable with Romney's Mormon religion. At the same time, 50 percent of Americans claim to know little or nothing about Mormonism, 35 percent reject the religion as a Christian faith, and 42 percent state they would feel uncomfortable with a Mormon president. [1]

Speaking about his religion in 2007, Romney called upon the example of John Kennedy in saying "Like him, I am an American running for president. I do not define my candidacy by my religion. A person should not be elected because of his faith nor should he be rejected because of his faith."

There is, however, this difference between Kennedy and Romney. Kennedy was not a bishop in the Catholic Church under vows of obedience to the Pope. Even today, 50 years later, would the American People be comfortable electing a Catholic Bishop to be their president? Given the multiple controversies that continue to engulf the Catholic hierarchy, ranging from covering up the activities of pedophile priests, the unmarried male priesthood, and political lobbying on gay marriage and women's freedom of choice, it is difficult to believe even a majority of Catholics would favor the election of one of their own bishops.

Romney has also stated, "Let me assure you that no authorities of my church, or of any other church for that matter, will ever exert influence on presidential decisions. Their authority is theirs, within the province of church affairs, and it ends where the affairs of the nation begin."

What if the "affairs of the church" are intertwined with the "affairs of the nation"?

Does it matter if Romney is far more than a Sunday worshipper at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints -- that he and his family are in fact a part of the "Mormon Royalty" which has ruled the Church since its creation?

How high has Mitt Romney advanced in the Mormon priesthood, what is the nature of the church in which he worships, and what are his obligations to its priesthood?

## The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS)

In the early 1800s, many people were intrigued by the earth mounds throughout the Midwest and Northeast and the pre-Columbian civilizations which built them. Among them was Joseph Smith, Jr., who began to dig for lost treasure in the area where he lived in upstate New York.

Smith was arrested in 1826 for "glass-looking." He testified at his trial that by looking into his stone he could "discover treasures hidden in the bowels of the earth." He was convicted by a local court as being a "disorderly person" and allowed to escape by taking "leg bail."

Joseph Smith later testified that visits from an angel had already started three years earlier in 1823. After several more visits, the angel directed Smith in 1827 to a stone "of considerable size" on a nearby hill. Smith levered the stone aside and discovered a stone box containing thin golden plates held together on one side by three rings into a six-inch book. There was also a set of silver spectacles with stone lenses, which allowed Smith to translate the "reformed Egyptian" writing on the plates.

Primarily aided by his cousin, Oliver Cowdery, who had also been a treasure seeker, Smith "translated" the plates and returned them to the angel. He published the *Book of Mormon* on March 26, 1830 as a literal translation of the plates, for "the convincing of the Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, manifesting himself unto all nations..."

The original book lists Joseph Smith, Junior as "The Author and Proprietor." To date, there have been almost 4,000 changes to the text, including changing Smith from being the author to the translator. [2]

The *Book of Mormon* was criticized early on as being a plagiarism of other novels written at the time about pre-Columbian civilizations, including: *The Wonders of Nature*, (written by an acquaintance of Oliver Cowdery); the *View of the Hebrews or the tribes of Israel in America* (written by Cowdery's former minister); *A History of the American Indians*; [3] and *A Manuscript Found* written by Solomon Spalding, a disabled minister, whose manuscript was allegedly taken from the printer by Sidney Rigdon, Joseph Smith's first counselor.

Wayne L. Cowdrey (different spelling), a distant relative of Smith's scribe, comprehensively makes the case in *Who Really Wrote the Book of Mormon* that Spalding is the true author and that Smith, Cowdery and Rigdon originally and secretly formed the *Gold Bible Company* as a money-making scheme to sell the *Book of Mormon* as a novel, and only later decided to start a new religion based on the book. [4]

Mormon doctrine dates the various stories in the *Book of Mormon* to have taken place as early as 2200 B.C., in 586 B.C. and as late as 421 A.D.; however, the "reformed Egyptian" linguistic style of the plates is that of the King James version of the Bible, which was in common use at the time of Joseph Smith. Almost one-eighth of the *Book of Mormon* is virtually identical with verses from the King James version, which was not published until 1611 A.D. [5]

To date, nothing has been found in the archeological or paleontological record of the Americas about the various civilizations described in the *Book of Mormon*, the weapons they used, such as steel, scimitars and chariots, or their domestic animals, including horses, asses, oxen, cattle, swine, goats, sheep and elephants. None of these animals were existent in the pre-Columbian Americas. In addition, extensive world-wide DNA studies have failed to find any connection between Native Americans and the Middle East. [6]

Through a series of revelations, Smith appointed himself as the president and prophet of the high priesthood of the Mormon Church. He constructed his first temple in Kirtland, Ohio.

After he was fined for operating an illegal bank and forced out of Kirtland, Smith ultimately settled in and commenced construction of a second temple in Nauvoo, Illinois. Assisting in the construction was an English architect named Miles Romney, who had been converted by missionaries and immigrated to be with the "saints" in America. Mitt Romney is his great-great-grandson. [7]

Church doctrine holds that Smith was a "prophet, seer and revelator," as have been all subsequent presidents of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In its literature and on its website, the Church makes many references to the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible to establish parallels between traditional Christianity and Mormon doctrine; however, it does not publicize other official texts:

**Multiple Gods** "And they went down at the beginning, and they, that is the Gods, organized and formed the heavens and the earth." (*Abraham* 4:1)

**Extraterrestrial Origins** "Mankind are here because they are the offspring of parents who were first brought here from another planet..." (*Journal of Discourses* 7:285)

**Jesus and Satan Are Brothers** "And the Lord said: Whom shall I send [to make heaven and earth]? and one answered like unto the Son of Man: Here am I, send me. And another answered and said: Here am I send me. And the Lord said: I will send the first. And the second was angry,..." (*Abraham* 3:27-28) The Church teaches that the second son was Satan (or Lucifer) and that he and Jesus are actual brothers. (*Gospel Principles*, Chapter 3, pp 17-19)

**Other Churches are of the Devil** "Behold there are save two churches only; the one is the church of the Lamb of God (Mormon), and the other is the church of the devil (all others). (1 *Nephi* 14:10)

**Joseph Smith Is the Gatekeeper of Heaven** "...no man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith ....every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are .... He holds the keys of that kingdom....Joseph Smith, junior, was ordained to this great calling before the worlds were ... long before the foundations of the earth were laid, that he should be the man, in the last dispensation of this world, to bring forth the word of God to the people, and receive the fullness of the keys and power of the Priesthood of the Son of God." (*Journal of Discourses* 7:289)

**Worthy Mormon Men Become Gods** "The Lord created you and me for the purpose of becoming Gods like Himself" (*Journal of Discourses* 3:93). "Here then is eternal life - to know the only wise and true God; and you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves, and to be kings and priests to God the same as all Gods have done before you" (*Journal of Discourses* 6:4).

