

A N S W E R S
F O R O U R
M O R M O N
F R I E N D S



theLighthouse

Mormonism: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

- Headquartered in Salt Lake City in Utah
- 15 million members worldwide
- 70,000 full-time missionaries and 33,000 part-time are serving in more than 400 missions throughout the world. Most missionaries are young people under the age of 25,
- 1990's spent 100 million dollars in annual advertising costs with "Family Oriented" and "Name Familiarity" style.
- They convey a caring, sensitive church with Christ centered families all working together for the furthering of Christ work on earth.
- Many Mormons believe that they are sincerely serving Christ and are committed loving people whose conscious intent is to not be the enemies of Christ.
- Mormon Scriptures
 - Old and New Testaments – KJV only
 - *The Book of Mormon* - claims to be a record of God's dealings with the inhabitants of ancient America from 2000 BC to 400 AD
 - *Doctrine and Covenants* - a collection of "revelations and inspired declarations" given for the establishment and regulation of the Church of Jesus Christ in the last days (1830 AD – 1978 AD)
 - *The Pearl of Great Price* - a selection of revelations, translations, and writings of Joseph Smith
- Companies/Celebrities
 - Marriot
 - 1800-contacts
 - Black and Decker
 - Bingham Young University
 - Glen Beck (Radio, TV, Talk show host)
 - Mitt Romney (Former Massachusetts Governor and 2012 Presidential Candidate)
 - Stephanie Meyers (Twilight)
 - Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite)

Founder: Joseph Smith

- Heavily involved in the occults
- In 1820 at age 14 he claimed he went into the woods to enquire of God which of all the Christian churches was right and which one he should join.
- It was "revealed" to him that all Christian groups since the death of the apostles had strayed from the true Church of Christ. He claimed that he was given the responsibility to restore the one and only true church.

- In later visions Smith claimed that he was led to tablets of gold stored in a nearby hillside. These tablets supposedly contained a history of the ancient inhabitants of North America. With the aid of special seeing stones, Smith translated the message found on these plates which he claimed were written in “Reformed Egyptian” and published it as the *Book of Mormon* in 1830. His “translations,” written in perfect King James English, were published in 1830 as the *Book of Mormon*. This book was to become the sacred scripture of Mormonism.
- The book, which has become the foundational document for Mormons, relates the story of the descendants of an Israelite family (Lehi), who fled Jerusalem in 600 B.C. and subsequently immigrated by boat to North America. These people were what we know as the American Indians. The claim is that they were visited by Jesus after his resurrection.
- A charismatic religious leader, Smith gathered a sizable following of converts whom he organized into a sustainable religious community. This community was persecuted wherever they went, forcing them to uproot and move often. A settlement at Kirkland, Ohio was followed by others in Missouri and other places, ultimately leading to the town of Nauvoo, Illinois, in late 1840 where he began practicing polygamy and he eventually married several dozen women.
- Ran for the Presidency of the United States—met with fierce resistance, and he was ultimately jailed and later killed by an angry mob in June 1844.

Beliefs

- Core Doctrine: The Law of Eternal Progression
 - "As man is, God once was, and as God is, man may become"
- Teaching that there are a great number of planets scattered throughout the vastness of the universe which are ruled by countless exalted men-gods who once were human like us.
 - The Mormon people seek out their own exaltation and godhood, their own planet to rule and reign over
- Long ago on one of these planets, to an unidentified god and one of his goddess wives, a spirit child was conceived. The spirit child was later born to human parents who gave him a physical body
- Through obedience to Mormon teaching, death and resurrection, he proved himself worthy and was elevated to godhood as his father before him
- Mormons believe that Elohim is their heavenly Father and that he lives with his many wives on a planet near a mysterious star called Kolob.
- Here the god of Mormonism and his wives, through endless celestial sex, produced billions of spirit children. Mormons teach four basic points on the doctrine of God.
 - First, Mormons teach that God the Father has a body of flesh and bone as tangible as man's.
 - Second, Mormons teach that God evolved from mortal man. Mormons believe that God is a finite man who has been evolving and changing to become God and now is a man-

God in heaven with a body of flesh and bone, an exalted man who is God over this planet.

