



TEMPLE SQUARE

FREE VISITOR'S GUIDE



NOT AN LDS PUBLICATION



Welcome to Salt Lake City!

Every year millions of people who are unfamiliar with the teachings of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (also known as the LDS or Mormon Church) tour Temple Square with the hope of better understanding the history and theology of Mormonism.

When you step through the gates at Temple Square, you may be greeted by LDS Church missionaries who will be eager to share their church's beliefs with you. There is a good chance that you may assume (or be given the impression) that the LDS Church is just another Christian denomination. In fact, as you tour the grounds, you will often hear words and phrases similar to those used by

Bible-believing Christians. What you may not know is that the Mormon religion has redefined many historic Christian terms, thus clouding their meaning.

Evangelical Christians who have spent years studying the LDS faith are providing this newspaper to you with the hope that it will enhance your understanding of the differences between Mormonism and biblical Christianity. Some may question the motives of those who want to share this information with others. Yet it was second LDS President Brigham Young who stated, *"If I should hear a man advocate erroneous principles he had imbibed through education, and oppose those*

principles, some might imagine that I was opposed to that man, when, in fact, I am only opposed to every evil and erroneous principle he advances." (*Discourses of Brigham Young*, p. 251).

Someone may want to disparage our efforts to provide this newspaper to you free of charge. Perhaps, it might be said, what we have written is "hateful." Yet you would be hard-pressed to find anyone who would say that Mormon missionaries are motivated by anything but a sincere desire to share their faith with those who are not members of their church. If this is true, then why should those Bible-believing Christians desiring to

share their faith with members of the LDS Church have their motives questioned? Could it be that these Christians really do care and want nothing more than to share their faith by what Ephesians 4:15 calls "speak[ing] the truth in love"?

As you read this newspaper, notice that many of our quotations are taken word for word from LDS sources. We invite you to check these sources for contextual accuracy. If you have further questions, please feel free to speak with the person who handed this newspaper to you or write us at the following email address:

contact@mrm.org

Thank you!

available in PDF format at:
www.mrm.org/newspaper

A study of the Mormon Church cannot begin without first considering its founder, Joseph Smith. Born in the state of Vermont, Smith claimed that both God the Father and Jesus Christ visited him when he was a young boy. Mormons refer to this event as the "First Vision."

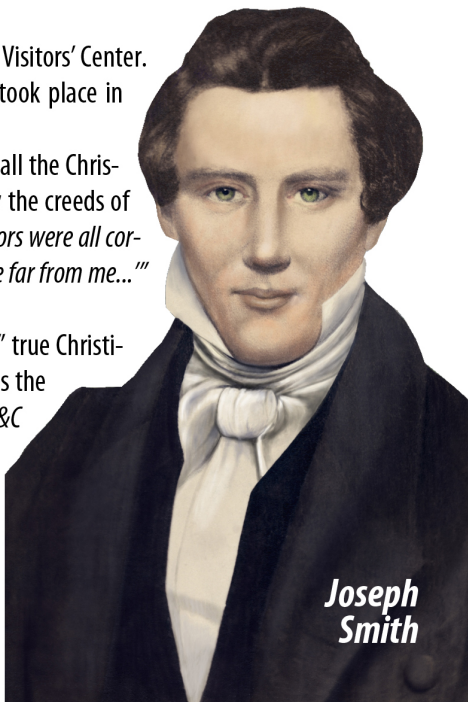
A statue of Smith is located between the temple and the South Visitors' Center. Below this monument is a brief account of Smith's vision that took place in 1820. (There are about nine contradictory accounts of this story.)

In his history, Smith said one of the personages told him how all the Christian churches were wrong. He also claimed that he was told how the creeds of Christendom *"were an abomination in his sight; that those professors were all corrupt; that: 'they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me...'"* (*Pearl of Great Price*, Joseph Smith History 1:19).