These beliefs are found in official Church documents, which were revealed to Joseph Smith and successor prophets, including the *Journal of Discourses*, *Doctrine and Covenants*, and the *Pearl of Great Price*, which contains the *Books of Moses and Abraham*. The last provides a scriptural foundation for the lineage of the Mormon priesthood through Abraham.



## The Mormon Priesthood

In July 1835, a travelling exhibit of four Egyptian mummies and papyri came to Kirtland, Ohio where the Church was then located. Joseph Smith examined the papyri and claimed to be able to interpret them. Even though the Rosetta Stone had been recently discovered in 1799, use of the stone to accurately translate Egyptian hieroglyphs was not generally known in America.

Smith purchased the mummies and at least five papyri documents, and he began to "interpret" them with his cousin, Oliver Cowdery, once again serving as his scribe. In 1842, the Church published Smith's "translations" as the *Book of Abraham* and later combined them with the *Book of Moses* in the *Pearl of Great Price*. [8]

Joseph Smith claimed the *Book of Abraham* was an actual writing by the biblical patriarch Abraham and that it including three images. Smith "interpreted" the second image to represent the heavens and earth, as well as other planets and stars. In specific, Smith found that the image "Is made to represent God, sitting upon his throne, clothed with power and authority with a crown of eternal light upon his head; representing also the grand Key-words of the Holy Priesthood, as revealed to Adam in the Garden of Eden, as also to Seth, Noah, Melchizedek, Abraham, and all to whom the Priesthood was revealed." [9]

The papyri from which the *Book of Abraham* was purportedly "translated" was in fact ordinary funerary documents widely found in many Egyptian tombs. The original papyri was thought to have been destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire; however, with the rediscovery of most of it in 1966, the Smith interpretations have been conclusively proven to be entirely fraudulent. Nonetheless, the Church continues to maintain they are a part of its canon supporting the authority of its priesthood through the lineage of Abraham. [10]

The Mormon priesthood was established through a revelation of the "Prophet" Joseph Smith in September 1832 (*Doctrine and Covenants* 84), and more fully developed and explained by a revelation in March 1835. (*Doctrine and Covenants* 107) In a prayer dated March 20, 1839, Smith curses and denies the priesthood to those who oppose "mine anointed" and to "their posterity after them from generation to generation." (*Doctrine and Covenants* 121)

The Mormon Aaronic priesthood was established on May 15, 1829 when John the Baptist descended from heaven in a cloud of light, "laid hands on the heads" of Joseph Smith and his cousin, Oliver Cowdery and ordained them into the "Priesthood of Aaron." (*Joseph Smith -- History*) Most Mormon boys are inducted into the Aaronic priesthood at age 12, if their local bishop finds them to be worthy. [11]

Mormon boys first serve as "deacons," then as "teachers" at age 14, and as "priests" at age 16, whereupon they are authorized to baptize and ordain others into the priesthood.

Young priests also attend monthly "fast and testimony meetings," where they are encouraged to testify that they "know" the Church and the *Book of Mormon* are true.

Such knowledge is not gained through reason, but by their "feeling" a manifestation of the Holy Spirit as a "burning in their bosom." [12]

Young priests are rewarded by increased leadership roles in the Church, as they display submissiveness and obedience as proof of their spirituality and worthiness. They are taught that questioning, or "contention" is the work of the devil. (3 *Nephi* 11:29)

Joseph Smith also claimed he was personally ordained as an apostle of the biblical Melchizedek priesthood by the Christian disciples Peter, James and John, who had received the priesthood from Jesus. The official Church history, however, states it was "manifested and conferred for the first time on several of the Elders" in 1831.

The Melchizedek priesthood provided the Church "saints" with the same power and authority of the original apostles of Christ, including the power to perform miracles, cast out devils and to heal the sick. The Church does not recognize the priesthood of other Christian churches, as it believes it was lost during the Great Apostasy, until it was restored by Joseph Smith. [13]

At age 18, worthy Aaronic priests are received into the Melchizedek priesthood, which is required for advancement in the Church, including becoming an "elder." Subsequently, further ordination as a "high priest" is required to serve as "bishops" and other higher leadership positions of the Church.

"Worthy" men and women of the Church receive written "recommends" from their bishops allowing them to participate in Temple ceremonies. The primary of these is the "Endowment Ceremony," a lengthy *tableau vivant* (now on video) in which creation, the tempting of Adam and Eve, the evil of other religions, revelation of the *Book of Mormon*, and other events of the Mormon liturgy are acted out in preparation for anointing the "true and faithful" as "Kings and Queens, Priests and Priestesses" of the Church. [14]

The Endowment Ceremony was introduced in 1842 by Joseph Smith (who had recently become an active Freemason), and many of the symbolic elements are identical to those used in Masonic ceremonies. As various tokens, signs, names and handshakes are revealed to them, candidates accept the "covenant and obligations of secrecy." Mormons believe these secret signs and tokens are required to get past the angels guarding the gates of Heaven. [15]

Candidates covenant to accept the "Laws of Obedience and Sacrifice," including tithing and life itself, if necessary. They must also vow to "consecrate yourselves, your time, talents, and everything which the Lord has blessed you, or with which he may bless you, to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for the building up of the kingdom of God on the earth and for the establishment of Zion." [16]

Thus, every blessing that ever flows to the endowed, including employment, wealth, family, health, and happiness is dedicated, indeed consecrated, to the Church for its benefit.

More than the minimum 10 percent tithe that is required of every member of the Church, high priests are expected to donate their time, health and energy to serve, unpaid, in advanced positions in the Church. Many serve as "missionaries" in

preparation for "callings" as bishops of local "wards" and as presidents of "stakes," which combine multiple wards and branches.

