

The Quarterly Journal



THE NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH

VOL. 24, NO. 3

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2004

EDITOR: KEITH A. MORSE

“But the Bible is Full of Contradictions!” Pushing Through the Fog of Apparent Bible Discrepancies

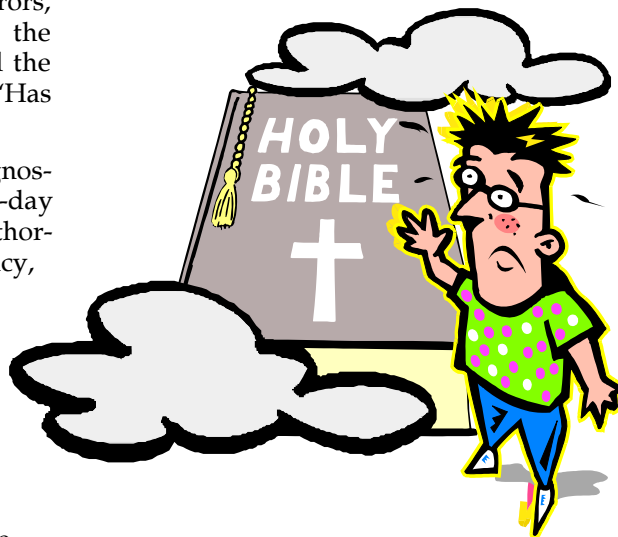
by G. Richard Fisher

Some charge the Bible with errors, discrepancies, and mistakes. In the Garden of Eden, Satan interjected the first doubt when he asked Eve, “Has God indeed said?”

The battle goes on. Atheist, agnostic, skeptic, liberal, and Latter-day Saint question the authority, authorship, integrity, historicity, inerrancy, and inspiration of Scripture.

This is not a new problem. Origen (c. 185-c. 254), not always known for orthodoxy, wrote:

“A person becomes a third type of peacemaker when he demonstrates that the things that appear to others to be a conflict in the Scriptures are actually no conflict at all. He demonstrates their harmony and peace — whether of the Old Scriptures with the New, or of the Law with the Prophets, or of the Gospels with the apostolic Scriptures, or of the apostolic Scriptures with each other. ... For he knows that all Scripture is the one perfect and harmonized in-



strument of God, from which different sounds give forth one saving voice to those who are willing to learn.”¹

There are three classes of people coming at this issue. The first is the *uninformed* and *misinformed*. An example of this type is one who says, “Oh, the Bible — it’s full of contradictions.” Offer them a Bible and ask to be shown one and a likely response will be, “Well, I’ve heard that from more than one person.” Latter-day Saints respond similarly. To camouflage the inconsistencies and disorder within their three other works regarded as inspired Scripture,² they often assert the Bible is replete with error. When asked to point out these errors, they often respond, “Well, I’m not a sriptorian!”

The second category is *dabblers*. They may have tried to read the Bible, but some sections were illogical and unconvincing to them. Unaware of them. (continues on page 15)

Inside this Issue:

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOON	PAGE 2
THE REDISCOVERY OF ANNE CATHERINE EMMERICH	PAGE 4
RASTAFARIANS: A RELIGION IN TURMOIL	PAGE 5