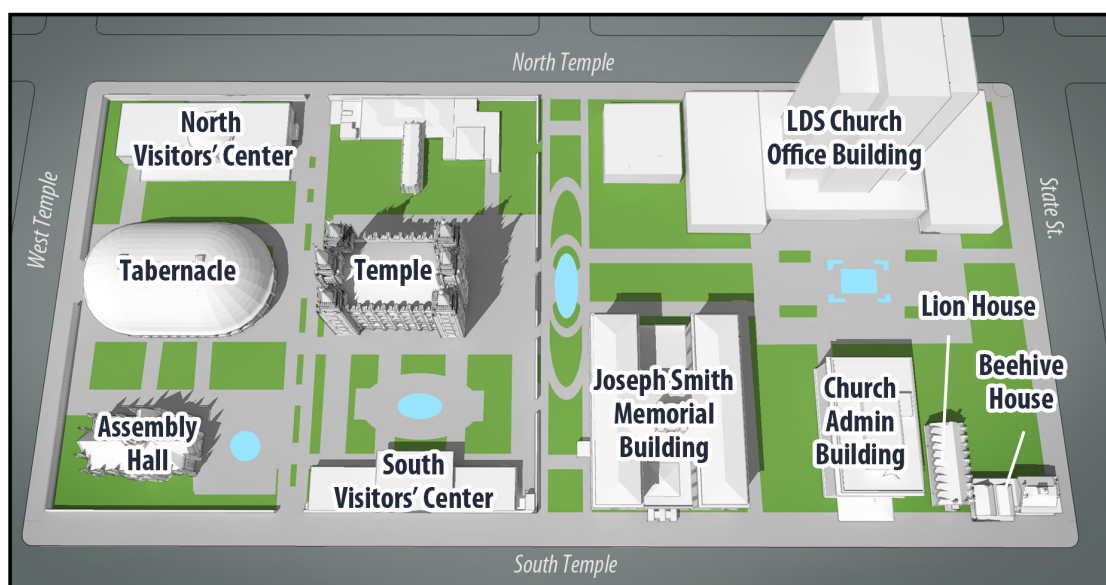
Mormons are taught that God called Joseph Smith to "restore" true Christianity after nearly 1800 years of "apostasy" and that their church is the *"only true and living church on the face of the whole earth"* (D&C 1:30).

As 1 Nephi 14:10 in the *Book of Mormon* puts it, *"And he said unto me: Behold there are save two churches only; the one is the church of the Lamb of God, and the other is the church of the devil; wherefore, whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth."*

THE FIRST VISION AND THE "GREAT APOSTASY"



Joseph Smith



LATTER-DAY SAINT GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following glossary may help you better understand some of the terms that are used by missionaries on Temple Square:

Apostasy - The belief that the authority of Christianity ceased after the death of Christ's apostles and was not restored until the 19th century by Joseph Smith.

Atonement - Taught by LDS leaders as paving the way for all humankind to be resurrected from the dead in the next life.

Book of Mormon - A book said to have been translated by Joseph Smith from gold plates buried by Moroni in the 5th century AD. It tells the story of ancient Americans and depicts Jesus as appearing on the American continent after His resurrection and ascension.

Eternal Life - Synonymous with becoming an exalted god.

Heaven - Comprised of three degrees of glory. Only Mormons who repent of all their sins and keep all of the commandments qualify for the celestial kingdom. Lower degrees include the terrestrial and telestial kingdom.

Heavenly Father - God the Father is a resurrected human being with a body of flesh and bones (D&C 130:22).

Holy Ghost - One of Heavenly Father's literal spirit sons.

Jesus Christ - The firstborn spirit child of God the Father whose earthly body was personally sired by God himself. He is known as *the Savior*.

King James Version of the Bible - The version of the Bible used by Mormons, though church leaders teach that it contains errors and is true only "as far as it is translated correctly."

Mormon - A character in the *Book of Mormon* as well as a nickname given to members of the LDS Church.

Moroni - A character in the *Book of Mormon* (son of Mormon). His image is found atop most LDS temples, including the Salt Lake City temple.

Preexistence (premortality) - The doctrine that all mankind lived with God as his spirit children before coming to earth in physical form.

Restoration - The returning of true Christianity (the LDS Church) to the earth in 1830 through the founding prophet, Joseph Smith.

Scripture - The four written scriptures used by the LDS Church. These are the Bible, the *Book of Mormon*, the *Doctrine and Covenants* (D&C), and the *Pearl of Great Price*.

JUST WHAT DO EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS BELIEVE?

You might be wondering about the doctrines of Evangelical Christians. The following is a list of beliefs that have united millions of Christians in the world, both today and over the past 2,000 years of church history:

BIBLE

We believe that the 66 books of the Bible—God’s Word—are inerrant, or without error, as originally written. We believe the Bible has been accurately preserved; its content is the final authority in all matters of doctrine and faith, accepted as above all human authority.

