

Mormonism

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

\$30 Billion Assets of the Mormon Church

(Largely through Deseret Management Corporation subsidiaries and divisions)

- AgReserves Inc. - the largest producer of nuts in the United States (circa. 1997)
- Beneficial Financial Group

\$30 Billion Assets of the Mormon Church

(Largely through Deseret Management Corporation subsidiaries and divisions)

- Bonneville International Corporation: owns radio stations nationwide, Bonneville Communications, Bonneville Interactive, and Bonneville Satellite Company
 - ✓ KSL-TV, Salt Lake
 - ✓ KSL Newsradio, Salt Lake
 - ✓ KRSP-FM, Salt Lake
 - ✓ KMVP, Phoenix
 - ✓ KTAR, Phoenix
 - ✓ KTAR-FM, Phoenix
 - ✓ KMVP-FM , Phoenix
 - ✓ KSWD, Los Angeles
 - ✓ KTTH, Seattle - Tacoma
 - ✓ KIRO, Seattle - Tacoma

\$30 Billion Assets of the Mormon Church

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- Deseret Book: LDS publisher and bookstores chain
- Deseret Digital Media: Operates the Web sites of other DMC media companies, including deseretnews.com, ksl.com and deseretbook.com
- Deseret Media Companies: Helps operate Deseret Management's media focused subsidiaries
- Deseret Mutual: Provides medical, dental, life, and disability insurance, retirement and savings benefits to Deseret Management Corporation employees, and health insurance to LDS Missionaries and General Authorities

\$30 Billion Assets of the Mormon Church

(Largely through Deseret Management Corporation subsidiaries and divisions)

- Deseret News Publishing Company: Publishes Utah's second-largest daily newspaper, the Deseret News, along with Mormon Times, Church News and El Observador
- Farmland Reserve Inc.
 - ✓ 228,000 acres (923 km²) in Nebraska
 - ✓ 51,600 acres in Osage County, Oklahoma
 - ✓ over 312,000 acres (1,260 km²) in Florida (dba Deseret Cattle and Citrus)

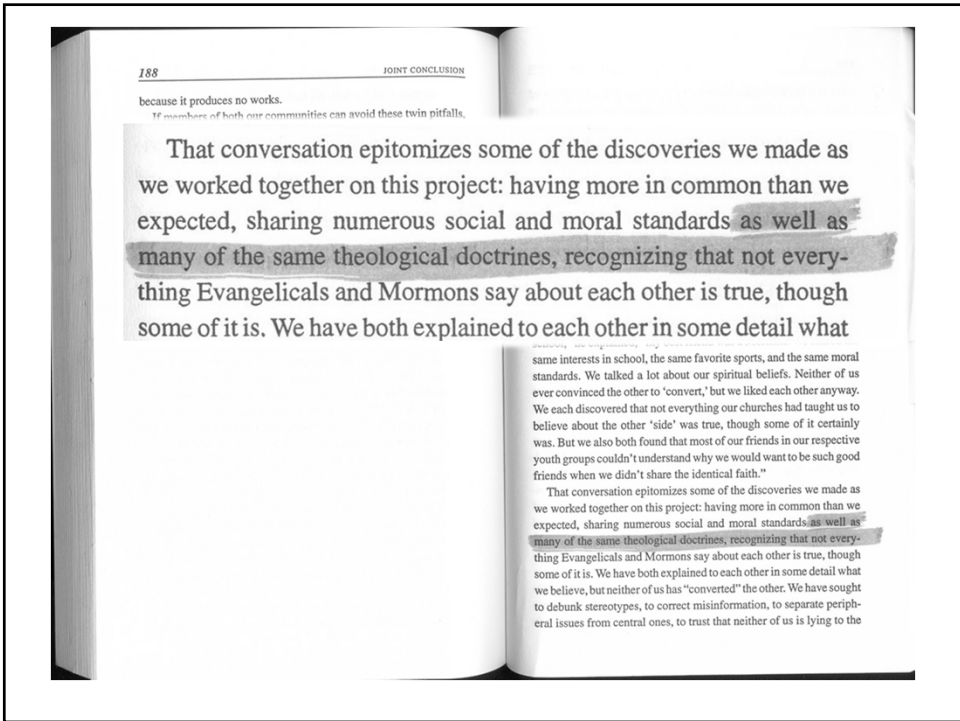
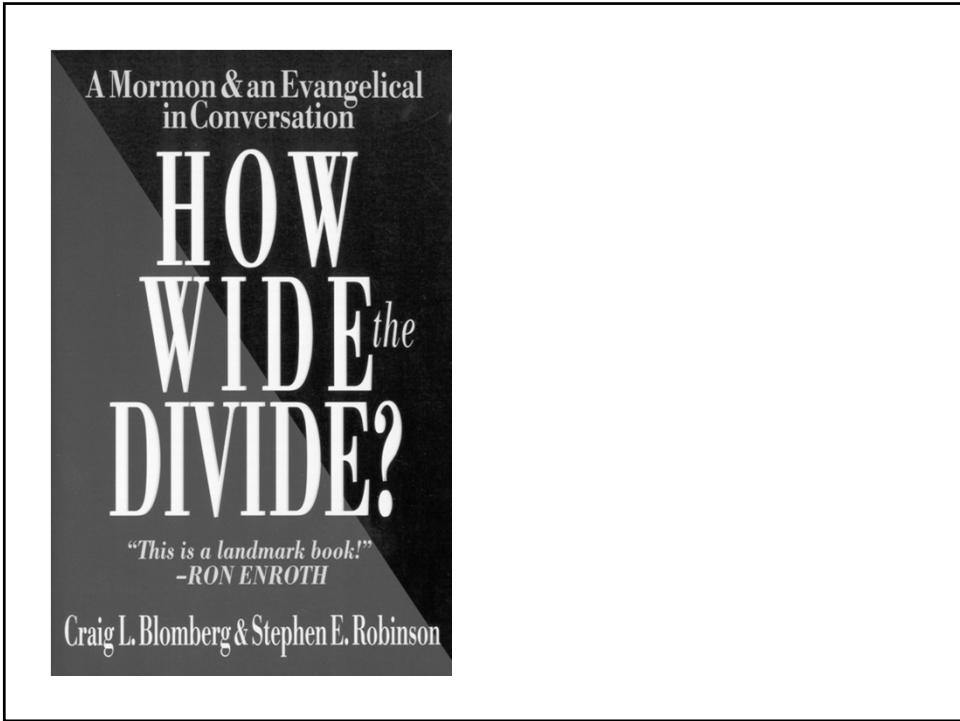
\$30 Billion Assets of the Mormon Church