There are almost 3,000 Mormon stakes in the United States, all in the organizational pyramid under the leadership of the President of the Church, who is considered to be a prophet of God. He holds "all of the keys that pertain to the kingdom of God on the earth," and he is empowered to receive revelations for the entire world.

The President is assisted by two or more counselors in the "First Presidency," by the "Quorum of the Twelve Apostles," all of whom serve for life, and by the "Presiding Bishop," who oversees the bishoprics of congregations, worldwide.

The Presiding Bishop and two counselors supervise the corporate affairs of the Church, authorize the expenditure of tithing funds and govern the Corporation of the Presiding Bishop of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which is the legal owner of most church properties.

These high priests are the "General Authorities" of the Church.

Serving as a bridge between the stakes and the General Authorities are the "area seventies," which oversee the presidencies of the various areas around the world. Areas of the United States and Canada are directed by the "Presidency of the Seventy."

From its inception, the Church was organized for growth along military and corporate lines, and indeed, the Church has grown to become a corporate empire and a powerful political force.

## High Priest Mitt Romney

Mitt Romney is descended from both the Romney and Pratt families, which are considered within the Church to be "Mormon Royalty." [17] As such, much has been expected of him and, as a high priest, he has enthusiastically responded to a series of "callings" from the Mormon priesthood.

Romney first served as a missionary to France for two years in the Sixties. Upon his return, he was called to be his bishop's executive secretary and a member of the "bishopric" while attending Harvard in the late 1960s. Part of his job was to keep track of who had and had not paid their full tithing. [18]

In 1977, Romney was called to be one of two counselors to the Boston stake president. He continued to be "deeply engaged with how much individual wards and the members of those wards were contributing to the church...." [19]

He was called to be the bishop of the Belmont ward in Massachusetts in 1982 and served there until 1985. "As bishop, Romney held his flock to a high standard. He expected congregants to fill out the Tithing and Other Offerings slips available outside his office... He determined who could and could not carry a 'recommend,'..." [20]

Bishops serve as "Judges in Israel" and they are involved in every aspect of the lives of their congregations, including counseling members with marital and child raising problems, listening to confessions, determining repentance of sin, and reviewing employment and auditing the tithing disclosure statements of all members to ensure they are "worthy" for recommendations to attend temple ceremonies. [21]

High priests, such as Romney who serve in leadership positions in the Church, believe they are "called by God" and are endowed with the keys, rights and powers of "revelation" necessary to serve effectively in their calling.

Priestly "counseling" is presented under the "color of God's authority," and the worthiness and spirituality of the recipient is measured by their willingness to follow that counsel. [22]

Commenting on Romney's service, a former counselor stated, "It's basically a theocracy. If you want to question a church leader, you are really questioning the judgment of the savior, and that doesn't work." [25]

Romney was called to be the president of the Boston stake from 1985 to 1994. By this time, he was involved in Bain Capital. He appeared at one meeting and "proudly declared that he had taken time out from a corporate takeover to address his brethren." [23]

Romney focused his energies on membership growth and was instrumental in the construction of the Boston Mormon Temple. The Church released him from his obligations in 1994 so he could compete against Senator Ted Kennedy to represent Massachusetts in the U.S. Senate. [24]

Although Mitt Romney was defeated in the Senate race, he was elected governor of Massachusetts in 2002 and served a four-year term.

## The Mormon Corporate Empire

Following the Mormon Wars in 1838 and his expulsion from Missouri, Smith appointed himself as general and organized a Mormon militia known as the Nauvoo Legion, which was larger than the U.S. Army. At the height of his powers, Smith planned a millennial kingdom called Zion to encompass all of North and South America and to extend theocratic rule over the entire world. [26]

In 1844, after failing to obtain reassurances from the presidential candidates that they would protect Mormons, Smith became a candidate for president of the United States, suspended proselytizing, and sent out his "apostles" and hundreds of political missionaries to campaign for him. [27]

Smith believed the ideal government to be a theocratic monarchy and that he was an instrument in the destruction of secular government, which would be replaced by a "theodemocratic" Kingdom of God." [28]

He organized a secret Council of Fifty as a shadow government and authorized it to decide which secular laws the Mormons would obey. The Council elected Smith as "prophet, priest and king" of the millennial monarchy. [29]

Smith declared martial law on June 18, 1844 and mobilized the Nauvoo Legion. He was arrested and ordered to stand trial for treason; however, he was shot and killed in the Carthage, Illinois jail on June 27, 1844. Smith was survived by approximately 30 wives to whom he had been married or "sealed." [30]

A "White Horse Prophecy" arose among Smith's followers that a day would come in which the U.S. Constitution would "hang like a thread as fine as a silk fiber" and it would be saved by the Mormon priesthood.

The prophecy was approved by Smith's successor, Brigham Young, who led the Mormon migration to the Salt Lake Valley of Utah in 1847, when the area was still a part of Mexico. (*Journal of Discourses* 2:182)

If Joseph Smith was the "Jesus" of the Mormon Church, Brigham Young was its "Paul." Young set out to create a Mormon nation that would be recognized by the United States. With the end of the Mexican-American War and the Mexican Cession of 1848, however, the chosen area became a part of the United States.

Brigham Young first applied for territorial status, but when he learned that Texas and New Mexico were applying for statehood, he proposed the creation of the state of Deseret, which would encompass all of present day Utah, Nevada, Southern California, most of Arizona and parts of New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Oregon. [31]

Congress, however, created a much reduced Utah Territory, and Young was named as its governor. The Church continued to operate a secret shadow government of the state of Deseret, which ratified the laws of Utah, and raised a new Nauvoo Legion militia. [32]

One of the official acts of the state of Deseret was the legal incorporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1851.

