

The
Second
Comforter



*Conversing with
The Lord
Through the Veil*

DENVER C. SNUFFER, JR.

The Second Comforter: Conversing with the Lord Through the Veil

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The Second Comforter describes the process, as set out in the Gospel of Jesus Christ taught through the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is an Odyssey through the greatest principles, ordinances and meanings of the Latter-day Saint faith in a comprehensive narrative. It will change the way you think of yourself, and of your life.

The Second Comforter: Conversing with the Lord Through the Veil Details

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From Reader Review The Second Comforter: Conversing with the Lord Through the Veil for online ebook

Brad Hart says

Denver Snuffer (yes, that's his real name), the author of this book, has made a lot of noise within Mormonism in recent years. He claims to have even seen Jesus on more than one occasion. As the "founder" of what has become known as "THE REMNANT" movement (even though they don't claim any sort of hierarchy or leadership), Snuffer has emerged as the most prominent voice of a new and growing sect of Mormonism. I have been interested in this movement (out of pure curiosity and little more), so I thought I would give his book a chance.

To be honest, I found the book to be somewhat boring. I didn't see anything that jumped out to me as controversial. The book, in a nutshell, tells people that if they are faithful enough, they too can possess the "Second Comforter" (or the right to have Jesus personally visit you). Snuffer provides the reader with a "formula" that will lead the disciple to eventually stand in the presence of Jesus himself.

My guess is those who are already skeptical about Mormonism will find Snuffer to be just another crazy man. Those who already embrace the "follow the brethren" mantra will probably not even touch this book to begin with, since Snuffer is now an apostate (he was excommunicated from the LDS church not long ago). Those who are, as the Remnant puts it, looking for further light and knowledge or have gone through a faith crisis but still crave/believe in Mormonism, are likely to see this book as a breath of fresh air...the meat after milk they have long been craving. In short, your perspective is what will determine your opinion of Snuffer, his book and this movement in general.

Personally, I found the book to be relatively harmless and, frankly, quite boring. As I said, there wasn't any glaring examples of "anti-Mormonism" in the book itself. Snuffer tries hard to rely on scripture and places tremendous emphasis on the importance of keeping the commandments, honoring covenants, etc., which should ring familiar to most devout Mormons. As for his claims to have seen Jesus, I don't really care, but then again I don't get bent around the axle over that sort of question. I tend to be a skeptic when it comes to such things and doubt anyone really "sees" Jesus.

I know a lot of people love Snuffer's work and movement, particularly because of his emphasis on seeing/experiencing Jesus in the flesh. I also know that most traditional LDS won't give Snuffer the time of day (especially now that he's been given the scarlet letter of apostasy). For me personally, I don't have much of an opinion. The book good...I guess...but it didn't leave much of an impression on me. It was mild vanilla in taste. I don't mean any disrespect to those who find Snuffer's work of value. To each their own. It just didn't do much for me.

Annette says

This book has meant a lot to me. It got me seriously thinking about my relationship with the Lord and how seriously I take that relationship. I enjoyed the way the author delved into the scriptures, teaching and expounding them in a way that made me want to search the scriptures more, to ask the Lord to teach me and to strive to connect with heaven on a much more personal level.

Cory Jensen says

The best church book I have read in many years !!

Matt says

The author has been excommunicated and currently offers people re-baptism via his website. No thanks.

Cherie says

This is quite honestly the BEST LDS book I have ever gotten my hands on. It took me weeks to read it, because I was taking my time to absorb. The message is pure, deep and powerful. A must read for all those whose spiritual gifts are not being magnified, or who need validation to call them forth!

Lisa says

This book was highly recommended to me by a friend, but I wouldn't really recommend it to others. I'd recommend instead spending the time reading and pondering the scriptures - you'll learn the same things, plus more.

Cliff says

Amazing. I kept saying to myself "*I* could've said that!" "He's right!" and so forth. Only twice did I find him saying something that I just didn't know about whether I could agree or not. On those, I still don't know and will have to ponder them at length.

I believe the man, and I agree with what he's saying.

Not an easy book, but he's the "Real Deal". What he's teaching is valuable for each Latter-day Saint.

Cliff

Eric Merrill says

Full disclosure: I didn't finish. 20% in I felt it wasn't worth my time to finish. Read on to see why.

First, Snuffer spends almost an entire chapter explaining who the book is for and who would not be benefited by reading the book. I fell into the category of not being benefited. Nevertheless I am intrigued by the topic and Snuffer's Testimony of seeing Christ and the claim that all can do so, so I continued on.

