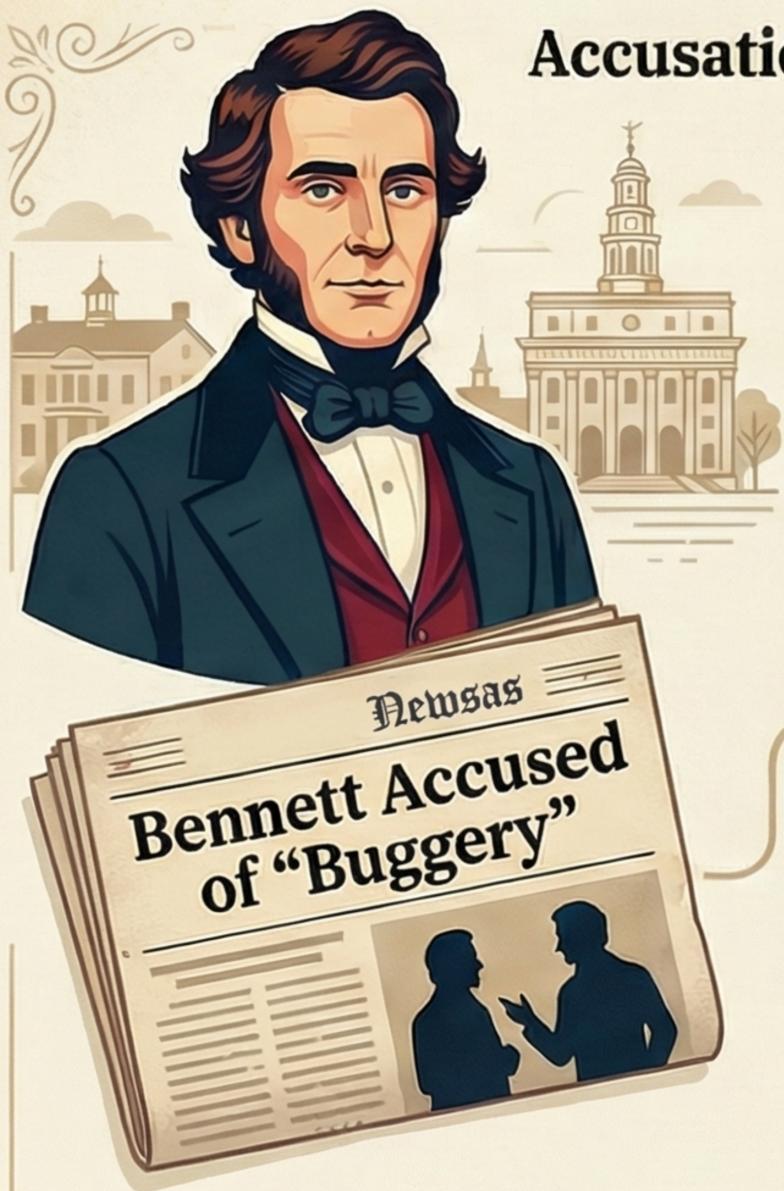


The Scandal of Joseph Smith's Right-Hand Man: John C. Bennett

Accusations of Homosexuality in Nauvoo



Bennett Accused of "Buggery"

A church-published newspaper in 1842 publicly accused Bennett of "buggery" (a term for sodomy).

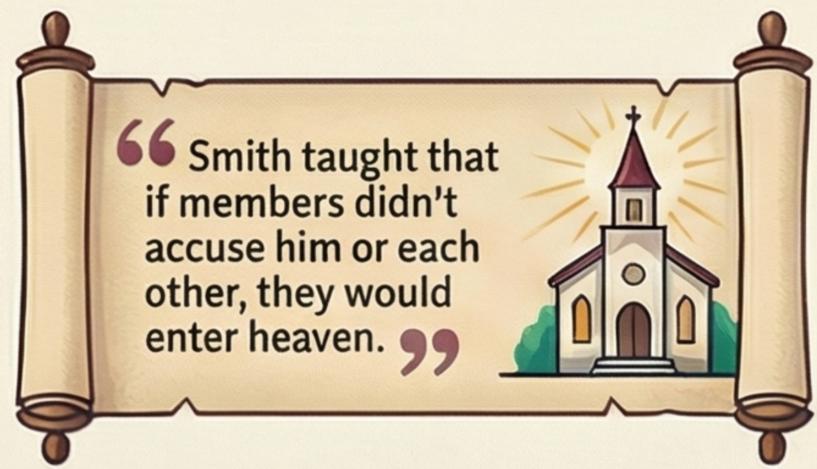


Joseph Smith Questioned on Immoral Acts

When asked, a peer declined to exonerate Smith from immoral acts with men.



Smith's Doctrine:
"What many people call sin is not sin."

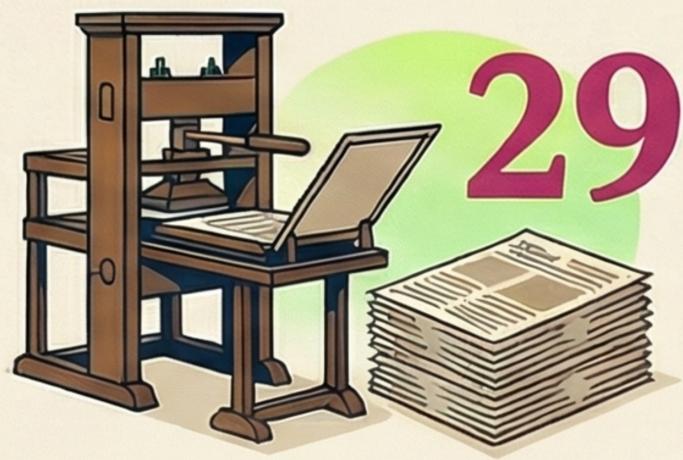


The Fallout: Bennett Becomes a Whistleblower



Bennett Flees After Excommunication

He claimed he was pursued by "Danites," a secret group of Mormon enforcers.



Bennett's Exposé Goes Viral

His anti-Mormon lectures and book were covered by at least 29 newspapers nationwide.

The Church Retaliates

Joseph Smith sent over 300 elders on missions specifically to rebut Bennett's claims.