Brigham Young revoked any rights Mormons of African descent may have had to become priests, saying "the Lord put a mark upon him, which is the flat nose and black skin. Trace mankind down to after the flood, and then another curse is pronounced on the same race -- that they should be the 'servant of servants;' and they will be, until that curse is removed; and the Abolitionist cannot help it, nor in the least alter that decree." (*Journal of Discourses* 7:290)

Young also formalized polygamy as official Church doctrine, saying "The only men who become Gods, even the Sons of God, are those who enter into polygamy." (*Journal of Discourses* 11:269)

With a high birth rate and the influx of new converts resulting from missionary activities, Salt Lake City became the center of a "commonwealth" of Mormon settlements that extended throughout the West and into Mexico. [33]

Disputes with the U.S. government came to a head with a military mission by the Buchanan administration in 1857 to quell the Mormon "rebellion." The recent mass slaughter of an immigrant party passing through the Utah Territory by Mormons may have resulted from the murder of one of Mitt Romney's great-great-grandfathers, Parley P. Pratt in Arkansas. The Mormons falsely blamed Pratt's death on some members of the party. [34]

Pratt was an original member of Joseph Smith's Quorum of Twelve Apostles and was killed by the husband of the last of his twelve wives, who had failed to obtain a legal divorce before being sealed in a "celestial marriage." Parley Pratt was survived by 30 children and 266 grandchildren, one of whom was Mitt Romney's paternal grandmother, Anna Amelia (Pratt) Romney. [35]

Young mobilized the Nauvoo Legion to resist the invasion and evacuated Salt Lake City; however, he quickly surrendered and brought an end to the Utah War. He resigned as governor of the Utah Territory shortly thereafter. [36]

Brigham Young died in 1877 at the age of 76. He was survived by 55 wives to whom he had been married or sealed and 56 children. [37]

Congress legally dissolved the Mormon Church in the United States in 1882 because of its practice of polygamy and seized all of the Church's property, including the tithes it had on deposit. [38]

Miles Romney had immigrated to Utah with the other Mormon pioneers, and he designed and built Brigham Young's winter home and a temple in St. George, Utah. He was assisted by his son, Miles Park Romney. [39]

As part of the Mormon "commonwealth," Miles Park Romney settled in Arizona with his five wives, with whom he fathered 33 children, including Mitt Romney's grandfather. To avoid arrest by U.S. marshals, Miles Romney fled to Mexico in 1885 with his extended family and settled in the state of Chihuahua. Mitt's father, George Romney was born in Mexico in 1907. [40]

In 1890, Church President Wilford Woodruff proclaimed a "revelation" and issued a manifesto banning polygamy. Utah was admitted as a state within its present

boundaries in 1896 on the condition that a ban on polygamy be included in the state constitution.

It was alleged, however, that the practice of polygamy continued and the Senate held hearings in 1903 to determine whether Mormon Apostle Reed Smoot should be seated as a U.S. senator. An additional issue was whether Smoot had taken the infamous Mormon Oath of Vengeance against the United States government for the death of Joseph Smith. [41]

A nephew of Joseph Smith, Jr. and then Prophet Joseph F. Smith, Sr., who had continued to cohabit with five wives with whom he had 48 children, testified in the hearings. Smoot was ultimately seated; however, President Smith's testimony illuminated the direction the Church was taking. [42]

In addition to being the President of the Church, Smith testified he was also, personally, president of the Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution, State Bank of Utah, Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company, Utah Sugar Company, Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company, Utah Light and Power Company, Salt Lake and Los Angeles Railroad Company, Salt Air Beach Company, Inland Crystal Salt Company, Salt Lake Dramatic Association, and the Salt Lake Knitting Company, as well as being the trustee of the Deseret News Publishing Company, vice president of the Bullion, Beck and Champion Mining Company, and a director of the Union Pacific Railway Corporation. [43]

The Church no longer sought to establish an independent political nation, but, using the tithes required of all members and the profits from its secular enterprises and investments, the "Mormon Corporation" began to establish an economic empire.

Even though the Church was early criticized for "having too much worldly wisdom connected with their religion ... holding out on the idea that the kingdom of Christ is to be composed of 'real estate, herds, flocks, silver, gold,' etc.," [44] Joseph Smith Jr. claimed that all of the Church's commercial enterprises were "spiritual" rather than "temporal." [45]

Brigham Young stated, "the kingdom of God cannot rise independent of Gentile nations until we produce, manufacture, and make every article of use, convenience or necessity among our people." Today, the purpose of the Mormon corporate empire is to help spread the message of Mormonism, increase economic self-reliance and to build the Kingdom of God on earth. [46]

President Joseph F. Smith may have served as the president of various Mormon corporations, but with the incorporation of the Corporation of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1923 as a "corporation sole," everything owned by the Church is the property of the corporation under the "sole" control of the President and Prophet of the Church. [47]

There is no legal requirement in the United States for the Church to disclose its financial statements, and it has not done so for more than 50 years -- not to the public nor to its own members. [48]

Other countries, such as Canada and the UK, do compel disclosure and using these and other sources, there have been a number of valiant attempts over the years to calculate and track the growing income, holdings and worth of the Church. [49]

With the candidacy of Mitt Romney, two recent business magazine articles have concluded that the Church takes in approximately \$7-8 billion a year in tithes from its active members and owns temples, meeting houses and other Church properties around the world worth approximately \$35 billion. The Church also controls commercial ventures, including shopping malls, ranches, farms and a theme park that are worth billions of dollars. These and its financial and stock investments produce additional billions of dollars in profits. The total value of the "Mormon Corporation" may be as great as \$40 billion. [50]

Included in the inventory are 14,465 acres of land in Jackson County, Missouri which the Church has reserved for the City of Zion as a "New Jerusalem," when Jesus returns to earth. [51]

The subsidiary, Deseret Management Corporation nets about \$1.2 billion each year from its for-profit operations which include a \$2 billion megamall in downtown Salt Lake City, "a newspaper, 11 radio stations, a TV station, a publishing and distribution company, a digital media company, a hospitality business, and an insurance business with assets worth \$3.3 billion." [52]

Another for-profit corporation, AgReserves, "together with other church-run agricultural affiliates, reportedly owns about 1 million acres in the continental U.S., on which the church has farms, hunting preserves, orchards, and ranches. These include the \$1 billion, 290,000 acre Deseret Ranches in Florida..." This makes the Church the largest rancher in the United States, and one of the largest in the world. [53]

Other for-profit real estate operations "own, develop, and manage malls, parking lots, office parks, residential buildings" and much more. [54]

The for-profit subsidiary corporations can legally tithe 10 percent of their net "profits" to the Church, allowing both to avoid the payment of income taxes. [55]

In 2011, *Newsweek* magazine said the Church "resembles a sanctified multination corporation ... with global ambitions." [56]

All Mormon financial operations are ultimately underwritten by the mandatory 10 percent tithe on all pre-tax income by all Mormon members who want to maintain temple privileges.

