

## INTELLECTUAL CONCEITS

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### Personality of Satan From undated handwritten notes

“In every great University there are many intellectuals of renown whose worldly wisdom shines forth to guide those of us whose lesser native endowments are somewhat common and coarse. The Brigham Young University is no exception. Among them, unfortunately, there are those who flatter their egos and indulge their passion for preeminence by stepping forth as spokesmen for what they call the Lord’s University. They are bold to announce how much the Lord knows and to set forth the progress he shall yet make. Or they announce with Olympian finality that the Great God created this earth and all that thereon is by some Darwinian principles which deny the fall of Adam and the atoning sacrifice of the Son of God. Or they come up with some other private interpretation of the revealed word which causes some of the rest of us to wonder—little rays of doubt begin to creep in—to wonder if their intellectual stature is really greater than all the earth. It is a marvelous thing to know more than the Lord and to be able to expound these infinite mysteries to those of us who bask in their shadows.

Let me tell you about Lucifer. He is of course Satan, the devil, the destroyer, our common enemy. He is a son of the morning who had a position of great authority in preexistence. He was cast out of heaven for rebellion and because he sought to dethrone God, take his place, and to rule in his stead.

But what you may not know is that Lucifer is a handsome, compelling, dynamic personality. He is an orator, an organizer, an administrator, an intellectual. He is a greater orator than Cicero, a greater general than Napoleon, a more powerful intellect than Einstein.

And what you may not know is that Lucifer means light bearer. He held the priesthood and a high position in the Church; he was a teacher; he taught in the Eternal University; he was head of the department of speculative theology; and he was dean of the college of liberal intellectuality. His mission was and is to teach, to expound, to persuade, to bear light to others according to the views and purposes of his own mind.

His doctrine seemed so sound; the sources he quoted were so reputable; the logic of his presentations seemed so unassailable; the power of his personality was so great that one third of the hosts of heaven chose to follow him, though God Almighty, the Great Jehovah, and myriad legions of angels pled with them to stand firm in their Creator’s Cause.

It should come as no surprise to us, then, that here in this sphere—where we no longer walk by sight, but where faith is our guiding light—we face anew the same old satanic sophistries. Lucifer’s doctrines are everywhere and they still seem so logical to many that they are espoused and taught by those who have many godly qualities and who when they

stay in the fields of their proper expertise are in a position to be guides and lights to the rest of us.

I shall now mention, scarcely more than in passing, two of the hellish heresies which. . . .