Here's the thing. Snuffer seems to see things in a very black and white manner. I don't. He claims that there is a very specific formula that MUST be followed and that this formula is the same for everyone. He backs up the claim with scripture in a very convincing manner. But real life just isn't like this. We're not all cut from the same mold and so no one pattern can possibly work for everyone. Only having read the first few steps of what MUST be done, I can say with surety that it doesn't work that way in my life. I have done what he suggested before without the promised (by him) outcome. I have no reason to think that by doing the same thing, I should receive different results.

Other than this, he writes in an interesting, engaging way. If you choose to read the book, I have no doubt you'd enjoy it. Just don't feel bad if you try his formula and find it doesn't work for you. I highlight 50 times in the 80 or so pages I read. So lots of quotable material. Maybe someday, when I'm bored and have nothing else to read, I'll come back and finish it.

Taunia says

Wow...I'm only into the 2nd chapter and I have this book marked up to the hilt!! If you have questions about your spiritual connection with God, and/or desire to have a greater understanding of what it means to have such a witness of His connection with you...well, this book is top notch.

It's not something you skim through. It's a book for deep pondering. I'm totally loving it so far.

Ryan Daley says

Sometime interesting - but this book is far from a comprehensive dialogue on the subject and more of the dialogue of a hobbyist - who despite having a few beautiful moments in relation to the gospel entirely contradict himself repeatedly in the subject matter... And seems to have gained popularity based upon the deep desire for members of the church to come closer to this subject rather than actually contribute to the subject... He talks but without consistent understanding and uses the term second comforter in such casual terms it's counterproductive to the discussion. I would lie if is didn't day I didn't learn something - it was just unfortunate that it was never really about the subject matter.

Ernie Dawson says

This is a very interesting book with huge potential but it can be rated from 1 to 5 depending upon the spiritual preparedness of the person reading it. I found nothing in it that was offensive nor contrary to the Spirit of the Lord. Nothing was presented which was outside the parameters of the scriptures and the words of the prophets (both living and deceased). I would only recommend it to those who are prepared to take a major step in their lives.

Sarah says

I agree with a bunch of the reviews about this book is good depending on how ready you are to follow ALL of the Commandments God has given us. ;) This can be a pretty cut and dry book, but it also has so much information and exciting treasures of insight that I have never thought about before. It is an inspiring book, based on scriptures and is uplifting to the soul.

It causes you to want to be a better person and love everyone. Now, who wouldn't want that?

Kyle says

Deeply introspective and thought provoking. Not a fast read but triggered for me many hours of contemplation and self-evaluation. Even months after reading, I still find myself pondering many of the concepts I learned here.

I have purchased several copies of this book as gifts, but it is one of those books that can only be read and digested if you are seeking and hungry for spiritual growth.

Drennan says

One of my all time favorite books!!!!!!

Russell says

I can remember learning about "The Second Comforter" and having "Your Calling and Election Sure" and wondered how that happened and whether it was very common. I have heard about people that have had that experience and even talked to one person. When I asked how that was achieved he basically told me to just pray for it. That wasn't a very satisfying answer. It wasn't until I read this book by Denver Snuffer that I come to appreciate more fully what is involved and the change in your life that occurs in the process.

Denver Snuffer joined the church when he was 19. The book describes some of the process of his conversion and life, but mostly it provides the foundation and tools for a person to get an audience with Christ.

Denver Snuffer provides this interesting perspective about the book from his blog entry of Feb. 12, 2010. "So I think taking only the testimony alone contradicts the whole purpose which it was written. The testimony was merely a brief, nine word ratification of the book's teachings. The focus is a manual for the reader to do that for themselves. The reader, not the author, is the focus of the book. Indeed, with only brief exceptions, my personal present intrudes into the book to highlight how to do something wrong. Then the book explains how to get it right."

And on June 2, 2010: "Study what I've written carefully and anyone will find it is all there. Several people have done so, and have received the promised results. But they took care and devoted careful, solemn and ponderous thought to the matters set out in what I have written. That is what the writings were intended to produce, and why they were commissioned to be written by the Lord. I know that the process is true, because

I have lived it. I know that the descriptions provided in my writings are sufficient, because they have produced results akin to my own."

The book walks a person through the process necessary to have an audience with the Savior. The attainment of such a goal is on the Lord's timetable not ours. There are many interesting insights on the path.

