

F. M. Smith affirms. R. C. Evans denies.

Now, Sir, I admit that God has blessed the honest people of the church when they preached and obeyed the first principles of the gospel, but that they have been deceived by the Mormon part, is beyond question. Many thousands of the church have thus concluded. It will avail you but little to tell the world that I once believed that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, that the Book of Mormon was divinely inspired. I admit that I taught and believed all that, and that my sermons defended the work of Smith. To quote my sermons of twenty or thirty years ago is not the question. Abraham, Moses, Paul, Luther, Knox and thousands of others were converted from error to see the light of God. Why denounce me because I have grown in grace and knowledge?

I ask in common justice that you publish this letter in both Herald and Ensign, where you permitted the other challenge to appear. Notwithstanding the many cruel and false statements that have been published in your papers, you have persistently refused me a reply, yet I shall continue to try to keep my heart from bitterness, and put forth every effort possible to love God and preach the gospel, and my earnest prayer is that you may yet see the light of the gospel, be rescued from the thralldom of Mormonism and be saved in the kingdom of God.

Yours sincerely,

*R. C. Evans*

51 Ozark Crescent, Toronto, Ontario, April 1st, 1919.