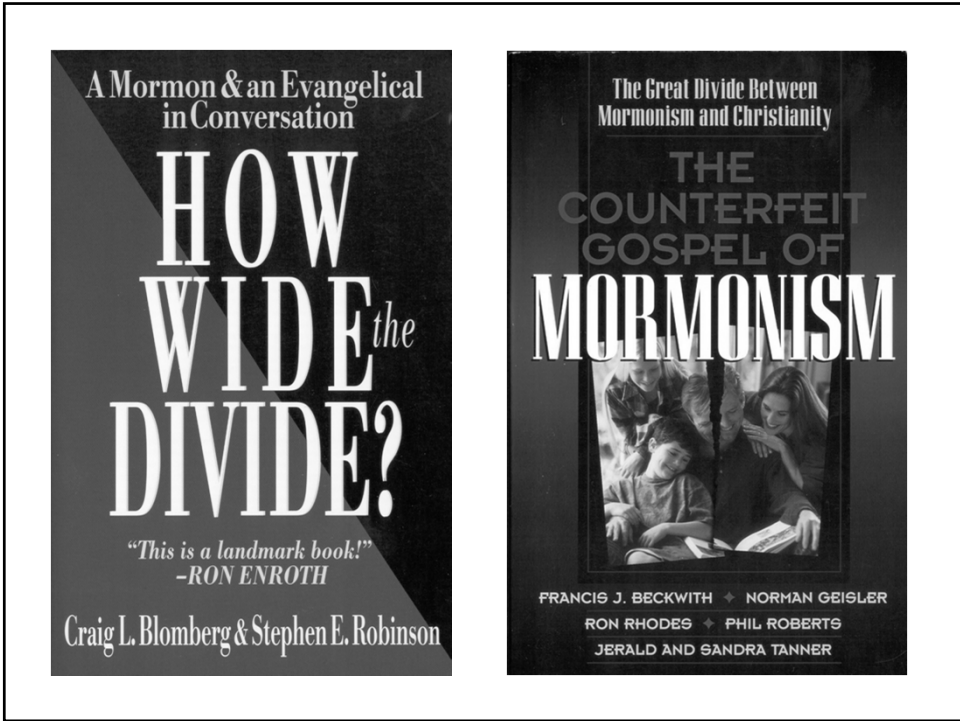
(Largely through Deseret Management Corporation subsidiaries and divisions)

- Hawaii Reserves, Inc.
 - ✓ Polynesian Cultural Center (the leading paid visitor attraction in Hawaii)
 - ✓ Brigham Young University-Hawaii
 - ✓ LDS Church-related entities generated revenue of \$260 million for the Hawaii economy in 2005.
- Temple Square Hospitality: operates downtown Salt Lake City properties such as the Lion House and the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.
- Zions Securities: Real estate company which manages apartments and commercial property, particularly in downtown Salt Lake City.

Preliminary Matters

The Need for Understanding
New Religious Movements and Cults





What is a Cult?

Theological vs. Sociological



What is a Cult?

Sociological

a group that has certain aberrant or destructive psychological and/or sociological traits such as mind control, social alienation, paranoia



What is a Cult?

Sociological



Marshall Applewhite and Heaven's Gate



What is a Cult?

Theological



1. Broad sense
2. Narrow sense

What is a Cult?

Theological



Broad

any group with false religious teachings, other than a World Religion, that stands in opposition to the historic, orthodox Christian faith

What is a Cult?

Theological



Broad

any group with false religious teachings, other than a World Religion, that stands in opposition to the historic, orthodox Christian faith

What is a Cult?

Theological



Anton LaVey and the Church of Satan

What is a Cult?

Theological



Anton LaVey and the
Church of Satan

What is a Cult?

Theological



Narrow

a group that is an offshoot of Christianity which denies one or more of the cardinal doctrines of historic, orthodox Christianity and often considers itself the only true expression of Christianity

What is a Cult?

Theological



Joseph Smith and Mormonism

What is a Cult?

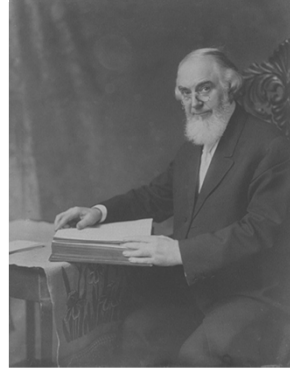
Theological



Joseph Smith and Mormonism

What is a Cult?

Theological



Charles Taze Russell and Jehovah's Witnesses

What is a Cult?

Theological



Charles Taze Russell and Jehovah's Witnesses

What is a Cult?

Theological



A given group can exhibit aspects of both definitions.

Confusion comes because the media mainly use the term 'cult' in a sociological sense. I am using the term in a theological sense.

What is a Cult?

Theological



Because of the possible confusion and to avoid the risk of offending members of these groups, academic evangelicals are opting for the phrase "new religious movements" instead.

Cult vs. "Cultic"



Cult

an organization (as described) that one can join and become a member of

Cult vs. "Cultic"



"Cultic"

exhibiting the characteristics and/or doctrines of a cult without necessarily being an actual organization that one can join and become a member of

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All welcome
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Museum & Church of St Columba & St Andrew
Please bring a couple of drinks for others
Entrance £0

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined. - Henry David Thoreau

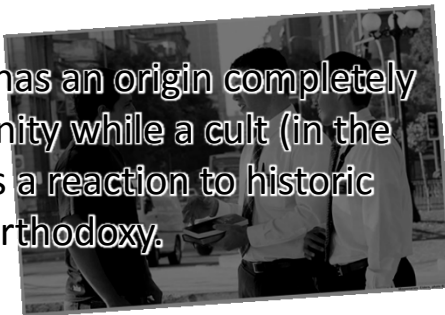
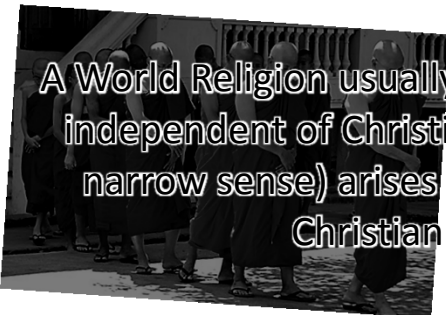
New Age Movement

Word of Faith Movement

What is the Difference between a World Religion and a Cult?