- Third, Mormons teach polytheism. Polytheism is the belief in the existence of more than one god. Mormons believe there are literally millions of gods: father gods, mother gods, grandfather gods, grandmother gods, great-grandfather gods, great-grandmother gods, aunts, and uncles—literally millions of gods.
- Fourth, every male Mormon is striving to become a god himself. Let's see what the first two Mormon prophets, Joseph Smith and Brigham Young, said about the doctrine of God.
- Mormons believe that the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate gods. They also believe the Father and Son each have a “body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's” but that the Holy Ghost “has not a body of flesh and bones but is a personage of Spirit.”
- To decide their destiny, the head of the Mormon gods called a great heavenly council meeting. Both of Elohim's eldest sons were there, Lucifer and his brother Jesus.
- A plan was presented to build planet Earth, where the spirit children would be sent to take on mortal bodies and learn good from evil.
- Lucifer stood and made his bid for becoming savior of this new world. Wanting the glory for himself, he planned to force everyone to become gods.
- Opposing the idea, the Mormon Jesus suggested giving man his freedom of choice, as on other planets.
- The vote that followed approved the proposal of the Mormon Jesus, who would become savior of the planet Earth. The Mormon Jesus:
 - Jesus is our elder brother who pointed the way, but he isn't The Way
 - Jesus was the god of the Old Testament, but once he took his physical form, he had to justify or earn his own spiritual salvation through his works while in the flesh, just as each of us must.
 - Jesus suffered for our sins in the Garden of Gethsemane, providing personal salvation (which may mean exaltation to godhood) conditional upon our obedience to the laws and ordinances of the LDS gospel.
 - His death on the cross provided a general salvation, whereby all of us will be resurrected to be judged for our own works.
 - It is no wonder that you will never see a cross on a Mormon church—not when you see that Mormons cannot deal with its gift of grace.
 - This is the same reason they use water for communion. They call it The Sacrament, but that water washes away the reality of the blood shed for us at the cross of Christ.
 - Jesus is the LDS savior only in the sense that his death gives the Mormon the means of returning to the god of this world, using the secret keys, handgrips, and passwords

learned only in the Mormon Temple, secrets that will ensure safe passage through the doorway to personal godhood.

- Enraged, Lucifer cunningly convinced one-third of the spirits destined for Earth to fight with him and revolt. Thus Lucifer became the devil and his followers the demons. Sent to this world in spirit form, they would forever be denied bodies of flesh and bone.
- Those who remained neutral in the battle were cursed to be born with black skin. This is the Mormon explanation for the African American race. The spirits that fought most valiantly against Lucifer would be born into Mormon families on planet Earth. These would be the lighter-skinned people, or “white and delightsome,” as the Book of Mormon described them.
- Early Mormon prophets taught that Elohim and one of his goddess wives came to Earth as Adam and Eve to start the human race. Thousands of years later, Elohim in human form once again journeyed to Earth from the star base Kolob, this time to have physical relations with the Virgin Mary in order to provide Jesus with a physical body.
- Mormon Apostle Orson Hyde taught that after Jesus Christ grew to manhood he took at least three wives: Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene. Through these wives the Mormon Jesus supposedly fathered a number of children before he was crucified. Mormon founder Joseph Smith is supposedly one of his descendants.
- According to the Book of Mormon, after his resurrection Jesus came to the Americas to preach to the Indians, who the Mormons believe are really Israelites. Thus the Jesus of Mormonism established his church in the Americas as he had in Palestine.
- By the year A.D. 421, the dark-skinned Israelites, known as the Lamanites, had destroyed all of the white-skinned Nephites in a number of great battles.
- The Nephites’ records were supposedly written on golden plates buried in the Hill Cumorah by Moroni, the last living Nephite.
- About 1400 years later a young treasure-seeker named Joseph Smith, who was known for his tall tales, claimed to have been visited by Moroni and who gave him the location of the gold plates near his home in upstate New York.
- The Mormons teach that everyone must stand at the final judgment before Joseph Smith, the Mormon Jesus, and Elohim. Those Mormons who are sealed in the eternal marriage ceremony in LDS temples expect to become polygamous gods or their goddess wives in the Celestial Kingdom, rule over other planets, and spawn new families throughout eternity.
- The Mormons thank God for Joseph Smith, who claimed that he had done more for us than any other man, including Jesus Christ. The Mormons claim that he died as a martyr, shedding his blood for us so that we too may become gods.

