THE CHARM OF JOSEPH SMITH

Someone said, “If Joseph Smith had done all the bad things that his enemies have said that he did, he would have to live three life times.

Well, here is another little known item that most folks have not heard about.

The following information is being taken a book entitled, "No Help for The Widow’s Son", which documents the overwhelming evidence of the influence of ancient Masonry upon Joseph Smith and his LDS church.

---Published by Modern Microfilm Company in Salt Lake City.

Dr. Reed C. Durham, Jr., Director of the LDS Institute of Religion at The University of Utah addressed, The Mormon History Association Convention in Nauvoo, Ill. His speech was tape recorded and transcribed.

I have a photo copy of a hand signed letter addressed TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN by Reed Durham that he gave this address, April 20th 1974

He said that his fellow Mormons should not question his faith in Joseph Smith and the LDS church.

· He states that he knows that Joseph Smith was indeed a true prophet of God.

· And that temple work with all its ramifications including Eternal Marriage and the Endowment Ceremony is divinely inspired. Etc.

In his speech Dr. Durham says that Masonry can be traced back to the days of Solomon's Temple. (But it probably went back further than that.)

And that Joseph Smith obviously had no qualms in barrowing and adopting many things from Masonry, with all its ancient symbols and signs, and then incorporating them into his Church, --- such as the Endowment Ceremony.

Joseph Smith apparently believed he was correcting and restoring the ancient mysteries of Masonry.

It seems he wanted to unlock all kinds of ancient mysteries and then by the authority of constant revelation he modified, expanded, and amplified them and incorporate the restored truths into his Church.

Dr. Durham admitted that Mormonism and Masonry both include over a dozen peculiar elements that are almost identical, and that Masonry and Mormonism are inextricably intertwined.

Joseph Smith was a student of many ancient mysteries from remote antiquity, which can be traced back to Babylon, Egypt, the Magi of Media, and the Jewish Cabala.

But one of the strangest occultic mysteries of all was that Joseph Smith possessed a Masonic Medallion or Talisman on his person when he was shot.
A “Tal’-is-man” is a magical object or charm believed to bring one good luck.

It is similar to an Amulet, which is an ornament bearing an image or idol believed to have magical powers to ward off evil spirits, and to protect the wearer from sorcery.

In ancient Egypt and Babylon, Talismans were commonly worn suspended on the breast by a blue ribbon to augment well being.

They had to be fashioned at certain astrological times and then incense was burnt to them. A talisman is supposed to possess supernatural power to confer benefits upon the wearer.

In the middle ages astrological talisman were used by astrologers and fortune tellers to secure wealth, friendship, and honor.

Joseph Smith’s Talisman was in the shape of a silver dollar, made of silver, 9/16 inches in diameter, weighed slightly less that 1/2 ounce, inscribed on both sides, contained magical figures, strange words, and names of angels.

It was purchased from the Emma Smith Bidamon Family, which provided a notarized certificate of authenticity. The Emma Smith Bidamon Family referred to it as Joseph's Masonic Jewel.

It is presently in Utah in the Wilford Wood collection, DCM.

A magic book printed both in England and N. Y. containing a list of magic seals, listed the very Talisman of Joseph Smith.

It has been identified as a Jupiter Talisman. According to astrology Jupiter was Joseph Smith’s personal planet -- like a zodiac sign.

It carried the sign and image of the planet Jupiter, with a figure of the spirit of the planet.

Each planet such as Mercury, Venus, and Mars has its own properties.

In astrology, Jupiter signified the ability to rule over and control others.

The Greek name for Jupiter is Zeus, the ancient sky father or father of the gods. Jupiter is also called Jove, from which we get the word Jovial, meaning cheerful.

It also contained the Hebrew names of three other deities or intelligences.

Hebrew letters also have numerical values or equivalents.

The talisman of Joseph Smith also contained a magic square in which 4 rows of 4 columns, as well as the diagonals, all added up to the sum of 34 --- and adding 3 plus 4 equals 7 ---God's perfect number.

Thus it more appropriately called the Table of Jupiter.
Talismanic magic claims that any one who works skillfully with the Jupiter Table would obtain the power of stimulating one to offer their love to the possessor of the Talisman. This may have helped him with his pursuit of polygamy.

Joseph could invoke the names of deities by the table inscribed upon it. He could call upon the celestial intelligences assigned to his talisman to assist him in all endeavors.

The spirit of Jupiter was particularly concerned with oaths, treaties, and leagues.

In Numerology, Jupiter is concerned with material gifts and the fortunes of life.

The priests of Jupiter preformed a sacred form of “marriage for time and eternity.”