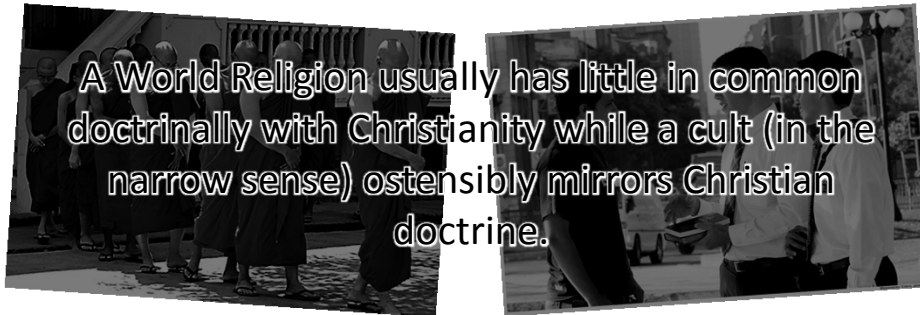


What is the Difference between a World Religion and a Cult?

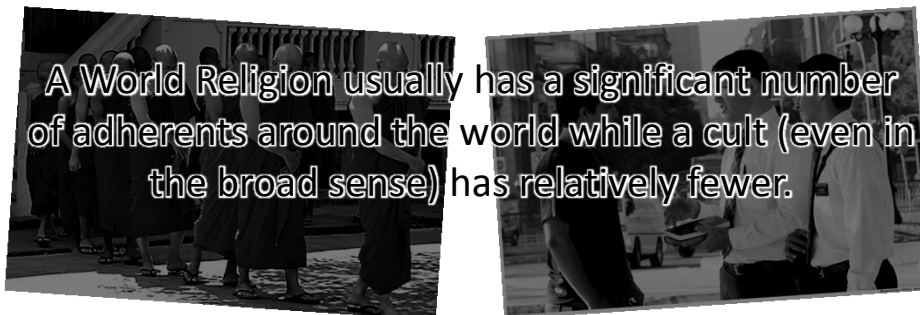


A World Religion usually has an origin completely independent of Christianity while a cult (in the narrow sense) arises as a reaction to historic Christian orthodoxy.

What is the Difference between a World Religion and a Cult?



What is the Difference between a World Religion and a Cult?



*Mormonism
and the Marks
of a Cult*

All Cults Weaken or Deny
the Authority of the Bible.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

The Bible alone is the
inerrant, infallible Word of
God.

(Hebrews 1:1; 2 Peter 1:19-2:2; 2 Timothy
3:16; Revelation 22:18-19)

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

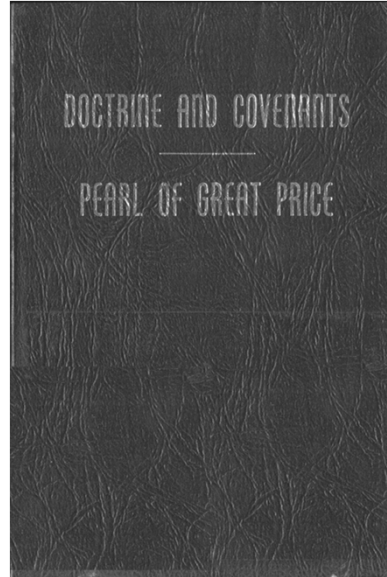
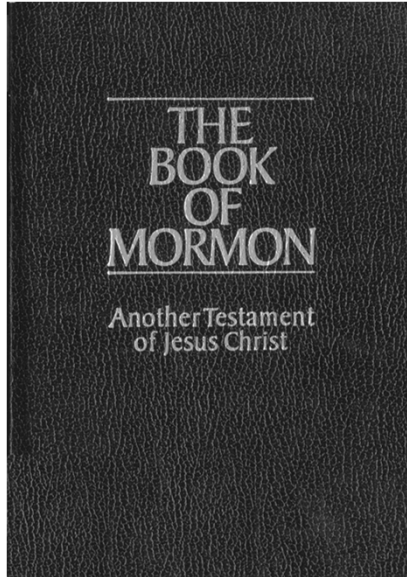
Mormonism

Mormonism denies the
authority of the Bible by
claiming additional
revelation.

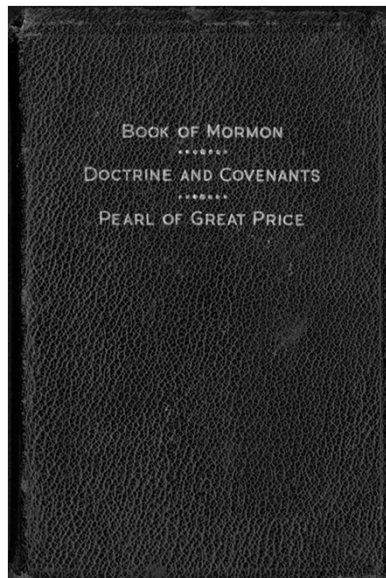
The four standard works:

- The Bible (correctly translated)
- The Book of Mormon
- The Doctrine and Covenants
- The Pearl of Great Price

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

Each office carries with it particular responsibilities and powers. Among these are the authority to baptize, to administer the sacrament, to preside over various groups, and in the highest instance to preside over the Church itself.

While this priesthood carries with it the authority to govern the Church and its members in religious

What of the Bible?

THE Bible is the word of God, written by men. It is basic in Mormon teaching. But the Latter-day Saints recognize that errors have crept into this sacred work because of the manner in which the book has come to us. Moreover, they regard it as not being complete as a guide. Scores of different types of church organization and conflicting interpretations on basic doctrines, which have led to the creation of hundreds of different sects, bear witness to the inadequacy of the Bible.

Supplementing the Bible, the Latter-day Saints have three other books. These with the Bible constitute the standard works of the Church. They are known as the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price.

