

Member Records Division
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
50 E North Temple St., Rm 1372
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-5310

Hatton, Utah
16 June, 2016

My name is Joshua William Tolley, and I was born XXXXXXXXXX. I respectfully ask that you remove my name from Church records immediately. I no longer consider myself a member of the Church, nor affiliated with the corporations that make up its legal existence; I choose to terminate that affiliation immediately. I understand there is customarily a delay between the time requests such as these are received, and when they are processed. I ask that you waive any such waiting period and process this request immediately. I understand also that you consider this an "ecclesiastical matter" and generally forward these requests to a bishop. I will forward it myself, along with my desire that he complete whatever paperwork Church procedures demand of him, at the earliest reasonable opportunity.

The LDS Church has largely abandoned its original scriptural mandate in favor of priestcraft and idolatry: idolatry because members are enjoined to "follow the prophet" who "cannot lead us astray", when the scriptures demand we place our trust in no one but God, and priestcraft because Church leaders preach for their own temporal maintenance, and ignore the welfare of Zion. Indeed, the Correlation Committee would have us all forget we'd ever heard of Zion. I'm resigning my membership because I want no part of the condemnation that will befall that corruption and evil.

I am not leaving the Church to avoid its discipline. It is conceivable that a careful examiner could prove me guilty of apostasy, as described in the Church's secret leadership handbook. That definition conflicts with the scriptural definition of apostasy, and I choose to follow the scriptures. I am free of any other guilt that could jeopardize my Church membership, and I do not wish to give my local leaders the chance to damn themselves by ignorantly agreeing to label me an apostate.

By this action, I am told that the Church will consider my baptism canceled, my priesthood withdrawn, and my temple blessings suspended. I understand and accept this. I have been baptized multiple times, outside of Church control. The signs that the Lord promises will follow legitimate baptism came in full force after my most recent such experience, a month or two ago, at the hands of a man who is not a member of the Church. I willingly accept that the Church will no longer consider me a priesthood holder. In the Church, priesthood serves to rank and organize administrators, and to petition the Lord for blessings. I don't aspire to Church office or administration, and most of the effective blessings I've seen have been given by women anyway. As to my temple blessings, the scriptures make clear that their effectiveness depends on the Holy Spirit of Promise arriving to ratify them, and He hasn't done that yet, so there's no great loss. My relationship with Christ has never been better, and He is perfectly capable of administering to me any ordinances He feels I lack. Here again, the Correlation Committee would have us regard such a visitation as entirely unnecessary, Joseph Smith's obviously contrary opinion notwithstanding. I choose to divorce myself from such unbelief.

Again, please process this request immediately. Thank you.