According to magic books, every year is controlled by one planet that directs the affairs of men for either good or evil.

Two years governed by Jupiter were 1805 and 1844--the years of Joseph Smith’s birth and death.

The day of the week governed by Jupiter was Thursday, which was the day Joseph Smith was shot.

SIGNIFICANCE

All this is an indication of Joseph Smith’s spiritual state of mind at the time of his death.

Clearly, at the end of his days, Joseph Smith was closely bound up with magic and astrology.

This information gives us an insight into the degenerated spiritual condition of the prophet, Joseph Smith, indicating why God may allowed him to be taken out of this world.

Why would Joseph Smith resort to other spirits rather than simply relying on the power of God for protection?

His Talisman was to protect him against unforeseen accidents and perils of violent death. But it didn’t work, did it! Some people think a rabbit's foot is good luck, but it didn't work for the rabbit!

Joseph Smith's talisman contained a prayer to Abbah (meaning Father) ---"Almighty God, uphold and support me." But personally praying to God is better than carrying around a written prayer.

BALAAM, THE PROPHET

Balaam also heard the Voice of the Lord at one time in his life, but later degenerated into a soothsayer.

King Saul prophesied at one time, but God quit answering Saul, so he resorted to a witch:

SAUL’S CONVERSION AND PROPHESIING
I Sam 10:9-13
9. And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.
10. And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.
11. And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?
12. And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?
13. And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

SAUL ENDED UP CONSULTING A WITCH

I Sam 28: 5-10
5. And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.
6. And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.
7. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.
8. And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.
9. And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?
10. And Saul sware to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

SAUL COMMITTED SUICIDE

4. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.
5. And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

ELVIS PRESLEY

Elvis Presley started out singing in a Pentecostal Church (like many others), so he must have known something about the Lord, but toward the end of his days he was studying psychic spiritualism books, when he over-dosed on drugs by his own hands.

My friend, Sanoo Patrap, a minister of India, who spent 6 hours in Heaven and 12 hours in Hell told me he saw Elvis twisting in torments, while demons were mocking and laughing at him.
POLYGAMY LED SOLOMAN, INTO BACKSLIDING

I Ki. 11:2-4
2. Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.
3. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.
4. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God

Also see Lk. 9:62; Jn. 6:63; Heb. 10:38.

THE PURE TRUTH VS WEAK AND WORLDLY THINGS

Paul, the Apostle, warns us in Gal. 4:9. But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?
10. Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.
11. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.

Some of these ancient “sciences” do seem to contain elements of original truths, just like the Zodiac can represent certain things about the plan of Salvation.

Ancient Babylonian Religion also seems to contain corrupted elements of the Gospel of Christ.

There may have been ancient revelations from God about the Savior, but as they came down through the history were miserably corrupted.

They bear similarities to the truth. There are some parallels, but such things are now a blend of the celestial and the underworld.

Why turn to corrupted old legends when we have the plain pure Word of God before us?

We must not mix Christianity with any other elements.

DELIVERANCE AND PROTECTION

Only faith and obedience to God will bring divine blessings and protection from evil. Only the Name and Blood of Jesus can drive away evil spirits or demons.

A school student could make a mathematical box add up to 34, which may be clever indeed, but such curiosities hold no spiritual value at all.

No little "doo-dad" or fetish has any spiritual or scientific connection with reality. There is no moral merit in wearing “spiritual” jewelry. God helps His people because he loves them, not because they may be wearing some little trinket.
Do you really think that a pastor or any other minister should be wearing a good luck charm?

No man of God or any other Christian has any business with such silly paganism. There is absolutely no room for superstition in the heart and life of a true Christian.

What business has any child of God seeking to gain riches, favor, or “love” by the power of ancient magic?

Numerology, Astrology, Mystical Cabalism, Astrology, Horoscope, Talisman Magic, etc. is all a pile of mythological garbage!

The whole pagan concept of “Good Luck” and “Bad Luck” is totally foreign to the teachings of the Word of God.

Black Magic is of the devil, like Christianity is of God. All these occultic pseudo-sciences are condemned by Scripture.

Over and over the Book of Mormon says, “Inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God, ye shall prosper in the land.”

CONCLUSION

Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God and a great Seer.

His gift was utterly supernatural!

He had an amazing gift from God to translate the ancient Nephite Record. His great contribution was incomparable, for which we are very grateful.

But not long after he translated the Book of Mormon, he clearly became deceived and misguided and no one should follow either his personal example or his false teachings, which clashed with both the Holy Bible and the Book of Mormon.

I prefer to follow the pure Word of God!