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All Cults Deny
Salvation by Grace
through Faith Alone

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

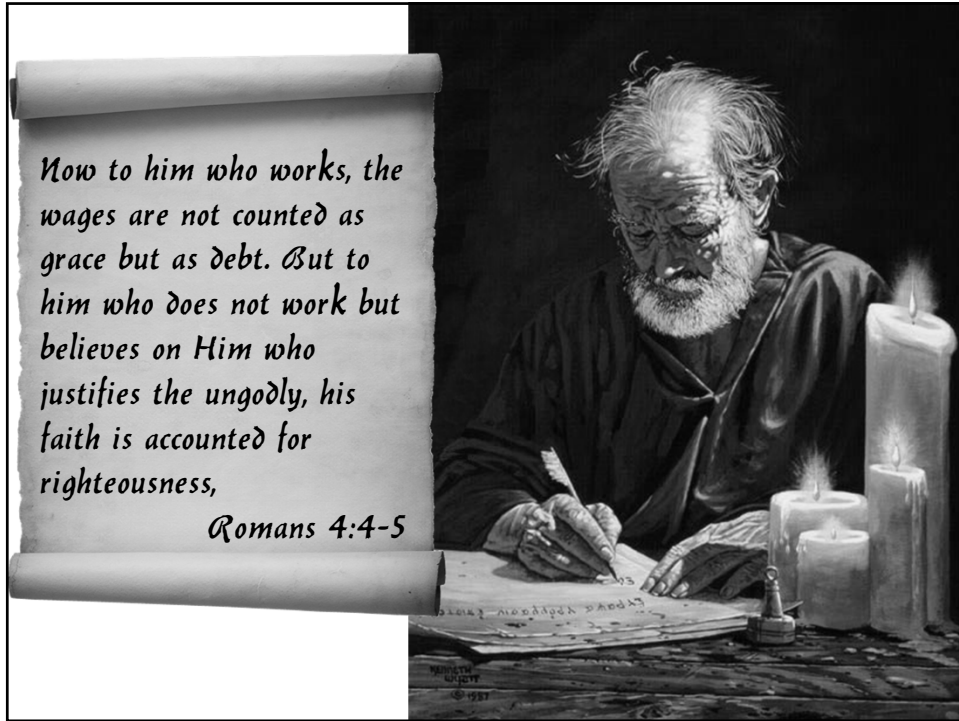
Christ's death was the complete payment for man's sins. Salvation is a gift and cannot be earned by works. All that is necessary is belief in the gospel. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:24,25; Col. 1:20; I Peter 2:24; 2 Cor. 5:20; John 20:30-31).

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

Salvation is Becoming "like Him" (1 John 3:2). This means that we will be made completely holy and righteous as He is. (morally not ontologically) (2 Peter 1:4; Hebrews 12:10)



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

Mormonism

Mormonism denies salvation by grace through faith apart from works by adding works to the gospel.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

ADVERTISEMENT

Articles of Faith OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

THE GODHEAD: 1. We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIN: 2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

SALVATION: 3. We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

FIRST PRINCIPLES: 4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

AUTHORITY: 5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands, by those who are in authority to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

ORGANIZATION: 6. We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, viz., apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, etc.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: 7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc.

SCRIPTURES: 8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

REVELATIONS: 9. We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.

CHRIST'S REIGN ON EARTH: 10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion will be built upon this (the American) continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisaical glory.

FREEDOM: 11. We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience; and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.

OBEDIENCE TO LAW: 12. We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law.

SEARCH FOR TRUTH; THE GOOD LIFE: 13. We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things. M/3

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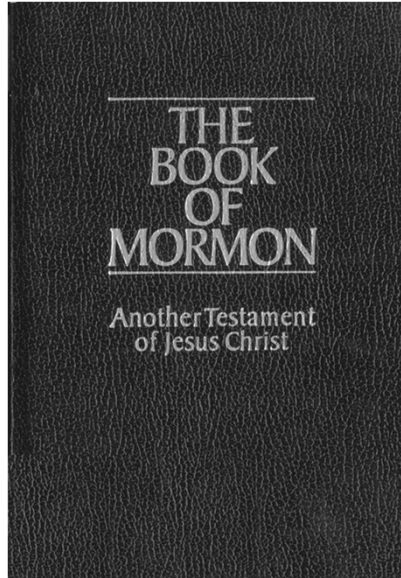
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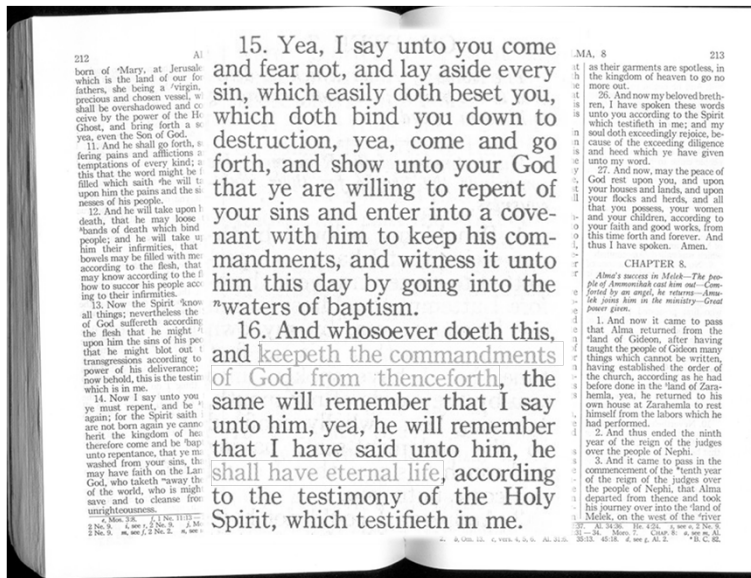
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Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



212 Al
born of Mary, at Jerusalem
which is the land of our fore-
fathers, she being a virgin,
precious and chosen vessel, we
shall be overshadowed and re-
ceive by the power of the Holy
Ghost, and bring forth a son,
yea, even the Son of God.
11. And he shall go forth, suf-
fering pains and afflictions and
temptations of every kind; and
this that the word might be ful-
filled which saith the will be
upon him the pains and the af-
flictions of his people.
12. And he will take upon him
death, that he may loose the
bands of death which bind the
people; and he will take upon
him their infirmities, that
he may be filled with meekness,
that he may succor his people ac-
cording to their infirmities.
13. Now the Spirit knoweth
all things; nevertheless the
flesh that he might bring
upon him the sins of his peo-
ple, that he might blot out their
transgressions according to
power of his deliverance;
now behold, this is the testi-
mony which is in me.
14. Now I say unto you
ye must repent, and be
again; for the Spirit saith
are not born again ye cannot
inherit the kingdom of God;
therefore come and be
baptized into repentance, that ye may
be washed from your sins, that
ye may have faith on the
Name of the Lord, who is might-
y and to cleanse from
unrighteousness.

