...from my Journal of January 1st, 1857, President Young said: "Mr. Buchanan, the President, was led to take the second story man of the Devil to govern the people (he the third) where I was introduced at Mr. Kimball's, Gen. Wells, Gen. Express, Albert Carrington, Elias Smith, and several others. I believe he is the Church, with the full power vested in the Church, with the full power of the President of the United States, congregation on general topics. I stated that I had come in quest of fuller knowledge concerning the doctrine and policy of the Church, and would like to ask some questions bearing on the same, if there were no objection. President Young answered his willingness to respond to all pertinent inquiries, the conversation proceeding substantially as follows:

H. G.—Am I to regard Mormonism (so called) as a new religion, or as simply a new development of Christianity?

B. Y.—We hold that there is no true Christian Church without a direct and divinely commissioned head, as the immediate communication with the Son of God and revelator of mind to God, is the spirit of Christianity. I know no other that even pretends to have present and direct revelations of God's will.

H. G.—Then I am to understand that you regard all other churches professing to be Christian as the Church of Christ? Do you regard all churches as the synagogues of Satan, as heretical and apostate?

B. Y.—Yes, substantially.

H. G.—Apart from this, in what respect do your doctrines differ essentially from those of our Protestant Churches? Do you regard Methodist, for example, as a Christian?

B. Y.—We hold the doctrines of Christianity as revealed in the Old and New Testaments—also in the Book of Mormon, which teaches the same doctrine of Christ as the Bible.

H. G.—Do you believe in the doctrine of the Trinity?

B. Y.—We do; but not exactly as it is held by other churches. We believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one. The Father is the Father of the spirit of Jesus Christ; the Son is the spirit of Jesus Christ; the Holy Ghost is the spirit of God, the Father. The three are one. The Holy Ghost is a personal spirit, a distinct conscious spiritual being, whose nature and office are lawfully assigned and authenticated.

H. G.—Do you believe in a personal devil, a distinct conscious spiritual being, whose nature and office are lawfully assigned and authenticated?

B. Y.—We do not.

H. G.—Do you hold the doctrine of eternal punishment?

B. Y.—We do, though perhaps not exactly as other churches do. We believe it as the Bible, Book of Mormon, and revelations teach it.

H. G.—Do you not regard baptism by immersion essential?

B. Y.—We do.

H. G.—Do you practice infant baptism?

B. Y.—No.

H. G.—Do you make remission of sins a prerequisite? Do you make remission of sins obligatory on your converts?

B. Y.—They would consider themselves greatly aggrieved if they were not invited hither. We hold to such a gathering together of God's people as the Bible describes, and we believe the time and place where I was introduced at Mr. Kimball's, Gen. Wells, Gen. Express, Albert Carrington, Elias Smith, and several others, is the place and the church with the full power vested in the President of the United States, congregation on general topics. I stated that I had come in quest of fuller knowledge concerning the doctrine and policy of the Church, and would like to ask some questions bearing on the same, if there were no objection. President Young answered his willingness to respond to all pertinent inquiries, the conversation proceeding substantially as follows:

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