GOD

We believe there is no God but one: the infinite Designer, Creator, and Sustainer of all existence in this or any universe—from eternity past to eternity future. God’s nature is triune with three perfect and eternal Persons. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one, in being as well as in purpose.

LAW

We believe that God is the source of all moral and natural law. On their own, no one is able to keep the whole law.

HUMANITY

We believe that humans are finite beings who are designed in the image of God, with the ability to reason, make choices, and have relationships. We were created for the purpose of bringing glory to God, but all humanity is sinful by nature and has earned the penalty of death, which causes eternal separation from God unless the problem is remedied.

JESUS

We believe that Jesus—God the Son—is the remedy for sin. He entered the world as a man to die on the cross and become a sinless sacrifice in full payment for the believer’s sins—both past and future. This satisfies the demand of God’s perfect justice. Jesus rose from the grave, which authenticates His divine identity. He reigns as our living Prophet, Priest, and King.

FORGIVENESS

Based upon the penalty paid by Jesus at the cross, we believe that the forgiveness of sins is granted by grace alone to those who will receive it by faith alone. It must be received as an utterly undeserved gift or it cannot be received at all. All credit and glory are Christ’s alone.

REPENTANCE

We believe that we must turn (repent) from self-reliance for our salvation and trust in the completed work of Jesus upon the cross alone to purchase the perfect pardon of all sin forevermore.

WORKS

We believe in doing good works in grateful response to our pardon, not to cause it. From our faith, acts of response will flow, including obedience, compassion, baptism, communion, prayer, and the fruit of the Spirit.

INHERITANCE

We believe that believers comprise Christ’s true church. Consequently, we have received many other spiritual blessings, including reconciliation and friendship with a Holy God, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, adoption as children of God into His family, and eternal life, now and in His kingdom.

DECEPTION

We believe in the existence of Satan, the great counterfeiter of prophecy, miracles, emotions, and feelings. Therefore, we take seriously God’s command to test all these things according to scripture.

THE GOD OF MORMONISM

Some Mormons have made the claim that Mormonism is synonymous with Christianity. If this is true, then Mormonism’s view of God ought to agree with what is taught in the Bible.

God’s special revelation says that there is only one God (Deut. 6:4, Mark 12:29). In fact, the Bible describes God as the infinite Designer, Creator, and Sustainer of all existence—from eternity past to eternity future. He was always God and there is no God before or after Him (Psalm 90:2, Isaiah 43:10; 44:6-8).

Joseph Smith denied this when he taught, “I wish to declare I have always and in all congregations when I have preached on the subject of Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods” (History of the Church 6:474). Prior to his death in 1844, he declared, “We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, and take away the veil, so that you may see” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 345).

The God of the Bible is not merely the one who forms and shapes, but He is also the Source of all existence. Other ways that the God of Mormonism is different from the God of the Bible include:

THE GOD OF MORMONISM IS NOT SELF-EXISTENT. Thus, if it is true that “as man now is, God once was. As God is, man may become,” then God is merely an exalted human being who is the offspring of another God.

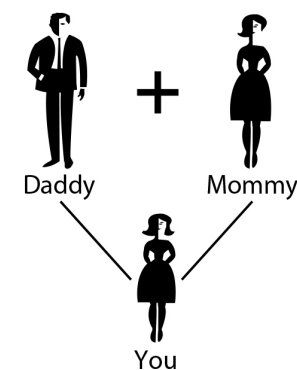
THE GOD OF MORMONISM IS NOT OMNI-PRESENT (which means everywhere present). Because he is limited to a physical body, he cannot be in two places at once.

THE GOD OF MORMONISM IS NOT OMNIPOTENT (which means “all-powerful”). Since Mormonism teaches that exalted humans will always be subservient to their God, so too it would make sense that the LDS God is subservient to his God as well. It would also make sense that if the LDS God is the offspring of another God, then his God must be more advanced in his eternal progression than the God whom Mormons claim to serve.

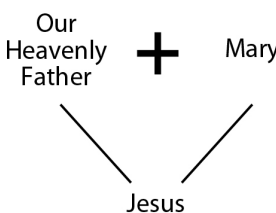
THE GOD OF MORMONISM DOES NOT FORGIVE COMPLETELY. While the God of Christianity says that He “will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more” (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12), the God of Mormonism could return former sins (D&C 82:7).