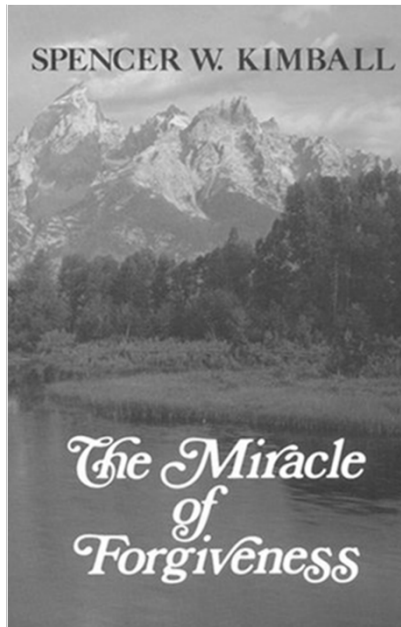
15. Yea, I say unto you come
and fear not, and lay aside every
sin, which easily doth beset you,
which doth bind you down to
destruction, yea, come and go
forth, and show unto your God
that ye are willing to repent of
your sins and enter into a cove-
nant with him to keep his com-
mandments, and witness it unto
him this day by going into the
waters of baptism.

16. And whosoever doeth this,
and keepeth the commandments
of God from thenceforth, the
same will remember that I say
unto him, yea, he will remember
that I have said unto him, he
shall have eternal life, according
to the testimony of the Holy
Spirit, which testifyeth in me.

MA, 8 213
as their garments are spotless, in
the kingdom of heaven to go no
more out.
26. And now my beloved hear-
ten, I have spoken these words
unto you according to the Spirit
which testifyeth in me; and my
soul doth exceedingly rejoice, be-
cause of the exceeding diligence
and heed which ye have given
unto my word.
27. And now, may the peace of
God rest upon you, and upon
your houses and lands, and upon
your flocks and herds, and all
that you possess, your women
and your children, according to
your faith and good works, from
this time forth and forever. And
thus I have spoken. Amen.
CHAPTER 8
Alma's success in Melek—The peo-
ple of Ammoniah cut him out—Com-
pleted by an angel, he returns—Jama-
lek joins him in the ministry—Great
power given
1. And now it came to pass
that Alma returned from the
land of Gideon, after having
taught the people of Gideon many
things which cannot be written,
having established the order of
the church, according as he had
before done in the land of Zarahemla,
yea, he returned to his
own house at Zarahemla to rest
himself from the labors which he
had performed.
2. And thus ended the ninth
year of the reign of the judges
over the people of Nephi.
3. And it came to pass in the
commencement of the tenth year
of the reign of the judges over
the people of Nephi, that Alma
departed from thence and took
his journey over into the land of
Melek, on the west of the river
Al. 13:36. 14:425. 1 see 2 Nep. 7:
31—34. 14:425. 1 see 2 Nep. 7:
30—33. 45:18. 2 see 4 Nep. 1:1. 1 see 4 Nep. 1:1.



Spencer W. Kimball
(1895-1985)
Prophet and President
of the LDS Church 1973-1985



Spencer W. Kimball
(1895-1985)
Prophet and President
of the LDS Church 1973-1985

"One of the most fallacious doctrines originated by Satan and propounded by man is that man is saved alone by the grace of God; that belief in Jesus Christ alone is all that is needed for salvation. ... [This passage] makes clear the two facets, neither of which alone would bring the individual salvation—the grace of Christ, particularly as represented by his atoning sacrifice, and individual effort."

[Spencer W. Kimball, *The Miracle of Forgiveness* (Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1969): 206, 207.]



FALSE DOCTRINES AND UNIVERSAL APOSTASY 25

Erroneous Teachings of Christian Churches

One erroneous teaching of many Christian churches is: *By faith alone we are saved.* This false doctrine would relieve man from the responsibility of his acts other than to confess a belief in God, and would teach man that no matter how great the sin, a confession would bring him complete forgiveness and salvation. What the world needs is more preaching of the necessity of abstaining from sin and of living useful and righteous lives, and less preaching of forgiveness of sin. This would then be a different world. The truth is that men must repent of their sins and forsake them before they can expect forgiveness. Even when our sins are forgiven, God cannot reward us for the good we have not done.

the necessity of abstaining from sin and of living useful and righteous lives, and less preaching of forgiveness of sin. This would then be a different world. The truth is that men must repent of their sins and forsake them before they can expect forgiveness. Even when our sins are forgiven, God cannot reward us for the good we have not done.

There is also the false teaching of one heaven and one hell, with the thought that all who reach heaven will share alike, and the same will be true of those who are assigned to hell.

The truth, as restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith, emphasizes the fact that every man will receive

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

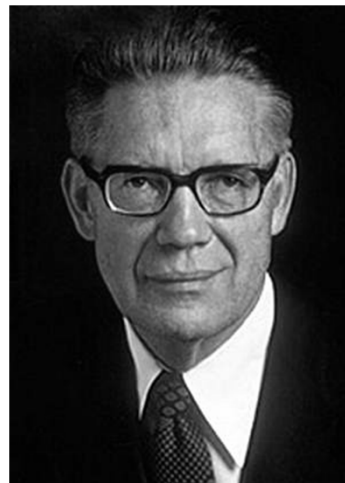
Mormonism

Salvation means exaltation
to godhood.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

"With three or four possible exceptions, all of the revelations of all the ages speak of salvation as being wholly, completely, and totally synonymous with eternal or everlasting life, with exaltation in the highest heaven of the celestial world, with attaining Godhood and being like God the Eternal Father."

[Bruce McConkie, *Doctrinal New Testament Commentary*, 3:284-285.]



Bruce R. McConkie

(1915-1985)

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of
the LDS church 1972-1985

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

Chapter 47
edge and all wisdom. He is the father of spirit children. He is a creator. We can become Gods like our Heavenly Father. This is exaltation.

If we
the L
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exalts
14:7)

WHAT IS EXALTATION?

What is

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1. Thi
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by cause
4. They
will receive a fullness of joy.

