

# CONTENTS

PREFACE	xi
<b>Chapter 1</b>	
<b>MORMONISM AND THE NATURE OF DIVINE LOVE</b>	1
Mormonsim and God's Love	1
The Logic of Love	9
The I-Thou Relation	15
Unconditional Love and Fellowship	18
Notes	22
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
<b>PROVIDENCE AND PRAYER</b>	25
The Problem of Prayer	28
A Relational Solution	36
Manipulative Love?	53
Divine Openness and Petitionary Prayer	59
Mormonism and the Problem of Prayer	64
Notes	73
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
<b>THE RELATION OF MORAL OBLIGATION AND GOD IN LDS THOUGHT</b>	77
Beckwith's Argument	78
Why Beckwith's Argument Necessarily Unsound	80
Are Moral Laws Logically Dependent on God's Nature?	82
Is God a Morally Perfect Being?	86
Beckwith's Equivocation in His Use of "God"	90
The Possibilities of Ethics in LDS Thought	94
An LDS Teleological Ethic?	94
The Human Rights Objection	96
The Distributive-Justice Objection	97
The Genuine Friendship Objection	98
A Duty-Based LDS Ethic?	100
The Overbroad Rule Argument	103

## CONTENTS

The Underinclusive Value Argument	105
Egoistic Theories	108
The LDS <i>Agape</i> Theory of Ethics in Alignment with the Gospel of Christ	109
Notes	116
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
<b>THE IMPLAUSIBILITY OF ORIGINAL SIN</b>	119
The Traditional Paradigms of Original Sin	122
Can We Be Guilty For the Acts of Another?	131
Notes	144
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
<b>SIN AND THE UNCIRCUMCISED HEART</b>	147
LDS Light on Original Sin	147
Epistemological Assumptions of Moral Obligation	157
Ego Maintenance, Self-Deception, and Authenticity	161
The Bondage of Sin and Agency	180
Notes	186
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
<b>SOTERIOLOGY IN LDS THOUGHT</b>	189
LDS Soteriological Terminology	191
The Vision	191
Faith Unto Repentance	196
Atonement	203
Atonement, Justice and Mercy	204
Infinite Atonement	216
Prevenient Grace in LDS Scripture	220
The Grace of Life and Light	223
Ritual Expression of Atonement	228
Transferring the Pain of our Sins to Christ	229
Notes	231

## CONTENTS

<b>Chapter 7</b>	
<b>THE COMPASSION THEORY OF ATONEMENT</b>	235
God's Compassion in Atonement	235
Distinctive Claims of the Compassion Theory of Atonement	237
Reconciling Humans to God	239
Reconciling God to Humans	242
Christ's Suffering as a Result of Our Sins	244
Theories of Atonement	256
The Ransom Theory	261
The Satisfaction Theory	262
The Moral Influence Theory	263
The Moral Example Theory	264
The Governmental Theory	264
The Penal Substitution Theory	265
Notes	281
<b>Chapter 8</b>	
<b>HONOR, SHAME, AND THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD</b>	285
Moral Obligation and Honor and Shame	286
Paul's Doctrine of Justification as God's Honoring Covenant	294
Notes	305
<b>Chapter 9</b>	
<b>SELF-DECEPTION AND JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH</b>	309
The New Perspective on Paul	309
James as a Critique of Self-deceived Paulinism	322
Mormonism and the New Perspective on Paul	332
Appendix A - Parallels between James 2 and Paul's Writings	343
Appendix B - Evidences that James, Jesus' Brother Wrote the Epistle of James	344
Notes	346

## CONTENTS

<b>Chapter I0</b>	
<b>THE PROBLEM OF GRACE</b>	351
The Problem of Imputed Righteousness	352
The Problem of Infused Righteousness	361
The Problem of Predestination	366
Does God Owe Obligations?	373
Universal Love and Obligations	377
Notes	385
<b>Chapter II</b>	
<b>THE OPERATIONS OF GRACE AND FREE WILL</b>	391
Grace and Free Will in Interpersonal Relationships	391
Free Will and Irresistable Grace	395
Concurring Grace	400
The Incompatibility of Free Will and <i>Creatio Ex Nihilo</i>	409
The First Argument: The Incompatibility of Divine Sustenance and Free Will	411
The Second Argument: The Impossibility of God's Actualizing Agents with Free Will	422
Conclusion	427
Notes	429
<b>Chapter I2</b>	
<b>GOD THE ETERNAL FATHER</b>	433
The Scriptural Argument	435
The King Follett Discourse	438
The Sermon in the Grove	442
Why Would a Divine Person Become Mortal?	447
Notes	449
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	453
<b>SUBJECT INDEX</b>	481
<b>SCRIPTURE INDEX</b>	497