For more on this topic, please visit www.mrm.org/nature-of-god

EXPLAINING THE “VIRGIN BIRTH” TO CHILDREN



This diagram was published in the 1972 *Family Home Evening Manual* (p. 126) as a resource to help LDS parents explain the Virgin Birth to their children. For more information on this topic, we encourage you to visit www.mrm.org/virgin-birth



BOOK OF MORMON: SOURCE FOR LDS DOCTRINE?

Joseph Smith declared that the Book of Mormon contained the “fulness” of the gospel. According to President Joseph Fielding Smith, “By fulness of the gospel is meant all the ordinances and principles that pertain to the exaltation in the celestial kingdom” (Doctrines of Salvation 1:160).

However, if Nephites really existed, then where in the *Book of Mormon* can we find them believing:

- ◆ In the existence of more than one God? (Alma 11:26-29, 44; 2 Nephi 31:21; 3 Nephi 11:27, 36)
- ◆ God was once a man who was also the offspring of another God? (Moroni 7:22, 8:18; 3 Nephi 24:6; Mormon 9:9, 10, 9:19)
- ◆ Men can become gods?
- ◆ Marriage is a necessary requirement for salvation?

- ◆ Plural marriage was a practice supported by God? (Jacob 2:24, 28; Mosiah 11:2; Ether 10:5)
- ◆ Temple participants must wear sacred garments to remind them of oaths they took in the temple?
- ◆ God has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s? (Alma 18:24-28, 22:9-11)
- ◆ All humans are the literal offspring of God and his heavenly wife? (Ether 3:14; Mosiah 5:7; Moroni 7:26)
- ◆ Vicarious baptism for the dead? (Alma 34:33-35; 2 Nephi 9:38)
- ◆ A full tithe was a mandatory part of their repentance and necessary for forgiveness?
- ◆ Abstaining from hot drinks (i.e. coffee or tea) was even necessary?

More? See www.mrm.org/bom

★ ★ ★ VISIT THE ★ ★ ★ UTAH LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY BOOKSTORE

Sandra Tanner, the great-great-granddaughter of LDS President Brigham Young, is a former Mormon. For many years she and her husband Jerald have operated a bookstore in Salt Lake City featuring documented material that has helped thousands of seekers research the history and doctrines of Mormonism. No trip to Salt Lake City is complete without a visit to the UTLM bookstore, which is open M-F 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Whether you’ve come to browse or you have questions you’d like answered, UTLM’s friendly staff would love to meet you!

1358 West Temple
(just across from the 1st base side of Smith’s ballpark)
(801) 485-8894

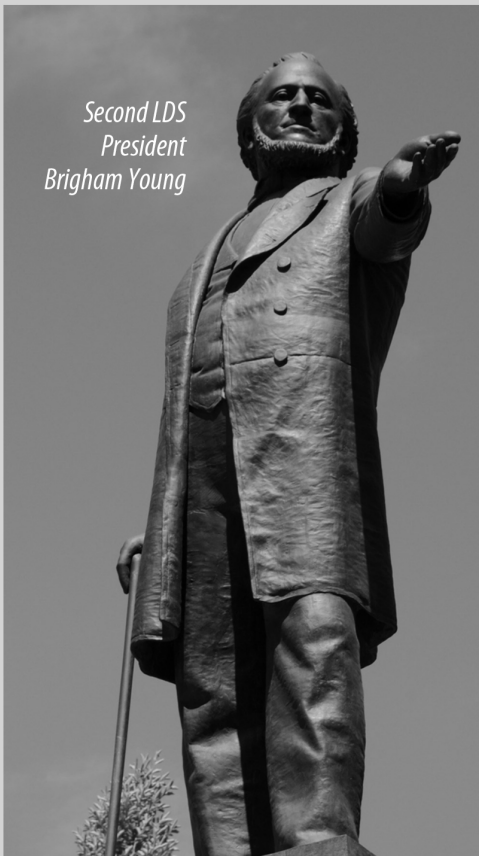


THE BRIGHAM YOUNG STATUE

Between Temple Square and the Joseph Smith Memorial Building on South Temple is a statue honoring Brigham Young. Young was baptized into the Mormon Church on April 14, 1832. Following the death of Joseph Smith in 1844, Young became Mormonism’s second president, holding that position for 33 years.