5. They
will have everything that our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ have, all power, glory, dominion, and knowledge. President Joseph Fielding Smith wrote: "The Father has promised through the Son that all that he has shall be given to those who are obedient to his commandments. They

Chapter 47
shall increase in knowledge, wisdom, and power, going from grace to grace, until the fullness of the perfect day shall burst

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6. Pay honest tithes and offerings.
7. Be honest in our dealings with others and with the Lord.
8. Speak the truth always.
9. Obey the Word of Wisdom.
10. Search out our kindred dead and perform the saving ordinances of the gospel for them.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

There is only one God.

Deuteronomy 32:39 "Now see that I, even I, am He, And there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand."

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

God is one is substance
and three in person.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

The Trinity in the
New Testament

Matthew 3:16-17 Jesus
baptized, Holy Spirit as a
dove, Father speaking

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

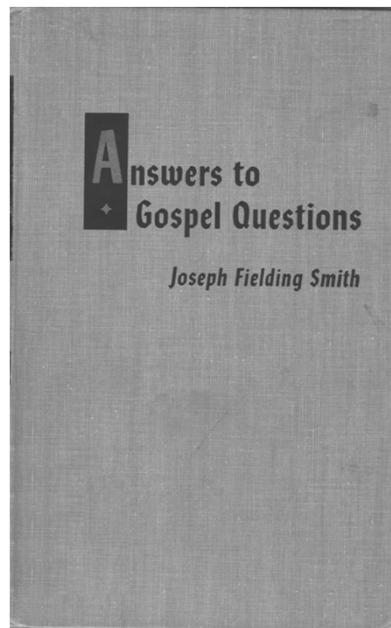
Biblical Argument

1. The Father is God.
2. The Son is God.
3. The Spirit is God.

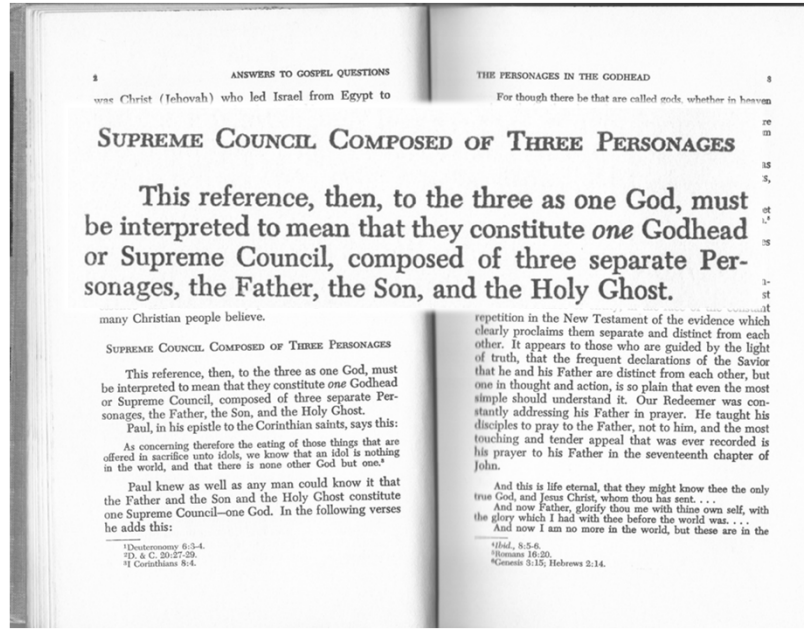
Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

Mormonism

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



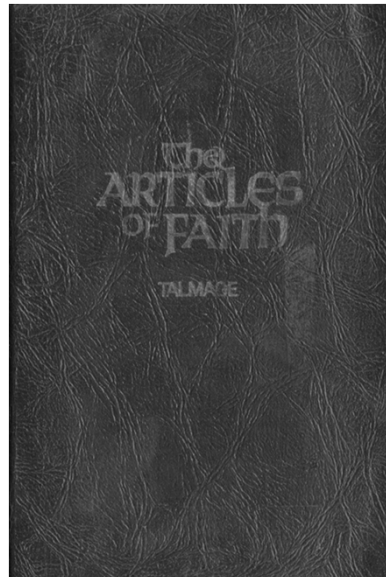
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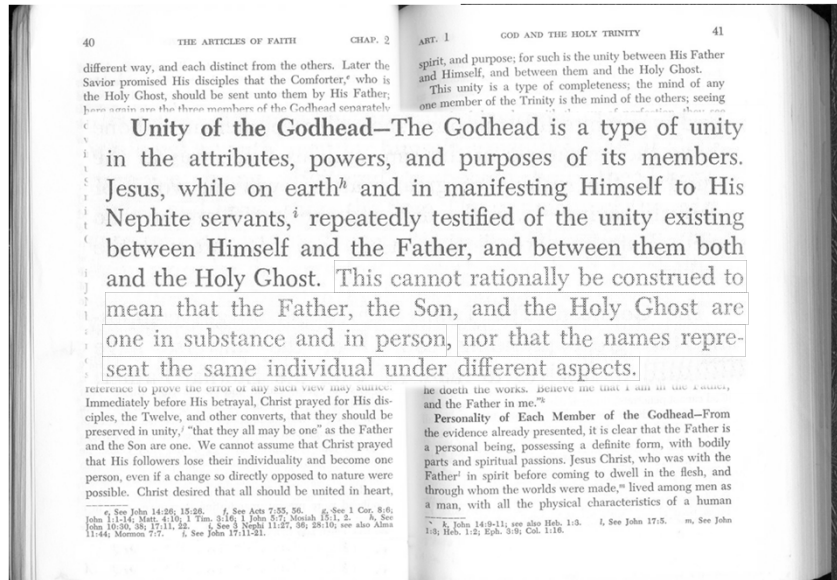
Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



James E. Talmage
1862-1933
Member of the Quorum
of the Twelve 1911-1933



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



All Cults Deny the
Work of Jesus Christ

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Christianity

The sacrifice of Jesus Christ
is sufficient for salvation.

