



# The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ  
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## **Confidence Comer John F. Board**

In this week's *Confidence Comer* we want to examine just one false teaching of the Mormon Church. We know Christianity is the one true religion of the one true God. We also know that the Mormon faith

lays claim that God provided an additional revelation to one of their leaders. Such a claim contradicts the Bible.

This is not the only place that Mormon doctrine contradicts the Bible; for those who have examined the teaching of the Mormons, it becomes quite clear that their leaders often contradict Scripture. For example, take a passage we hear quoted often during this time of year.

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.... That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 1:18-20).

These are verses that Christians may wish to discuss with their Mormon friends. In the mid 1800's, at a General Conference of the Mormon Church, Brigham Young flatly contradicted the Bible's statement that Mary was "with child of the Holy Ghost." The Mormons believe that the Holy Ghost is a "personage" of spirit in the form of a man. To Mormons, God the Father and the Holy Ghost are two different Gods. Since only one could be the Father of Jesus, they believe it has to be God the Father. The Mormons claim to believe in the Bible, but they give their leaders and their writings to overrule and contradict the Bible, giving them higher authority than the Bible.

The Bible claims to be all that Christians need (2 Tim 3:16-17). When others claim additional revelations from God are valid and even allow them to override the Bible, it begins a slippery slope, and even worse, defeats the purpose God intended through the Bible—the revealing of His will so that mankind would know what He desires of them.

*jfb*

## **Cotton Candy Christianity**

Dan Jenkins

It was William Morrison and John C. Wharton of Nashville who made it become a reality. In 1897, they created the machine which used air and sugar to popularize the spread of a new product. You have eaten it since you were a child and likely call it cotton candy.

There are some interesting parallels between cotton candy and what has happened in the religious world since the Lord established the church. He established the church in a world whose appeal was to the outward aspects of religious life.

But, all that has changed. So much of religion in our land is like cotton candy. Cotton candy looks so great. You can get it in any color or flavor you desire. Our religious world is so divided that you can find any "flavor" of church you want. However, cotton candy has little nutritional value and doesn't really give you what you need. America feeds itself on the "sugar and air" mixture of religious cotton candy.

After you eat your two ounces of sugar and air, your body still needs more. Religion without deep Bible knowledge destroyed Israel and is destroying our land (Hos. 4:6). One cannot know the Lord without knowing His word (1 John 2:4). One cannot love the Lord and ignore keeping His word (John 14:15). This is our land. Religiously, we are feeding ourselves and starving our souls.

What an amazing world it would be if we sought to return to the spiritual food which fed the early church. Cotton candy Christianity is so far removed from the food Jesus gave the early church and seeks to give to us today.

*(I edited this article due to space restraints. Any changes in meaning that may be the result of my edit are solely the responsibility of me, Mitchell Lockhart.)*

## **Mitchell's Weekly Manna**

**Mitchell Lockhart**

### **Sunday's Sermons:**

**A.M. — How God Uses the Broken  
Luke 4:18-19**

**P.M. — The Disciple Whom Jesus Loved  
Luke 6:12-16**

## Can You Believe It?

Seems just like yesterday that we were closing out the last issues of *The Caller* for the calendar year 2017. Here we are with the last issue of 2018 and we are asking, "Can you believe it?" Another year has passed and I pray when we look back we can say that we have given our all for the Lord and His cause!

God has always required whole-hearted devotion from His followers. He has not required perfection, but He has required that our desire would be that we would be given wholly to Him. I think we all know that in today's world, with its many distractions, it takes great effort to remain wholly committed to God.

Consider the many varied distractions that Satan utilizes to keep us from being wholly committed to God. For adults it can be something that distracts us and keeps us divided in our loyalty to God. For young people it can be school or extra curricular activities. For the elderly it can be the difficulty of life. Whatever it is that Satan uses against us, be sure to know that we can overcome it (1 Cor. 10:13).

We stand at the end of one year, and Lord willing, the beginning of a New Year. This is a time that most all try to take inventory of their life and make resolutions to evoke positive change in their life. I think even the greatly committed Christians can still look to move closer to God in the coming year. This will best be accomplished by focusing on each day as it comes. Day by day will pass and soon we will be closing out 2019. If each day we give God the whole hearted devotion He deserves, when we, Lord willing, come to this time next year, we can feel thankful for our use of time.

Consider some practical ways we might ensure our whole-hearted devotion to God in 2019.

1. As you awake each morning take time to say a prayer to God who is with us.
2. Be certain that each day is filled with study and meditation of Scripture—it is God's mind and will revealed to His creation.
3. Be committed each day to letting your light shine for God. We are to be the salt of the earth. Do others see that your life is different because of the impact Deity has had upon it?
4. Remember each day that God is relying upon all of us as Christians to spread His word to others. How does He look at our efforts?
5. Make certain that you spend time in public worship of God! God has designed worship to benefit us as we draw near to Him! Do you attend each service that is available? If you do not you are missing out on a powerful resource that God intends for good.

As we close 2018 and this year's issues of *The Caller* let me thank you for the kind and encouraging feedback that so many of you have given. I have had men that I consider giants in the faith write to me and/or stop me when I have been on the FHU campus and comment on *The Caller*. I just received a call as I write this today from someone I love and respect dearly who provided an encouraging word regarding last week's article. So many members have from time to time commented on the articles. Others I know from previous labors continue to be taught from God's Word. It is great to be a part of this written medium and this wonderful congregation. From Brenna, Kayleigh, Emaleigh, and myself we thank you for all the support these past 10 years plus. We love you and wish you and yours the happiest of holidays with family and friends.

*John F. Board  
Elizabethtown, KY*