

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints The Mormons

First a brief history of the Mormons.

A] The founder is Joseph Smith.

B] His time was the year 1805-1844. (Died 39 y.o.)

C] The name of the religion is “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints” some call them the LDS church or the Mormons.

D] The man, Joseph Smith, was directed to a sect of golden plates containing God’s true revelation, which he translated, with the help of two magical stones. The stones were known as Urim and Thummim. The stones were transparent and were used as glasses for Smith to look through to read the golden plates. This translation, along with many subsequent “revelations” given to Prophet Smith, became the basis for many of the beliefs still taught by Mormons today. Keep in mind that Joseph Smith was only 17 years old at the time. The writings were published in 1830 and named “The Book of Mormon”. In April 6, 1830 Joseph Smith, age 24, and five others organized what would later be named The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Joseph and his brother Hyrum had followers who broke into a newspaper office and destroyed the press and burned copies of the newspaper. They did this because the paper exposed Joseph and the Mormons for polygamy practices and criticized their teachings. The Newspaper was named “The Nauvoo Expositor” started by some excommunicated Mormons. Joseph and Hyrum were arrested and put in jail. On June 27, 1844 a mob stormed the jail and killed both Joseph and Hyrum, his brother. Later Brigham Young became the new leader and led the group to the valley of the Great Salt Lake in Utah, arriving in 1847. A separate group settled in Independence, Missouri, and called themselves the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They chose a son of Joseph Smith for their leader. This group was known as Josephites and the group in Utah was known as Brighamites. The main difference between the two is that the Josephites or also known as the “Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Reorganized” rejects any idea of polygamy and the historical practice of polygamy by Joseph Smith.

Some Mormon Beliefs

- 1) They believe that through the atonement of Christ, all men may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel. They believe that these laws and ordinances are:
 - a. Faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ
 - b. Repentance
 - c. Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins
 - d. Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost
- 2) They believe that in the Bible is contained the word of God. They believe that the canon of Scripture is not full, but that God, by his Spirit, will continue to reveal his word to man until the end of time.

[The books they call scriptures or equal to scripture are:]

The Inspired Version of the Holy Scriptures

The Book of Mormon

The Doctrine and Covenants

The Pearl of Great Price

3) The following are some unusual quotes from some of the Mormon literature.

As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become.

[But the Bible says: Isa 43:10 *Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he; before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.*]

Adam is our father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do.

God is not a Spirit, but an exalted man.

[But the Bible says: Joh 4:24 *God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*]

Jesus Christ was married at Cana, to the Mary and Martha, whereby “He could see his seed” before He was crucified.

Redemption from personal sins can be obtained only through obedience to the requirements of the Mormon church, and a life of good works. That the grace of God is a system of rules by complying with which, salvation may be gained.

*This is contrary to what the Bible says. Notice **Romans 11:6** And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.*

They teach it is scriptural for the living to be baptized for the dead and that it is the duty of living saints to trace back their genealogies that their ancestors may have vicarious baptism.

In the Book of Doctrine and Covenants; in The Covenants and Commandments of the Lord; Appendix A Section 107 e. for a baptismal font there is not upon the earth; that they, my Saints may be baptized for those who are dead;

Here is the verse that the Mormons take out of context to defend this false doctrine.

1 Cor. 15:29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead (Jesus, not resurrected), if the dead (*Jesus, not resurrected*) rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead (*Jesus, not resurrected*)?

NOTE: I Cor. 15:29 "baptized for the dead" The dead here is referring to Jesus and if he was not resurrected, not some dead relative or loved one. The biggest theme of this part of the chapter is what if Jesus was not resurrected. Baptism does not save a live person, let alone a dead person.

In I Cor. 15:29 If you will substitute the word "dead" with "Jesus, not resurrected" it will help clear things up.

Notice what has already been discussed in this chapter.

1 Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? **13** But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: **14** And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain. **15** Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise

not. **16** For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: **17** And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

3) The following are more quotes from the Mormon literature.

Gods, angels and men, are all one species, one race, one great family, widely diffused among the planetary systems.

Brigham Young is quoted as saying “Whosoever confesseth that Joseph Smith was sent of God...that spirit is of God; and every spirit that does not confess that God has sent Joseph Smith, and revealed the everlasting Gospel to and through him, is of Antichrist.”

But the Bible says: **1Jo 4:2** Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:
1Jo 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

4) There are other strange teachings from the Mormons.

They teach that Jesus Christ was a spirit brother of Satan before His birth as a man. They teach that after Jesus Christ’s ascension, He visited the American continent and preached the Gospel to the ancient inhabitants. He then instituted the doctrines and practices of His “true church”, which were duly recorded on the golden plates.

But the Bible says: **1Co 15:8** And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

They teach that the universe is inhabited by different gods who procreate spirit children which are in turn clothed with bodies on different planets.

They teach as heaven there are three kingdoms. They are celestial, terrestrial, and telestial. Your works and whether you join the Mormon church determine to which kingdom you will go.

They teach that there will be marriage and the begetting of children in the next world.

But the Bible says: **Matthew 22:30** **For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.**

In the introduction of the book of Mormon there appears this clause. “And now if there are faults, they are the mistakes of men.”

In the Book of Mormon, in the *II Nephi 12:63* “And because I have spoken one word, ye need not suppose that I cannot speak another; for my work is not yet finished; neither shall it be until the end of man; neither from that time henceforth and forever. V. 64 “Wherefore, because ye have a bible, ye need not suppose that it contains all my words; neither need ye suppose that I have not caused more to be written.

But the Bible says: **Revelation 22:18** **For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:**

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.

On Being Saved: In the Book of Mormon, in *II Nephi 13:15* “Also, the voice of the Son came to me, saying, “He that is baptized in my name, to him will the Father give the Holy Ghost,”

II Nephi 13:21 “Now, my beloved brethren, I know by this that unless a man shall endure to the end in following the example of the Son of the living God, he cannot be saved.”

II Nephi 13:24 “For the gate by which you should enter is repentance and baptism by water; and then comes a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost.”

But the Bible says: **Acts 16:30** And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? ³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Acts 10:43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

On Receiving Eternal Life: In the Book of Mormon, in *Jacob 4:16* “Oh, then, my beloved brethren, repent, and enter in at the strait gate, and continue in the way which is narrow until you shall obtain eternal life.”

But the Bible says: **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Jesus’ Birth Location: In their Book of Mormon “*Alma 5:19* And, behold, he shall be born of Mary at **Jerusalem**, which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed, and conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, even the Son of God.”

But the Bible says: **Micah 5:2** But thou, **Bethlehem** Ephratah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting.

Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in **Bethlehem** of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

John 7:42 Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of **Bethlehem**, where David was?

More Bible Responses

Repentance is necessary for salvation but it comes before faith in Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:15 "repent ye, and believe the gospel"

Luke 13:3, 5 "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"

Faith in God and in Jesus Christ is also required for salvation but it does not just mean believe God and Jesus exists. It is also relying on Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross for their salvation and payment of their sin.

[John 3:15-18, 36; 5:24; 6:40, 47; I John 5:13; Acts 4:12; John 14:6]

Baptism and Laying on of Hands has no part in the gospel and is not required for salvation.

[I Cor. 1:14-18; Eph. 2:8-9; Gal. 2:16; Tit. 3:5-7; Rom. 3:20, 28]

The Mormons ignore the warnings in the Bible about adding to or taking away from the Bible.

Revelation 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.

Deuteronomy 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish [ought] from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Proverbs 30:6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort [you] that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.