

Denver Snuffer Sunstone Talk: Other Sheep Indeed
Question and Answer
July 29, 2017

[Questions and Answers starts at 0:50:41]

Question 1: Admitting my ignorance upfront with this question, but in the effort to be more broadminded, the rumor has it that you have spoken to Jesus; and by asking this question I'm not saying, have you spoken to Jesus in a vision or a dream. Have you spoken to Jesus verbally or in His presence? And secondary question: How can I get it? [Audience laughter.]

Answer: Yes. . . and . . . read the Book of Mormon. The Book of Mormon is more or less a handbook on reconnecting with God. It tells history with one purpose in mind and that one purpose in mind is to track the path that was walked by those who repeatedly wind up encountering the Lord. His original faith included a promise that he will not leave us comfortless but that he would come and ultimately take up His abode with us. And that's as true today as has been throughout time.

Question 2: What's your stance on multiple mortal probations or reincarnation?

Answer: Um . . . Dude. [Laughter.] Multiple mortal probations is probably . . . , I'm going to put it this way, even if true, a distraction from the test that is presently underway. There are living today, that I've encountered, at least a dozen Peters I mean like Peter, New Testament Peter, back here again doing his thing. None of them fish though! [Laughter.] I've met a handful of Johns. I've met four or five Mary Magdalenes. I've met at least three Mother Marys. Ok. So assuming any one of them actually nailed it and they are that, what's that got to do with the price of cheese in Wisconsin? How's it going to help you? Are you honest? Are you kind? Are you charitable? No, Dude, I'm Peter! [Laughter.] I mean, once, long ago, far away, I walked on water, briefly, and I sank. But, dude, I did it and you haven't so, okay, watch me sprint into a pool and I'll accomplish kind of the same thing. I'll . . . stay . . . up . . . for . . . a little . . . What's it got to do with anything? Yes, maybe there's something to it. Probably not in a form in which most people believe in it, believe in it.

What's the definition of a creation? How often in a creation does one appear? If you look carefully at the scriptures, the disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration talking with Christ are given a fulsome vision of everything that is now going to unfold on in the future. And these are the disciples. This is Peter, James, and John, standing there on the mount, and they look at this and they look upon the long absence of their spirit from their bodies, and they regard it as a form of prison. And so they figure out an escape route. I mean, it's in the scriptures. John says, don't send me there. I want to stay in this arena and do battle here. And Peter and James (it's actually Jacob), James, say, Let us come speedily into your kingdom. Meaning, don't leave us

there, resurrect us. They will miss the resurrection because the first resurrection was when Christ came out of the grave and they were going to die after that, therefore, they were left there. They said, No, don't leave us there. And so they secured an early resurrection. So they're not in the spirit world. If a long time in the spirit world is not part of the agenda, then they had no reason to pick that up as an issue and have that discussion with the Lord and make the choices they did. Therefore, if multiple mortalities is like, you know, on Wednesday I die and on Monday I'll be resurrected and reborn as someone else, then there is no long absence of the spirit from the body—there's a continual return. So, yeah, but then you get into the definition of creation and how many creations have there been for this world and topics about which even Joseph kept his mouth shut, and so I'll put a cork in it . . . Yes, you had a question. [a little laughter]

Question 3: Yes, thanks for your talk. Curious about priesthood—either currently, your views on that, and then if that ties into the other sheep. I don't know if you've thought about that or just kind of curious on your thoughts on that.

Answer: At the time that John the Baptist visited Joseph and Oliver and conferred the priesthood, the form in which he conferred it was limited, but it was durable. And he prophesied that it would not be taken again from the earth until—it depends on whether you read Oliver's words or Joseph's words, that they may yet or until they do, the impression is still the same—there's some future sacrifice that is expected by the sons of Levi and that the priesthood will endure to then. So there is a form of priesthood upon the earth that is remarkably durable. Even the Jews that killed Christ held it. Pretty durable stuff. There's also in scripture a teaching that says that, all priesthood is one. The original name for which was the Holy Order after the Order of the Son of God. It's all that. But there are different degrees or portions of that one unified priesthood. Therefore, if you have anything, if you have any priesthood at all, you have some portion of the Holy Order after the Order of the Son of God, however limited that may be. I gave a talk in Orem in which I explained that the best way to regard priesthood is it's a fellowship. You can have priesthoods among all kinds of people. Women can have priesthoods, is a fellowship of women, but fellowship determines priesthood. If you have a fellowship of men, you have a priesthood of men. If you have a fellowship with angels, you have a priesthood that involves something called the keys of the Aaronic priesthood because your fellowship with angels has extended into the angelic realm. If you have fellowship with the Son of God, you have priesthood that's associated with that, and if you've been in the presence of the Father you have an association with him and you hold priesthood that is a Holy Order after the Order of the Son of God. And the degree to which a priesthood conferral upon a person takes effect is dependent upon the heed and diligence that they pursue the things of God and the degree to which they acquire a fellowship with such heavenly things.

Question 4: So you talked about finding truth in other cultures, other religions. You also touched on the idea that there may be truth but there is also error in all other religions. So what keys of knowledge, what tools do you use, to help discern between truth and error?

Answer: The most correct measuring stick, in my view, is the Book of Mormon, and as long as you have the Book of Mormon, you have the ability to make a comparison and if something reaffirms something I find there then I regard that as having passed the test. If it contradicts that, then I regard that as having failed the test, and if it harmonizes with it but it extends it beyond anything known to me, then I've got something to pray about, because the ultimate arbiter of truth is God. Thank you.