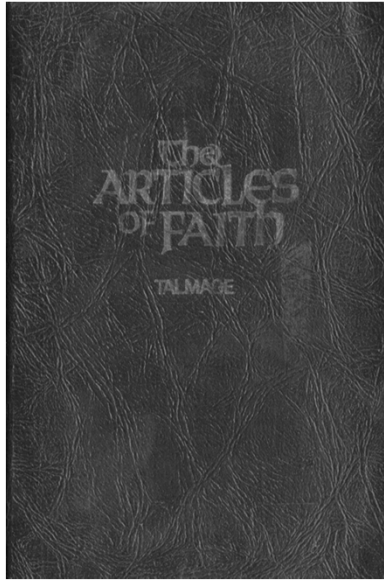
(2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8;
Hebrews 9:12)

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult

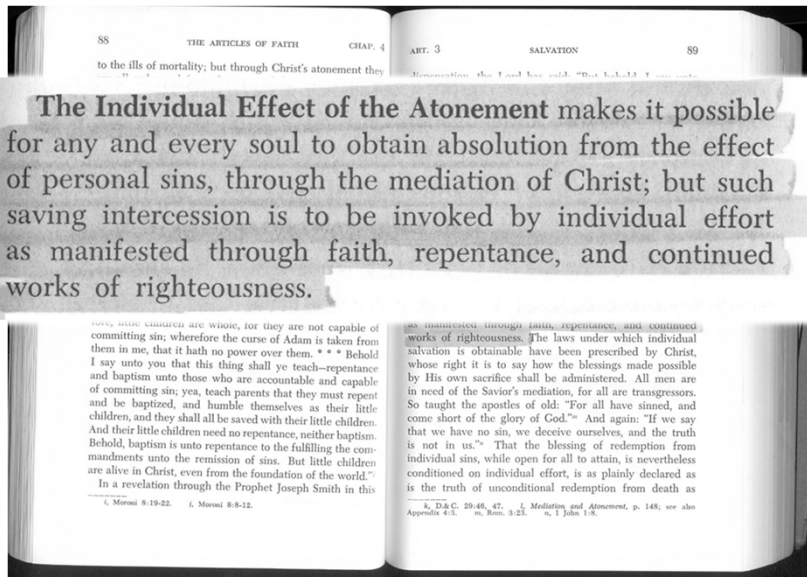
Mormonism

Mormonism denies His work
by claiming that it is
incomplete.

Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



The Individual Effect of the Atonement makes it possible for any and every soul to obtain absolution from the effect of personal sins, through the mediation of Christ; but such saving intercession is to be invoked by individual effort as manifested through faith, repentance, and continued works of righteousness.

... these churches are whole, for they are not capable of committing sin; wherefore the curse of Adam is taken from them in me, that it hath no power over them. * * * Behold I say unto you that this thing shall ye teach—repentance and baptism unto those who are accountable and capable of committing sin; yea, teach parents that they must repent and be baptized, and humble themselves as their little children, and they shall all be saved with their little children. And their little children need no repentance, neither baptism. Behold, baptism is unto repentance to the fulfilling the commandments unto the remission of sins. But little children are alive in Christ, even from the foundation of the world.⁶ In a revelation through the Prophet Joseph Smith in this

⁶ Moroni 8:19-22. ⁷ Moroni 8:8-12.

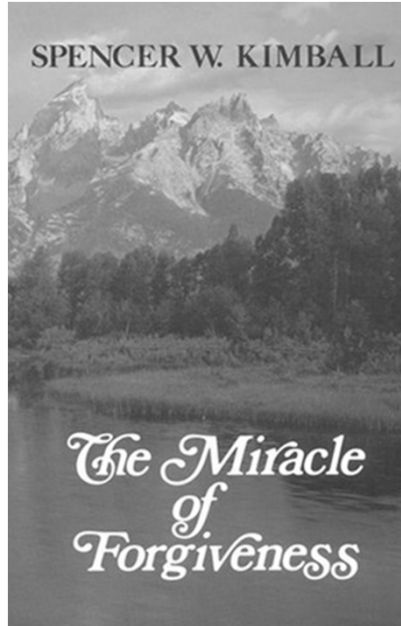
as manifested through faith, repentance, and continued works of righteousness. The laws under which individual salvation is obtainable have been prescribed by Christ, whose right it is to say how the blessings made possible by His own sacrifice shall be administered. All men are in need of the Savior's mediation, for all are transgressors. So taught the apostles of old: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."⁸ And again: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."⁹ That the blessing of redemption from individual sins, while open for all to attain, is nevertheless conditioned on individual effort, is as plainly declared as is the truth of unconditional redemption from death as

⁸ D&C 29:46, 47. ⁹ *J. Mediation and Atonement*, p. 148; see also Appendix 4.5. ¹⁰ Rom. 3:23. ¹¹ 1 John 1:8.

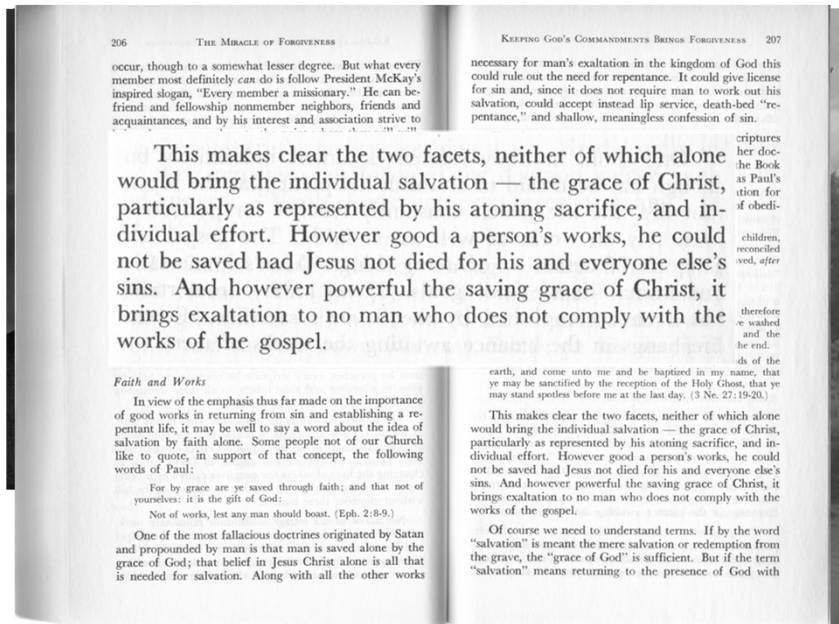
Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult



Spencer W. Kimball
(1895-1985)
Prophet and President
of the LDS Church 1973-1985



Mormonism and the Marks of a Cult





Christianity

Mormonism

Number of Gods

There is only one God. This does not mean merely that there is only one God with whom we have to do, but rather that there is only one Supreme Being in existence.

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one!" (Deuteronomy 6:4)

"Remember the former things of old, For *I am* God, and *there is* no other; *I am* God, and *there is* none like Me." (Isaiah 46:9)

There are many Gods.