Mormons must pay their tithe before all other debts, even in bankruptcy, which, in Utah, ranks among the highest number of filings per capita in the Nation. [57]

Tithes are primarily collected locally in the wards during Sunday services, and "By Monday, ... the church authorities in Salt Lake City 'know every cent that's been collected and have made sure the money is deposited in banks.'" [58]

The operating budget of local ward congregations is set by its supervising stake president and is a tiny percentage of the amount collected. For example, a ward may collect \$750,000 a year in tithes, but has to operate on an annual budget of \$8,000. [59]



The frugality of the Church extends to its welfare system and charitable giving. Members suffering hard times are advised to solve their own problems and to look to their extended family for assistance. Only then, can they request cash or coupons from their bishop to be spent at the bishops' storehouse depots.

The welfare system is primarily funded, not through tithes, but by a "fast offering" by members who go without two meals a month and contribute the value of the meals in addition to their tithe. [60]

The Church gave \$1.3 billion in humanitarian aid (1/3 in monetary assistance and 2/3 in "material assistance") in other countries and territories between 1985 and 2010, or \$52 million annually. Its charitable giving, however, only represented 0.7 percent of its annual income, as compared to the 29 percent given by the Methodist Church. [61]

Even this cash flow is not enough for the Church. It separately maintains a "Temple Building Fund" to allow members to directly "contribute to the construction of new temples," to "eternally bless many lives," and to give "thousands more Latter-day Saints" the "privilege and blessings of temple ordinances." [62]

## A Membership Ponzi Scheme

The Church says, "At the time of the Restoration, the Lord commanded Joseph Smith to once again build temples on the earth." [63]

The Church currently operates 138 temples around the world to perform marriages, endowments and other ceremonies requiring worthiness recommendations to attend. Sixty-seven of these temples are in the United States.

The number of temples has almost doubled in the past 12 years, and the Church currently has 14 new temples under construction, three undergoing reconstruction, and 14 more are announced for construction in the near future. [64]

According to the Church, the purpose of so many temples is to "bring temple worship and its associated blessings closer to the people." [65] It has been noted, however, that many of these temples are "short on congregates." David Steward of the research group Cumorah states, "I have been to beautiful church buildings in Hungary and Ukraine, and Latvia and other places, and there are these huge buildings and 35 people there...." [66]

So, why is the Church on a temple-building spree and why is it spending its members' hard-earned tithes on building so many temples? One answer might be that without temples, there would be no compulsion for members to give up ten percent of their pre-tax income to the Church.

Another reason for having so many temples is to provide incentives to the priesthood, missionaries and their new converts. Just like a Ponzi investment scheme, the Church has to have a constant source of new tithers to replace those who become inactive or resign from the Church because they have become disenchanted with the Church, its secrecy, and its lack of legitimacy.

Although the Church does not account for the money it spends on advertising, it is apparent from ad campaigns such as the ubiquitous "I'm a Mormon" promotion of the Mormon religious brand, that the Church is very media savvy. The Church's website at mormon.org emphasizes the brand by supersizing the words, "JESUS CHRIST" in the Church logo and by a state-of-the-art media presentation.

The message is personally delivered by the more than 50,400 young missionary priests who are now knocking on doors around the world every day, preaching the gospel of the *Book of Mormon* and its exclusive franchise of redemption, salvation and celestial glory.

The missionaries are backed by a massive Mormon media conglomerate consisting of television and radio stations, satellite communications, publishing companies, newspapers, motion pictures and videos. The electronic Church communicates its story to the world and allows the General Authorities to provide guidance to all members in a matter of minutes.

These missionaries are most successful in preexisting Christian situations, and more than half of all new converts have been previously members of other Christian religions. [67]

The Church currently reports 14,441,346 members worldwide, with 6,229,233 in the United States; however, the rate of increase is decreasing, while the rate of attrition is accelerating faster than at any time in the Church's history. [68]

As many as half of those still on the Mormon membership rolls do not claim membership when polled or asked on the census. For example, in 2001, the Church claimed 5,311,000 members; while the U.S. census for the same year only identified 2,787,000 members. [69]

According to the Trinity College American Religious Identification Survey, there are only 4.4 million self-identified Mormon adults in the U.S., instead of the 6.2 million claimed by the Church. [70]

It has been estimated that more than 100,000 disaffected Mormons are presently leaving the Church each year, which is more than triple that of the 30,000 believed to have resigned each year in the mid 1990's. Altogether there may be as many as 3,164,000 ex-Mormons in the United States, which means there may be more ex-members and inactive members than active members. [71]

The Church believes that those who accept and then reject the Mormon doctrine will be judged more harshly than the "Gentiles" and "Jews" of other religions. Those who leave the Church are considered to be apostates who have fallen under the influence of Satan. Any member who shows sympathy for them is spiritually unworthy for temple attendance. [72]

Many ex-Mormons experience psychological depression, including feelings of betrayal and loneliness. There are numerous Internet websites offering comfort and counseling to former and recovering Mormons. These sites receive more than 100,000 visitors each day. [73]

## The Mormon Kingdom of God on Earth

The General Authorities of the Mormon Church are a dynasty of older white men, who are primarily retired successful businessmen and professionals. Most are descended from or related to others who have held the same or similar positions in the past, and their relatives and descendants will take their place in the future. Their proceedings are secret and no records or details are ever made public, unless there is a benefit to the Authorities. They are all considered to be prophets and their word is law within the Church. [74]

Current Mormon leaders no longer publicly promote a "theocratic monarchy" as the ideal government, but they continue to believe that in the "end of days," Jesus Christ will return to earth, and the Kingdom of God established by the Mormons will be here to welcome him.