What many might not know is that Young is responsible for some of the most unorthodox teachings imaginable. For example, in 1857 he taught that Jesus Christ “was more or less contaminated with fallen nature” and that Christ was “influenced by this nature that we have received” (*Journal of Discourses* 6:95-96). In 1859, he confessed that his God was “once a man in mortal flesh” (*Journal of Discourses* 7:333), which had been taught by Joseph Smith in 1844.

Young also taught that every person is required to “have the certificate of Joseph Smith, junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are” (*Journal of Discourses* 7:238. See also *Search These Commandments*, 1984, p. 133).



Second LDS President Brigham Young

Unlike the more politically correct LDS Church of today, Young did not hold back in making it clear that those outside his church were not true Christians. In 1863, he insisted that the reason Mormons “*differ from other Christians, as they are called, is simply because they [non- Mormons] are not Christians as the New Testament defines Christianity*” (*Journal of Discourses* 10:230).

In fact, he taught that “*the Christian world, so-called, are heathens as to their knowledge of the salvation of God*” (*Journal of Discourses* 8:171).

While some would like to dismiss Young’s teachings, he did not allow for that option: “*If there is an Elder here, or any member of this Church. . . who can bring up the first idea, the first sentence that I have delivered to the people as counsel that is wrong, I really wish they would do it; but they cannot do it, for the simple reason that I have never given counsel that is wrong; this is the reason*” (*Journal of Discourses* 16:161).

COMMON QUESTIONS ANSWERED

You may wonder why we have produced and handed out this newspaper. Here are some common questions we sometimes receive with our responses.

Question:

Don’t you have anything better to do?

Answer:

We believe one of the most important things we can do is share what is true. Therefore, we want to let visitors know that there are many problems with Mormonism’s teachings. We attempt to do this with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:16). In addition, we are very grateful for Free Speech, which is protected in the United States via the First Amendment.

Question:

How much money are you getting to do this?

Answer:

The answer, quite simply, is nothing. This newspaper is handed out by volunteers. Some of us are missionaries who raise our own support, just as LDS missionaries do, while others have regular jobs or are students.

Question:

Aren’t Mormons Christians?

Answer:

It depends. Is the Mormon in question forgiven? After all, forgiveness is what defines a Christian. We have found that because of the unreasonably high standards of Mormonism, few Mormons have such an assurance. Since Jesus came to save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21), isn’t it presumptuous to assume to be a Christian if you are not forgiven?

Question:

Aren’t Mormons good?

Answer:

According to the Bible, there is “none good” (Rom. 3:10). In fact, everyone has sinned (Rom. 3:23). Because of this, each person deserves eternal death (Rom. 6:23). So, while most Mormons are nice people, they desperately need to have their sins forgiven. Ask yourself: If you were to face Jesus at the Judgment Throne tonight, are you sure you would receive the very best God wants you to have?

Question:

I’m doing the best I can. Isn’t that good enough?

Answer:

While trying to do the right thing is admirable, it is not sufficient for attaining eternal life. First, John 5:13 says that it’s possible for the “one who believes” in Jesus to “know” if he or she has eternal life. Do you know if your sins are forgiven? Wouldn’t you like an assurance that they are?

Question:

What do you think is required for a person to be forgiven?

Answer:

According to biblical Christianity, forgiveness cannot be earned based on one’s good deeds, including getting baptized, going to church, and keeping the commandments. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*” Second Corinthians 5:21 adds, “*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*” Ephesians 2:10 says that Christians are created to do good works. Yet good works cannot justify a person before an all-holy God. Only God can do this mighty work.

More? www.mrm.org/get-into-heaven

THE TEMPLE

Although there are more than 140 LDS temples located around the world, perhaps none is more famous than the Salt Lake City temple that was completed in 1893 after four decades of construction.