"And they (the Gods) said 'Let there be light' and there was light." (*Pearl of Great Price*, "Book of Abraham" 4:3)

"According to that which was ordained in the midst of the Council of the Eternal God of all other gods before this world was ..." (*Doctrine & Covenants* 121:32)

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Number of Gods	
<p>There is only one God. This does not mean merely that there is only one God with whom we have to do, but rather that there is only one Supreme Being in existence.</p> <p>"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD <i>is</i> one!" (Deuteronomy 6:4)</p> <p>"Remember the former things of old, For I <i>am</i> God, and <i>there is</i> no other; I <i>am</i> God, and <i>there is</i> none like Me." (Isaiah 46:9)</p>	<p>There are many Gods.</p> <p>"Three separate personages—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—comprise the Godhead. As each of these persons is a God, it is evident, from this standpoint alone, that a plurality of Gods exists. To us, speaking in the proper finite sense, these three are the only Gods we worship. But in addition there is an infinite number of holy personages, drawn from worlds without number, who have passed on to exaltation and are thus gods." (McConkie, <i>Mormon Doctrine</i>, s.v. "Plurality of Gods," p. 577, emphasis in original)</p>

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
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<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Nature of God	
<p>God is a spirit, without flesh and bone.</p>	<p>God is a personage of flesh and bone (physical).</p>
<p>"God <i>is</i> Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24)</p>	<p>"The Father has a body of flesh, and bones as tangible as man's." (<i>Doctrine & Covenants</i> 130:22)</p>
<p>"Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Luke 24:39)</p>	

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
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<p>"God <i>is</i> Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24)</p>	<p>"Therefore we know that both the Father and the Son are in form and stature perfect men; each of them possesses a tangible body,</p>
<p>"Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Luke 24:39)</p>	<p>infinitely pure and perfect and attended by transcendent glory, nevertheless a body of flesh and bones." [James E. Talmage, <i>A Study of the Articles of Faith</i> (Salt Lake City: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1971): 42.]</p>

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
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<p>God is a spirit, without flesh and bone.</p>	<p>God is a personage of flesh and bone (physical).</p>
<p>"God <i>is</i> Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24)</p>	<p>"We affirm that to deny the materiality of God's person is to deny God; for ... an immaterial body cannot exist." [James E. Talmage, <i>A Study of the Articles of Faith</i> (Salt Lake City: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1971): 48.]</p>
<p>"Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Luke 24:39)</p>	

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Eternity of God	
<p>God has always been God.</p>	<p>God was once a mere man.</p>
<p>"Even from everlasting to everlasting, You <i>are</i> God." (Psalm 90:2)</p>	<p>"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens! ... I am going to tell you how God came to be God. Ye have imagined and suppose that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea ... he was once a man like us; yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth, the same as Jesus Christ himself did." (<i>Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith</i>, p. 345-347, as cited in McConkie, <i>Mormon Doctrine</i>, s.v. "Godhood," p. 321)</p>
<p>"And understand that I <i>am</i> He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me." (Isaiah 43:10)</p>	

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
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<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Immortality	
<p>Scripture teaches that man has an immortal soul, eternal into the future but not from the past. (Gen. 1:26; 5:1; Job 32:8; Acts 7:59; John 5:28-29).</p>	<p>Man's spirit is from the eternal past. His destiny is to evolve into Godhood and occupy the highest of the three-leveled heaven.</p> <p>"Man is a spirit clothed with a tabernacle the intelligent part of which was never created or made but existed eternally—man was also in the beginning with God." [Joseph Fielding Smith, <i>Progress of Man</i> (Salt Lake City: genealogical Society of Utah, 1938), as cited in Gordon H. Fraser, <i>Is Mormonism Christian?: Mormon Doctrine Compared with Biblical Christianity</i> (Chicago: Moody Press, 1977): 57.]</p>

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Heaven	
<p>The eternal abode of all who are saved is to be with the Lord in heaven where awaits for all of the redeemed an eternal reward. (1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 1 Peter 1:4)</p>	<p>There are three levels of heaven:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celestial - faithful Mormons Terrestrial- honorable men who are not Mormon Telestial - those who received not the testimony of Jesus <p>"One of the great errors in the teachings of the Christian religions is the doctrine of one heaven and one hell ..." [LeGrand Richards, <i>A Marvelous Work and a Wonder</i> (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1976): 253]</p>

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Heaven	
<p>The eternal abode of all who are saved is to be with the Lord in heaven where awaits for all of the redeemed an eternal reward. (1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 1 Peter 1:4)</p>	<p>There are three levels of heaven:</p> <p>Terrestrial- honorable men who are not Mormon</p> <p>"...these are they who die without the law ... who receive not the testimony of Jesus in the flesh, but afterwards received it ... who are honorable men of the earth ...they are bodies terrestrial ..." [D & C 76:70, 74, 75, 78.]</p>

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Heaven	
<p>The eternal abode of all who are saved is to be with the Lord in heaven where awaits for all of the redeemed an eternal reward. (1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 1 Peter 1:4)</p>	<p>There are three levels of heaven:</p> <p>Telestial - those who received not the testimony of Jesus</p> <p>"...these are they who received not the gospel of Christ, neither the testimony of Jesus ... these are they who receive not his fullness in the eternal world ... and thus we saw ... the glory of the telestial" [D & C 76:82, 86.]</p>

<i>Christianity</i>	<i>Mormonism</i>
Hell	
<p>There is eternal punishment for sin. (Matt. 5:22; 8:11, 12; 13:42, 50; 22:13; Luke 13:24-28; II Peter 2:17; Jude 13; Rev. 14:9-11).</p>	<p>To be damned means to limit one's progress to Godhood. Eternal punishment does not necessarily mean endless punishment. The lowest level (perdition) is reserved for apostate Mormons. It is likely not eternal.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Whosoever, therefore, received God's punishment receives eternal punishment, whether it is endured on hour, one day, one year, or an age." [n.a., <i>Plan of Salvation</i> (n.c.: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, n.d.): 30.]</p>

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Christianity

Mormonism

Hell

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To be damned means to limit one's progress to Godhood. Eternal punishment does not necessarily mean endless punishment. The lowest level (perdition) is reserved for apostate Mormons. It is likely not eternal.

"Thus saith the Lord concerning all those who know my power ... and to deny the truth and defy my power—they are they who are the sons of perdition ... vessels of wrath, doomed to suffer the wrath of God, with the devil and his angels in eternity." [D & C 76:31-33]