False Prophecies

Prophecy #1 — Temple to be built in Independence, Missouri. In September of 1832 Joseph Smith prophesied that the New Jerusalem and a new temple would be built in Zion, Missouri, a site near Independence. He further stated that his generation would not all pass away until these events took place. The temple was never built in Smith’s lifetime or within the generation of his contemporaries. The

Mormons were driven out of Missouri in 1839. The site where the temple was to be built is not even owned today by the Mormon Church.

Prophecy #2 — The End of all nations. In December 1832 Smith prophesied that South Carolina would rebel against the federal government, resulting in a war that would spread worldwide and would result in the “full end of all nations.” Nothing needs to be said about the failure of this bizarre prophecy.

Prophecy #3 — The Return of the Lord. In 1835, as the prophecies of William Miller were growing in popularity, Joseph Smith stated that “the return of the Lord is nigh — even fifty-six years should wind up the scene.” The 56 years passed in 1891. In a diary entry dated April 6, 1843, Smith repeated this prophecy, stating the Lord would return when “I am 85 years old, 48 years hence, or about 1890.” Smith was killed when he was 39 years old.

Prophecy #4 — The Liberty jail prophecies. In March of 1839 Smith issued a whole package of prophecies from his jail cell in Liberty, Missouri. Among other things, he predicted that his enemies would be destroyed “by the sword,” that his friends would never charge him with transgressions, and that God was about to change the times and seasons. None of these prophecies came true. The enemies of the Mormons were not destroyed, God did not change the times and seasons, and Smith’s friends did turn on him with serious charges that ultimately led to his arrest and death.

Prophecy #5 — The United States Government to be overthrown. In May of 1843 Smith prophesied that if the United States government did not redress the wrongs suffered by the Mormons in Missouri, the government would be “utterly overthrown and wasted.” The federal government rejected the Mormon petitions and their “wrongs” were not redressed, yet the U.S. government continued to exist.

Prophecy #6 — His son to succeed him. In April 1844 Smith prophesied that his son would succeed him and would become “president and king of Israel.” The child was named David. Needless to say, he never became “president and king of Israel.” Nor did he succeed his father. He died in 1904 at the age of 60, after spending the last 27 years of his life in an insane asylum.

Truth of God's word

Gal 1:6-9

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Colossians 2:13-14

13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

John 4:23-24

23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Matthew 16:13-17

13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" **14** So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." **15** He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." **17** Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

Isaiah 45:5

I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God

John 1:1-3:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2The same was in the beginning with God. 3All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made."

Colossians 1:16-17: "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."

Resource and Research:

Book: Fast Facts on False Religions by Ron Carlson and Ed Decker

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/9-things-you-should-know-about-mormonism/>

<https://www.mormonnewsroom.org/topic/missionary-program>

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<http://christinprophecy.org/articles/joseph-smith/>

<https://www.moronichannel.org/entertainment/mormon-lifestyle/businesses-that-are-owned-by-latter-day-saints-and-the-church/>

<https://theologicalmatters.com/2014/05/08/mormonism-joseph-smith-jr-and-the-false-teachings-of-the-latter-day-saints/>

<http://mit.irr.org/why-christianity-true-mormonism-not-dozen-reasons>