One of the steps is obedience, "The interesting thing about the process is that actual light -- or enlightenment -- is acquired through obedience. It is not acquired in any other way. It is specifically not acquired by study or scholarship alone." (p. 50)

The author uses the experience of Nephi to describe the events along the path. Speaking of God, "He is not distant. He is a part of each of our daily lives. We can ignore Him, or acknowledge Him. But whether we accept or reject His involvement, Nephi's view is that He is present and concerned. . . In the end, Goliaths are merely opportunities for you to demonstrate your faith. They will be swept away when they no longer serve any purpose." (p. 75)

"Here is Nephi's list of several concrete steps which must occur for anyone to receive the things of God in vision or revelation: 1. Desiring to know, 2. Believing the Lord can make them known to you. 3. Pondering or thinking deeply and prayerfully." (p. 89)

Snuffer talks about how significant and difficult the process can be, "The first time I spoke in Fast and Testimony . . . I testified 'I know this Church is true.' at the time it would have been much more correct to say that I believed it to be true. I was a long way from knowledge. But I was fervent in my belief. I did not have any idea the difficulties and sacrifices involved in trading faith for knowledge. If I had known then, I would perhaps have stayed content with belief" (p. 100)

As indicated earlier, we have to ask, or as Snuffer says, "It is not Heaven's responsibility to force upon us answer to questions which we do not ask" (p. 111)

Because of Snuffer's experience, he can testify that this process if available for the humble Saint. "There is a notion among some Saints that these things are reserved for Church leaders holding high office. That false notion is so widespread it deserves special notice here." (p. 151)

"And so it is with these things. They can be learned, but they can't be taught. Those who are willing to receive them, however, will receive them. But only when they are prepared to respect the limits which should always separate the sacred from the profane." (p. 177)

Surprisingly you must already have faith that will not be improved by a visit from the Savior before you are ready for a Second Comforter experience. "When your faith in His ordinances is secure enough that seeing Him will produce no further conviction of His word, no greater confidence in Him and no additional confirmation than what you have already, you are prepared to receive Him. . . If your faith would increase because of this experience, you are not ready for it. The Second Comforter comes to confirm the faith which already resides in a person, not to produce that faith." (p. 266)

Even though this is a marvelous spiritual experience, the individual still feels totally inadequate. "But what is relevant here, and so very important, is that those feelings of inadequacy do have great value. Feelings of inferiority, or of not quite belonging, or of being less than you should be, all lead to the essential humility needed for the next step. (p. 309)

Getting the opportunity to converse with the Lord, brings with it an exposure to Satan. "Because of these things, the path to heaven runs through hell. You don't get the epiphany without confronting Satan." (p. 348) He also mentions that the reason it is called "The Second Comforter" is that you need comfort after confronting Satan.

Even after such a marvelous experience, you still participate in the normal mortal activities. "The Second Comforter never has and never will remove life's difficulties. Life will continue much the same as it did before, although the challenges may become greater." (p. 387)

I find particularly interesting, Snuffer's attempt to describe the experience of being in the presence of the Lord, "Here is yet another (my) attempt: His love will crush you. It will overwhelm and intimidate you. It will bring you involuntarily to your knees in adoration and humility. It is not possible to feel love of this kind from Him and remain aloof of confessing, as Moses did: 'Now, for this cause I know that man is nothing, which thing I never had supposed.' (Moses 1:10)" (p. 391)

We find the reason why this book was written in a footnote on page 396: "If the author had not been asked to write this work, the author's own experience would have remained a private matter, as it was for years before writing of this book."

Finally as promised we get his short testimony of his encounter with the Lord. "He is the Second Comforter. I know He lives, for I have seen Him. He has ministered to me" A footnote is included with this testimony: "The full content of these things are of course personal, never intended for public display, and not needed as a part of this text. This is about bearing testimony of the process itself and the already declared doctrines. I am adding my weak voice to those of others who proclaim this to be true. This is not about personal matters, the revelation of which would amount to improperly profaning the sacred, nor is it about preaching any new doctrines, which is altogether inappropriate." (p. 405)

One final quote from the book: "The overwhelming majority of us will, ten minutes after death, regret we did not do more with this second estate. Our regrets will be because we did not seek more earnestly, pray more devoutly, fast more frequently, and gain a greater measure of truth and light than we gained here. Change that for yourself." (p. 424)

As you can see this isn't just a book "about" The Second Comforter, but a book about the process of making ourselves ready to approach God. I found it very exciting and revealing of the process and what is required in our own lives if we wish for such an experience. It is much more than just desiring to confront God, but it is a process of changing our lives so that we become more like the Savior. (1 John 3:2) It is a difficult journey, but oh so rewarding. Not just in the opportunity to see and experience the Savior, but also in the growth and development of our own souls.