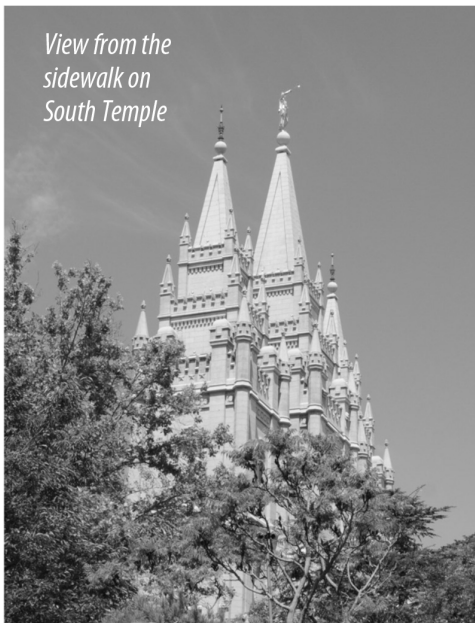
This is one site on Temple Square where visitors are not welcome. Only “worthy” Mormons who are in good standing with their church are allowed to enter. The questions Mormons are asked in order to receive a “temple recommend card” include:

“Are you paying a 10% tithe?”

“Do you wear your temple garments?”

“Are you refraining from drinking tea or coffee?”

Participants vow to never discuss the particulars of the ceremonies, which are claimed to be parallel to the ancient biblical temple in Jerusalem. However, the biblical evidence does not support this idea.



View from the sidewalk on South Temple

Consider these LDS temple practices today:

Marriage for time and eternity:

It is believed a marriage that is “sealed” in one of the many LDS temples can extend this relationship beyond death and lead to godhood in the next life. But no weddings ever took place inside the Jewish temple. In fact, women weren’t even allowed to enter.

Baptism for the dead:

This is the most performed ritual in LDS temples. Since Mormonism teaches that water baptism is essential for salvation, Mormons feel compelled to participate in baptisms by proxy on behalf of those who are already dead. It is believed that those for whom the ordinances are performed are given the chance to accept the LDS gospel in the next life.

The Endowment ceremony:

Temple Mormons are taught secret handshakes and passwords (originating from Masonry and known as tokens and keywords) that they believe are needed if they hope to return to the presence of their God. No such ceremony ever took place in the Jerusalem temple.

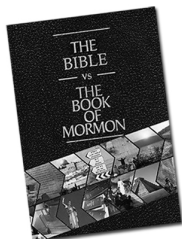
Visitations from the Dead:

Some Mormons claim that they have been visited by the dead during their time in the temple. “The dead will be after you,” LDS prophet Wilford Woodruff once said regarding visitations he had in the St. George, UT temple. The Bible says to avoid contact with the dead (1 Sam. 15:23; 28:6ff).

For more on the temple, please visit www.mrm.org/temple

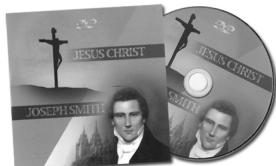
FREE ONLINE VIDEOS THAT YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT!

TO WATCH ANY OF THESE VIDEOS, GO TO www.mrm.org/videos-on-mormonism



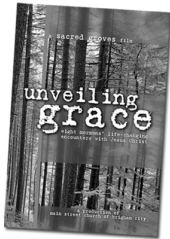
The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon

When put to the test, which of these books is worthy of being called scripture? (66:00)



Jesus Christ / Joseph Smith:

What are some of the differences between Jesus and Mormonism’s founder, Joseph Smith? (80:00)



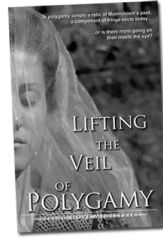
Unveiling Grace

The story of the Adam’s Road musical group and how they came into a personal relationship with Jesus. (55:00)



The Lost Book of Abraham

Was the *Book of Abraham* written in the patriarch’s hand and later translated by Joseph Smith? (56:00)