Current Mormon President Monson has quoted with approval a statement by prior President Ezra Taft Benson, who served as U.S. President Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture for eight years. Benson said, "Every previous gospel dispensation has drifted into apostasy, but ours will not. True, there will be some individuals who will fall away; but the kingdom of God will remain intact to welcome the return of its head -- even Jesus Christ. While our generation will be comparable in wickedness to the days of Noah, when the Lord cleansed the earth by flood, there is a major difference this time. It is that God has saved for the final inning some of his strongest children, who will help bear off the Kingdom triumphantly. And that is where you come in, for you are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God." [75]

The Church believes it must prepare the way for the Second Coming of Jesus by building a Kingdom of God on earth. Mormons believe they have to be prepared to endure and survive that day when there "shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth shall be in commotion..." (*Doctrine and Covenant* 45:26)

Mormons are not alone in believing in a Second Coming. Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkin's 16 best sellers in the *Left Behind* series have thrilled millions of fundamentalist and evangelical Christians, who believe in a pre-tribulation rapture when the "elect" will be taken up. The difference with Mormonism is that most traditional Christians believe they just have to live their lives as though Jesus Christ could return at any moment, in order to not be "left behind" when he does.

Just as "Gentile" Christians have their apocalyptic literature, the "Saints" do as well. Duane S. Crowther writes in *Prophecy: Key to the Future*, "Latter-day Saint prophets have made many prophecies concerning a series of internal wars which will bring about the collapse of the government and domination of the United States. [These] wars will cause the complete collapse of national and state governments in the United States." [76]

A prominent Church educator, Hyrum L. Andrus defines the "Government of God" in the *Doctrines of the Kingdom* as being both a spiritual and a political kingdom. The kingdom of God has to obtain civil power and will ultimately replace all state governments when the nation has been "broken and destroyed." [77]

Mitt Romney's second cousin, Marion G. Romney served as a member of the General Authorities for 47 years until his death in 1988 when he was the First Counselor to President Benson. In 1975, he spoke about the Church's welfare plan, "This will be in preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in the not too distant future." [78]

The Church currently teaches, "Many of these signs are being fulfilled. Wickedness is everywhere. Nations are constantly at war. Earthquakes and other calamities are occurring. Many people now suffer from devastating storms, drought, hunger, and diseases. We can be certain that these calamities will become more severe before the Lord comes." (Gospel Principles, Chapter 43)

As the end approaches, the Church is becoming more authoritarian. Members are taught: "When our leaders speak, *the thinking has been done*. When they propose a plan -- it is God's plan. When they point the way, there is no other which is safe. When they give direction it should mark the end of controversy. God works in no other way. To think otherwise, without immediate repentance, may cost one his faith, may destroy his testimony, and leave him a stranger to the Kingdom of God." [79]

On the same subject, Marion Romney related advice given to him by Church President Heber J. Grant, "My boy, you always keep your eye on the President of the Church, and if he tells you to do something wrong, and you do it, the Lord will bless you for it." [80]

Among the 14 fundamentals preached by President Benson to students at Brigham Young University about the relationship of Mormon prophets (Church presidents) to the membership are: the living prophet is more important than the dead ones; and "The prophet and the presidency -- the living prophet and the First Presidency -- follow them and be blessed -- reject them and suffer." [81]

In addition to building an economic empire, the Mormon Church has continued to pursue political power in preparation for the Kingdom of God. The state of Utah is for all intent and purposes a Mormon theocracy. Its governor, both U.S. senators, all three of its congressmen and the majority of its legislators and state judges are Mormons. Legislators deny they are directly told what to do by the Church authorities, but admit they know which way to "vote based on values instilled in them as Mormons." [82]

In addition to the Utah senators and representatives, there are four more U.S. senators, including senate majority leader Harry Reid, and seven more congressmen representing other states in the Congress.

## The Power of the Church Over Mitt Romney

The election of Mitt Romney as president of the United States would represent the culmination of a century-and-a-half quest by the Mormon Church for national political power in preparation for the Kingdom of God.

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney's candidacy is only the last in a series of powerful "callings" to the members of his Mormon royal family, extending from his great-great-grandfather Miles Romney, who helped build Joseph Smith's second temple, through his great-great-grandfather Pratt, who was one of Joseph Smith's first Apostles, through his cousin Marion Romney, who served in the First Presidency of the Church, and through his father Michigan Governor George Romney, who tried and failed to be elected president.

Not only because of his royal family, or because of the high positions he and his family have held in the Church and government, Mitt Romney is no ordinary Mormon because he is what is known as an "iron-rodder" in the Church. These are the members who follow "a straight and narrow" path and who "are certain that prophetic revelation and scriptural instruction ... will lead them toward a righteous life and, eventually, godhood." [83]

As a student at Brigham Young University, Romney would testify during monthly "fireside testimonies" to his "belief that he lived in Heaven before being born on Earth, [and] that he became mortal in order to usher in the later days,..." [84]

Recalling the controversy in the early 1970s about blacks receiving the priesthood, fellow BYU students say that, [Mitt] "Romney appeared to have embraced the prevailing view that the ban was the word of God and thus unalterable without divine intervention." [85]

According to fellow Church members in Boston, Romney wept during services "with spiritual fervor and believed in a traditional brand of Mormonism that sought daily divine intervention." He would often begin speeches by explicitly channeling the Holy Spirit in the hopes of imbuing his remarks to the congregation with an aura of truth." [86]

During monthly "fast and testimony meetings," Romney would become teary-eyed as he testified, "I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet and that the church is true." [87]

The election of Mitt Romney would present an irreconcilable conflict of interest. If asked, he could not deny that he has been obedient to the priesthood hierarchy and has taken vows in the temple to consecrate every blessing, including the presidency of the United States, to the Church.

Even without being instructed to do or not do an official act concerning a Church interest, those vows and his more than 50 years of service to the priesthood would compel him to use the blessings of his office to benefit the Church in every case where the interests of the Church might conflict with the needs of the Nation. [88]

Romney has taken an oath of obedience and has been indoctrinated in a culture of obedience to divine power. It's easy for him to say "no authorities of my church ... will ever exert influence on presidential decisions," but what would he *do* if the living

Mormon Prophet experienced a divine revelation and called upon Romney to protect the Mormon Church and its Kingdom of God. As president, Romney would have the political and military power to do so, and he would be spiritually powerless to do otherwise.

