

FREEDOM OF RELIGION



One of the greatest freedoms we have in the United States is the freedom of religion - the right to worship and practice our beliefs according to the dictates of our own conscience. Let us examine how those in the Mormon Church and those in Christian Churches have exercised this freedom.

MORMONS HAVE THE FREEDOM to add new Scriptures to the Bible. They have added three new books of "scripture" since 1830. They have not been denied the freedom to alter the original texts of the Bible. In the Mormon Church edition of the Bible they have added Joseph Smith's own translation to many passages.¹

CHRISTIANS HAVE THE FREEDOM to believe that the Bible is God's only faithful and authoritative communication to mankind. Christians are free to tell Mormons that the Bible has been vindicated by God through the evidence of archeology.² In contrast, none of the coins, cities, or countries of the people in the Book of Mormon have ever been discovered by archeologists. Christians are free to tell Mormons that there is not one single bit of scholarship from the Hebrew or Greek texts to support the Joseph Smith Translation of either the Old or New Testament. Christians are free to believe God's only inspired Word, the Bible.

MORMONS HAVE THE FREEDOM to believe in many gods³ and that the Father was born as a man,⁴ was married, and now dwells with his wife in heaven.⁵ They gave birth to many spirit children, among whom were Jesus,⁶ Lucifer,⁷ and the Holy Ghost.⁸ The Mormons are also free to believe that Jesus was born on earth through a natural, physical, husband-wife relationship between Heavenly Father and Mary, the mother of Jesus.⁹ Mormons also believe that all faithful members have the possibility of becoming gods too.¹⁰

CHRISTIANS HAVE THE FREEDOM to believe that God spoke clearly about Himself in the Bible. When God said that He is the ONLY GOD in existence, that meant there cannot be other gods in Heaven.¹¹ Scripture also tells us that there are Three distinct Persons as the One God.¹² The Father is

