



Tainted Eternal Love

by Michelle Wiener | Feb 22, 2017 | Agency, Church, covenants, Faith, faith crisis, Family, Featured, Heavenly Mother, Marriage, Modesty, Mormonism, Mother in Heaven, prayer, Righteousness, romance, Spiritual Experiences, Temple, Worthiness, Youth | 3 comments



"I know that love eternal will not be denied..." – the Moody Blues

In honor of Valentines Day being last week, I would like to reflect on my marriage. First, let me make it clear that according to the teachings of the LDS Church- or even the church I was raised in – I did it all wrong; meaning I did not marry a

Christian. Needless to say, I do not have a Temple marriage, yet in spite of it all, I do believe I have an eternal marriage. Let me explain.

Being raised Baptist, I can recall our youth pastor telling us to start praying for our future spouses, so I did. Like most Mormon girls were told to do in Young Women, our youth group was also asked to make a list of the qualities we wanted in our future husbands or wives. Good looking aside, my future husband *had* to be a Christian and the righteous leader of our home. If I had been raised a Mormon, I'm sure "Righteous Priesthood Holder" would have been up there somewhere at the top of my list, along with "Returned Missionary." In fact, at one point, I had considered the mission field for myself as a possible career option, and I hoped to marry a man with similar life goals. (It's a Baptist thing!)

As it would turn out, I would not marry the first guy I met in Bible college. I wouldn't even end up going to Bible college! (I had visited one my junior year in high school and thought it would be neat to go there) Instead, I would find myself going on to a liberal seminary to study liberal (including feminist) theology. Two masters degrees later, I would meet the man of my dreams and *eventually* get married – much later than most, I might add. But my husband is not a Mormon, or even a Christian, for that matter!

Now, to my credit, when I said I prayed for my future husband, I meant I *really* prayed for him. Every day from the time I was about 15. Often my prayers would start with "God, you know who he is, even if I don't." I would ask for God to bless him and let him know that somebody out there loved him. I even kept myself "pure" for him. If I had been raised Mormon, I'm sure Temple Marriage would have come in there somewhere.

And if you have read my September 2015 Rational Faiths post, you know how the rest of the story turned out. And yes, that really did happen! My husband and I call this mysterious woman the "Eternal Yenta" (or match-maker; just think *Fiddler on the Roof*). Some days I think I might even have my own "Fairy Godmother." **See story here:** <http://rationalfaiths.com/yom-kippur-post/>

I also did not realize all the things that would happen during that time to bring him into my arms, but that's a whole other story altogether.

James 5:16 says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man (or woman) avails much." And in my case, my prayers must have had much more power than I ever even realized or gave them credit for!

But again, according to Mormonism, I did it all wrong. And I'm reminded of that in Relief Society when it comes to the "Temple Marriage" lessons. It's painful to sit through those, let me tell you!

So, folks that's my story of tainted eternal love. I suppose someday we could get eternally sealed....*maybe?* But for now, it's just not possible. But given everything that's happened, I do believe we are eternally sealed, regardless of what the Church says.

So stay tuned for next month's post, where I write about my really bad culinary skills. I swear; I *really* need to be on that show where they feature the worst chefs in America! I'm sure I'd win.

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Michelle Wiener

Michelle Wiener (aka Michelle Mormon, not Molly!) runs Agitating Faithfully and assists with the Finding Heavenly Mother Project. She holds a Master, of Arts in Theology from Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky and a Master of Ecumenical Studies from the University of Geneva in Switzerland where she studied for a year with the World Council of Churches. A convert from the Bible Belt, she has served as Relief Society Chorister for the past six years since joining the LDS Church. She is married to Robert and they have a beautiful blue budgie named Judson. She is in the beginning stages of working on her doctorate in comparative theology through Euclid University.

All posts by Michelle Wiener

3 Comments



mario zullo on February 22, 2017 at 8:08 am



The only comment I can make is that only can give one eternal life, not a church and especially not another human being. This being said if you feel in you heart that you are married to your husband for all eternity then God knows your real intent and when you are in His presence He knows what will make you happy for all eternity. His love will suffice any other love that you have for another human being and if it means that you and your husband will be together then He will make it possible as long as He is put in first place. He made this all happen, He is the only one that deserves the praise and glory. In the meantime just sit there and take it in and when you can't take in what is being said then go out and find another church that doesn't promise you something that they can't deliver

Reply

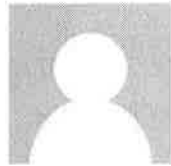


Mayte on February 22, 2017 at 8:57 am

Mario, I agree with you. Knowing what I know now about the LDS church after being convert 37 years ago, and working astmental health therapist over 20 years in UTAH, every day I am more convence that this "temple" issue (marriages, sealings, baptism for the death, etc) is more a "bussiness" for the LDS church that a "gosples" reality. As more I listen abuse members marriage in the temple, rape members from their fathers members os the church, gays kids that can not be with their parents fir eternity, or gay that father kids and can not be with them fir the eternity, etc...plus that the LDS church is puting more effort in the "Trillions of dead people" through so much insintance about the "temples" but not creating ways for the hapiness of the LIVING: free schools, free health care, therapist, etc... that is not free because to be "worthy" to go to the temple you HAVE to PAY 10% of your INCOME. I believe that D&C 112: 24-28 is coming. "The Lord is going to 'clean' His work starting from His Church".... I think this is the time of getting out the TRUTH to the light to be able to HEAL the

inocent people that the “ways of the church” (and many other churches) have been abuse creating so many emotional/mental/ physical health issues. To be continue.....

Reply



mario zullo on February 22, 2017 at 3:17 pm

You have hit several nails right on the head with just one hammer and I agree totally with what you have just stated. It is time to start exposing the truth and it will certainly set everyone involved free.

Reply

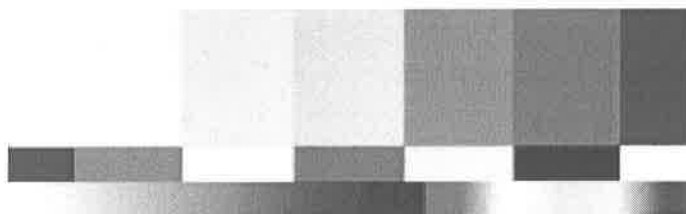
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