Without resigning from the Mormon Church, and thereby becoming an apostate and outcast, Mitt Romney could not take any position contrary to the Mormon authorities because his very spirituality is judged by them. Not only can he be denied access to the temple, if he acts contrary to their wishes, he can be deprived of his access to the "Celestial Kingdom" upon death and all of its attendant rewards. [89]

## Necessary Questions

Over the past 30 years, a tremendous power has come to be concentrated in the "unitary presidency" of the United States, including the power to declare martial law by executive orders and to indefinitely imprison citizen "terrorists" in military facilities.

It is, therefore, essential that the People, who are being asked to vote for a highly-religious candidate, receive answers to legitimate questions about his beliefs, when the spiritual obligations of that religion may be paramount to the political duty owed to the People.

Perhaps as a result of his Mormon upbringing in which questioning is suppressed, Mitt Romney is operating a campaign of secrecy, in which he avoids answering questions about many issues, including the amount of taxes he has paid and the religious deductions he has claimed beyond the last two years.

Romney is asking the American People to take him on faith, yet he refuses to discuss his faith, as it has a bearing on the decisions he will be required to make if he is elected president.

Another of Mitt Romney's cousins, Park Romney has resigned from the Church. He has stated, "I think the notion that a candidate's religion should not be considered and weighed thoughtfully by his constituents is absurd. Mitt Romney is an active High Priest of the Mormon Church. Mitt Romney's Mormon faith is absolutely an issue." [90]

The mainstream media has demonstrated a reluctance to question Romney's Mormon religion; however, during the 2008 election, Barack Obama was forced to leave the Christian church he had attended for years and to publicly repudiate its pastor, Reverend Jeremiah Wright, following numerous stories about Wright's fiery sermons.

Romney has avoided personally attacking President Obama about his prior connection with Reverend Wright; however, he continues to say that Obama wants to make the United States "a less Christian nation."

Mitt Romney has stated, "There are some who would have a presidential candidate describe and explain his church's distinctive doctrines. To do so would enable the very religious test the founders prohibited in the Constitution."

Romney and his campaign managers are, however, very aggressively making an issue of President Obama's religion. He has said, "Unfortunately, possibly because of the people the president hangs around with, and their agenda, their secular agenda -- they have fought against religion." [91]

A current Romney television advertisement asks, "Who shares your values?" "President Obama used his health care plan to declare war on religion, forcing religious institutions to go against their faith." However, Romney now disavows the universal health care plan he implemented while governor of Massachusetts, which is virtually identical to the President's plan.

Born to and raised with privilege, Romney wants it all; he wants to attack Obama's religious principles and he wants to avoid answering questions about the legitimacy of his own religion and how it would affect his decisions, if elected.



During his 2007 campaign for the presidential nomination, Mitt Romney often appeared in front of a backdrop that said, "Ask Mitt Anything."

Given that encouragement, following are some of the legitimate questions which Mitt Romney should honestly answer regarding his qualifications to be president of the United States:

Do you accept the Mormon article of faith that the *Book of Mormon* is the "word of God?"

Do you believe the Mormon *Book of Abraham* was actually written by the patriarch Abraham?

Do you believe your candidacy for the presidency of the United States is a religious "calling?"

Have you ever "testified" to other Mormons about your "knowledge" that you lived in Heaven before being born on Earth?

Do you believe that, if worthy, you can become a God in the "celestial kingdom?"

If you made vows of consecration during your endowment, do you believe all of the blessings that have flowed to you, including the presidency of the United States, if elected, are intended for the Church?

Did you make a vow of obedience during your endowment ceremony?

Do you believe the Church should require the payment of tithes in order for its members to be worthy of temple attendance?

Do you believe the payment of the ten percent tithe by all Mormons is a condition of exaltation in their life following death?

Do you believe the Mormon Church should be operating for-profit businesses that compete with secular companies?

Given the fact that the tax burden of other tax payers is increased by the amount you deduct from your taxes for the payment of your tithe to the Mormon Church, do you agree that other tax payers have a right to know much you deduct?

Do you believe that the Mormon priesthood will govern the Kingdom of God on Earth at the time of the Second Coming of Jesus?

Do you believe Mormon President Thomas S. Monson is a prophet of God who receives revelations directly from God?

Do you believe ex-Mormons will be subject to eternal damnation because they have left the Church and deny the *Book of Mormon*?

The Mormon position on abortion is different from the existing law of the land. Do you believe you would be less worthy for temple worship and exaltation after death, if you enforce the current law as required by the presidential oath of office?

Just like all faith-based religions, there is an absence of objective, verifiable proof of the validity of the Mormon religion, but there is an abundance of evidence that the

Mormon Church was probably founded upon fraudulent premises, do you support an objective examination of the Church's claims?

If an objective examination of the Church's claims revealed them to be fraudulent, would you support revocation of the Church's tax exempt status?

## **Any Answers?**

It is highly unlikely there will be any answers forthcoming to these questions. Mitt Romney has avoided answering most questions about issues that might complicate his election chances, including issues where he has held prior inconsistent positions.

Mitt Romney has often "rebranded" his social and political beliefs to attract votes for the offices he has sought. He supported universal health care, women's freedom of choice and gay rights in order to be elected governor of Massachusetts; however, he now opposes "Obamacare" as an attack on religious freedom and promotes the more restrictive Mormon Church positions on gay rights and abortion.

Reflecting on the problems caused by his Mormon religion, Romney told a friend that he "wished the church could rebrand itself, replacing the name 'Mormon' with 'Latter-day Christian' to emphasize its belief in Jesus and the New Testament." [92]

Voters must assume that truthful answers to the above necessary questions would not benefit Mitt Romney's campaign for president, and they should make their voting decisions based on the answers suggested by the facts as they are objectively known.

## The Voters Must Decide the Case of Church Versus State

In a speech in 2007, Mitt Romney promised, "I will put no doctrine of any church above the plain duties of the office and the sovereign authority of the law." He also said, "I believe in my Mormon faith and I endeavor to live by it. My faith is the faith of my fathers. I will be true to them and to my beliefs." Which promise will prevail when the inevitable conflict arises?

Churches are increasingly taking an active role in political campaigns on social issues and lobbying governments to pass laws or to not pass laws affecting their religious beliefs. A recent example of the growing power of the Mormon Church to manipulate a political outcome was the California ballot initiative to outlaw same-sex marriage in 2008.