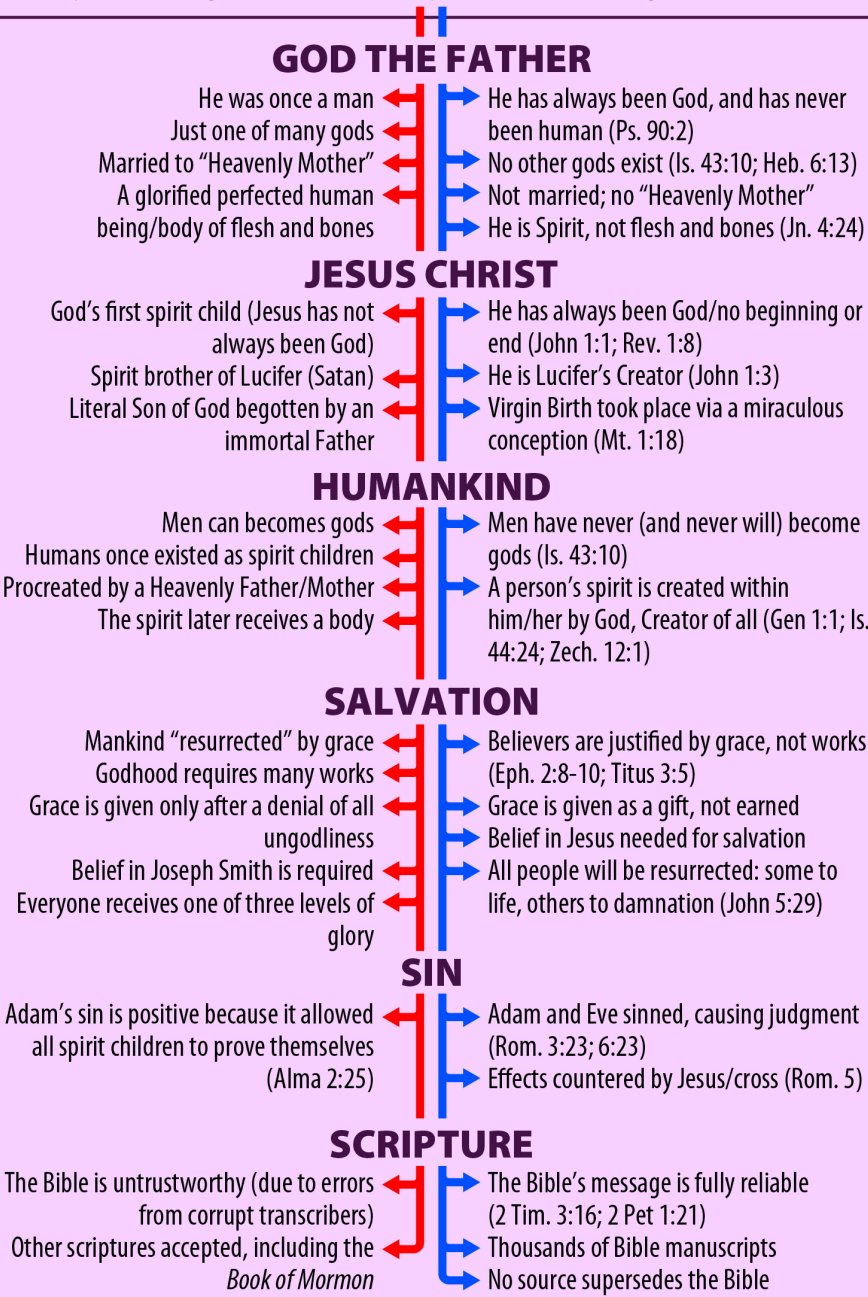
Lifting the Veil of Polygamy

Plural marriage still continues today, as taught by early LDS leaders. This is not a dead issue in Utah today. (82:00)

If you have questions or would like to talk to someone about spiritual issues (*maybe you are even questioning your Mormonism*), please write us: contact@mrm.org. We really do care!

AREN'T **MORMONISM** AND **CHRISTIANITY** THE SAME?

At first glance, many may assume that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a Christian religion. After all, Mormons are known to speak about a belief in God, Jesus, salvation, the Bible, and moral living standards. While the terms may be the same, there is a difference in meaning when the theological tenets as taught in Mormonism are compared with what traditionally has been taught in biblical Christianity. Consider the following essential differences:



JOSEPH SMITH: A MAN WITH A REPUTABLE HISTORY?

Many Latter-day Saints hold that Mormon Church founder Joseph Smith was a man who ought to be highly esteemed and even imitated. At least that's the image given by the church's leadership. Yet is this image deserved?

First of all, consider this quote from Smith: *"I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet"* (History of the Church 6:408-409).

Another questionable trait of Joseph Smith is that he was a polygamist who married women behind his wife Emma's back. In a Gospel Topics essay titled "Plural Marriage in Kirtland and Nauvoo" published on the lds.org website, it is admitted that "careful estimates" puts the number of Smith's wives "between 30 and 40."

LDS historian Todd Compton writes, "In the

"I have more to boast of than ever any man had...Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did such a work as I."

-Joseph Smith

group of Smith's well-documented wives, eleven (33 percent) were 14 to 20 years old when they married him. . . The teenage representation is the largest, though the twenty-year and thirty-year groups are compatible, which contradicts the Mormon folk wisdom that sees the beginnings of polygamy as an attempt to care for older, unattached women. These data suggest that sexual attraction was an important part of the motivation for Smith's polygamy" (In Sacred Loneliness, 11-12).