Five million dollars was raised in the last two weeks of the campaign, including \$1 million from the grandson of a former Mormon president. The Mormon leadership issued a statement to be read to every congregation urging members to become involved, and Mormons made up 80 to 90 percent of the volunteers who walked door-to-door. The proposition was narrowly defeated.

Michael R. Otterson, the managing director of public affairs for the Church said, "We've spoken out on other issues, we've spoken out on abortion, we've spoken out on those other kinds of things, but we don't get involved to the degree we did on this." [93]

Where do the People draw the line between church and state, and how do they ensure that no church achieves the power to dictate to their representatives?

The ultimate answer is found in the voting booth where common sense must decide how a person of conscience votes, rather than the dictates of others who claim a God-given power to tell them what to believe and how to think.

American voters are almost equally divided between democrats, republicans and independents, and a third of independents usually vote democratic and another third usually votes republican. Truly independent and politically active voters only represent about five percent of the overall electorate. [94]

Many independents (as well as republicans and democrats) are increasingly casting "fear votes," that is they vote for one candidate because they are more afraid of the other.

With the unlimited secret corporate spending now allowed by the Supreme Court in *Citizens United*, the 2012 presidential election promises to be the most expensive in history. It will also be the nastiest, since the avalanche of money will be used almost exclusively for negative advertising, which is designed to increase voter fear of the target candidate.

Fearful voters often blame the incumbent and are more likely to vote for the challenger, even if they have doubts about both. Voters have to have the courage and wisdom to determine the intellectual, rather than the emotional, basis of their fears. In doing so, they have to imagine what each candidate will do when the next environmental, economic or political crisis occurs. Should voters have to legitimately

fear that a candidate will not act in their best interests, because of a religious compulsion?

Voters of every political persuasion who are considering voting for Mitt Romney, and who think his religious convictions are benign, must carefully evaluate his religious beliefs to determine for themselves if that is true, and they have every right to do so.

Voters, who are becoming increasingly concerned about government intrusion into their lives and the loss of their personal freedoms, must ask themselves whether they want to vote for a president who has spent the last 50 years enthusiastically proselytizing for a secret religion that believes its priests have the sacred right to dictate the health, moral, psychological and financial decisions of its members. Is that a mindset they want in their president?

Voters have to honestly ask themselves whether Mitt Romney "shares their religious values" and if not, what those differences will mean to them, their families and their country, should he be elected president.

## **Vote!**

Probably, almost half of all eligible voters will not cast a vote in the November presidential election. Many of them are sickened by the negativity of the election process and many have come to believe it does not matter which candidate they vote for.

There are many reasons why voters may be displeased with the administration of Barack Obama. Conservatives blame him for failing to do more to improve the economic crisis he inherited from President Bush and for implementing Mitt Romney's universal health care plan. Progressives blame him for failing to end the Middle East wars and for increasing government surveillance and the curtailment of civil rights.

Some even believe President Obama is a Muslim and a secret member of the Islamic Jihad.

Voters will have choices other than Mitt Romney and Barack Obama in November. The Green Party and the Libertarian Party will both offer worthy candidates on the ballots of every state. Although it is unlikely their candidates will be successful, these candidates provide an opportunity for voters to vote their consciences, rather than their fears.

If dissatisfied with all candidates, voters have the power to write in their choice, even if the name is not on the ballot. Protest write-in votes will not be counted, however, is essential that voters demonstrate that the government belongs to the voters who elect it, rather than to those who try to buy elections and hire the People's representatives.

If every qualified voter were to cast a vote of conscience, based upon an intelligent and thoughtful consideration of the qualifications of every candidate, the election of 2012 could very well go down in history. Not because of who was elected, but because of the manner in which the People voted.

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For more than 40 years, William John Cox vigorously pursued a career in law enforcement, public policy and the law. As a police officer, he was an early leader in the “New Breed” movement to professionalize law enforcement.

Cox wrote the *Policy Manual* of the Los Angeles Police Department and the introductory chapters of the *Police Task Force Report* of the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals, which continues to define the role of the police in America.

As an attorney, Cox worked for the U.S. Department of Justice to implement national standards and goals, prosecuted cases for the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office, and operated a public interest law practice primarily dedicated to the defense of young people.

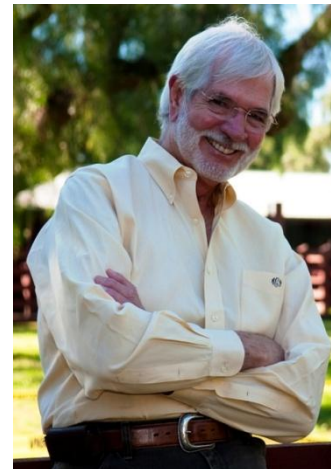
Professionally, Cox volunteered *pro bono* services in two landmark legal cases. In 1981, representing a Jewish survivor of Auschwitz, he investigated and successfully sued a group of radical right-wing organizations which denied the Holocaust. The case was later the subject of the Turner Network Television motion picture, *Never Forget*.

Cox later represented a “secret” client and arranged the publication of almost 1,800 photographs of ancient manuscripts that had been kept from the public for more than 40 years. *A Facsimile Edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls* was published in November 1991. His role in that effort is described by historian Neil Asher Silberman in *The Hidden Scrolls: Christianity, Judaism, and the War for the Dead Sea Scrolls*.

Cox retired as a Supervising Trial Counsel for the State Bar of California, where he led a team of attorneys and investigators who targeted the prosecution of attorneys accused of serious misconduct and criminal gangs engaged in the illegal practice of law.

Over the years, Cox has written extensively on public policy, politics, philosophy and the human condition.

[\[More at Wikipedia\]](#)



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## Other Titles by the Author

[\*You're Not Stupid! Get the Truth:\*](#)

[\*A Brief on the Bush Presidency\*](#)

(2004) Progressive Press

[\*Hello: We Speak the Truth\*](#)

(1978) CLS Publishing - Print

(2012) Mindkind Publications -Electronic

[\*Mindkind: Math & Physics for the New Millennium\*](#)

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[\*Time Travel to Ancient Math & Physics\*](#)

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(The companion book to *Mindkind*)

[\*The Man Who Ate His Fingers:\*](#)

[\*War & Justice\*](#)

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