A third of Smith's wives "were married to other husbands and cohabitating with them when Smith married them" (15). The idea that polygamy was allowed by God to help "widows" is not logically or biblically sound.

For more information visit www.JosephsWives.org

WHO SAID IT?

For many years the General Conferences were held at the Tabernacle inside Temple Square. Can you guess which LDS presidents gave the following quotes at different General Conference sessions?



1. "Now hear it, O inhabitants of the earth, Jew and Gentile, Saint and sinner! **When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives, with him. He helped to make and organize this world. He is MICHAEL, the Archangel, the ANCIENT OF DAYS! about whom holy men have written and spoken—HE is our FATHER and our GOD, and the only God with whom WE have to do.**"

A. Joseph Smith B. Brigham Young C. Ezra Taft Benson D. Gordon B. Hinckley

2. "First, let us pause to remind ourselves that we are the spiritual children of God, and that we are his supreme creation. **In each of us there is the potentiality to become a God**—pure, holy, true, influential, powerful, independent of earthly forces. We learn from the scriptures that we each have eternal existence, that we were in the beginning with God (see Abr. 3:22). That understanding gives us a unique sense of man's dignity."

A. Joseph Fielding Smith B. Harold B. Lee C. Spencer W. Kimball D. Ezra Taft Benson

3. "If we were to do away with polygamy, it would only be one feather in the bird, one ordinance in the Church and kingdom. **Do away with that, then we must do away with prophets and Apostles, with revelation and the gifts and graces of the Gospel, and finally give up our religion altogether and turn sectarians and do as the world does, then all would be right. We just can't do that, for God has commanded us to build up His kingdom and to bear our testimony to the nations of the earth, and we are going to do it, come life or come death. He has told us to do thus, and we shall obey Him in days to come as we have in days past.**"

A. Wilford Woodruff B. John Taylor C. Brigham Young D. Lorenzo Snow

4. "The descendants of Ham, besides a **black skin which has ever been a curse** that has followed an apostate of the holy priesthood, as well as a black heart, have been servants to both Shem and Jepheth, and the **abolitionists are trying to make void the curse of God**, but it will require more power than man possesses to counteract the decrees of eternal wisdom."

A. Joseph Smith B. Brigham Young C. John Taylor D. Joseph Fielding Smith

5. "God our Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, have marked the way to perfection. They beckon us to follow eternal verities and to **become perfect, as they are perfect** (see Matthew 5:48; 3 Nephi 12:48)."

A. Spencer W. Kimball B. Harold B. Lee C. Ezra Taft Benson D. Thomas S. Monson

Answers:

1. B. Brigham Young, April 9, 1852, Journal of Discourses 1:50.
2. C. Spencer W. Kimball, "President Kimball Speaks Out on Morality," Ensign (Conference Edition), November 1980, p. 94.
3. A. Wilford Woodruff, December 12, 1869, Journal of Discourses 13:166.
4. C. John Taylor, Times and Seasons, April 1, 1845, 6:857.
5. D. Thomas S. Monson, "An Invitation to Exaltation," Ensign (Conference Edition), May 1988, p. 54.

THE CHURCH HISTORY MUSEUM

Located across the street from Temple Square on West Temple is a remodeled museum you can visit. The main floor focuses on 19th century LDS Church history.

One room contains items from the Carthage (IL) Jail where Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum were imprisoned.

On the east wall of this display is a mural portraying the "martyrdom" that depicts two smuggled pistols—both of which are on display—in the pockets of Hyrum and Joseph.

John Taylor, who later became an LDS president, said this in History of the Church:



Joseph Smith's pepperbox pistol

"I shall never forget the deep feeling of sympathy and regard manifested in the countenance of Brother Joseph as he drew nigh to Hyrum, and, leaning over him, exclaimed, 'Oh! My poor, dear brother Hyrum!' He, however, instantly arose, and with a firm, quick step, and a determined expression of countenance, approached the door, and pulling the six-shooter left by Brother Wheelock from his pocket, opened the door slightly, and snapped the pistol six successive times; only three of the barrels, however, were discharged. I afterwards understood that two or three were wounded by these discharges, two of whom, I am informed, died" (HC 7:100-103).