

SCIENTOLOGY BETRAY PRETEND EXAMINE DUPE DECEPTION
 TWO-FACED **FICTION** THE FACTS **MOHAMMAD**
ISLAM ARTIFICIAL **BOGUS** CORRUPTION CHEAT FORGE COPY
 "DESERTING THE ONE WHO CALLED YOU" ~ GALATIANS 1:6 BLUFF FEIGN FRAUD
 WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING **MISLEADING** JOSEPH SMITH
 L RON HUBBARD "WATCH OUT THAT NO ONE DECEIVES YOU" ~ MATTHEW 24:4
 CHEAP POOR REFLECTION OF THE TRUTH **COUNTERFEIT** DULCIOUS FACSIMILE
COUNTERFEIT "THEY WILL SECRETLY INTRODUCE DESTRUCTIVE HERESIES" ~ 2 Peter 2:1
 HERESIES DESTRUCTION **MORMONISM** IMITATION UNSOUND IMPOSTER SHAM FALSE TEACHER DEVIL IN DISGUISE
 "THEY WILL TURN THEIR EARS AWAY FROM THE TRUTH AND TURN ASIDE TO MYTHS" ~ 2 TIMOTHY 4:6 **FAKE** SHAM "EXPLOIT WITH STORIES THEY HAVE MADE UP" ~ 2 PETER 2:3
MIMIC MYTH **CHURCH OF OPRAH** "YOU HAVE BELIEVED IN VAIN" ~ 1 PETER 1:23
EXPLOIT **NEW AGE** ILLUSIONIST PHONY
 "TRYING TO PERVERT THE GOSPEL" ~ GALATIANS 1:7

The Mormon Church: Responding as Christians



Joseph Smith and the Mormon Church

They are friendly neighbors, caring, loving, and are always there when you need a helping hand. Who are these people? They are the Mormons and they are actively involved in the community, have a great devotion to family, and seem to have the highest of moral values. Today, the Mormon Church is becoming even more popular than at any other time in the history of our country because of their great willingness to help people in their hour of need. The question that is posed by many in our culture is this:

Are Mormons Christian?

The answer is: Absolutely Not! Mormons are not Christian and have become one of the fastest growing cults in our country. Mormons have successfully manipulated people into believing that they are Christian in nature.

Fast Facts on Mormonism

- The Mormon Church was founded on April 06, 1830 by Joseph Smith.
- Brigham Young replaced Smith in 1844.
- Worldwide membership is more than 13 million.
- There are more than 50,000 Mormon missionaries in 200 countries.
- Each Mormon missionary baptizes an average of six people per year for an estimated total of 300,000 new converts per year.
- Mormons are required to tithe 10% of their annual income. The Mormon Church generates three million dollars in income each day through tithes alone.
- More than five million copies of the *Book of Mormon* are distributed each year.

The Mormon faith has become the most successful home-grown religion in America and many of their beliefs are anti-Christian.

The History of Mormonism

The founder of the Mormon faith is Joseph Smith. He was born in Sharon, Vermont in 1805 and moved to Palmyra, New York with his family. While living in New York, a revival broke out among God's people during the year of 1820.

The First Vision

During this revival Joseph Smith sought the Lord to see which church he should join to continue to grow in his faith. It was during this time that he claimed to have been visited by God the Father and Jesus who told him not to join any of the churches because they were all corrupt. That is called the “First Vision” because it was the first of several visitations he said he received.

The Second Vision

Joseph Smith had more visions from a second messenger shortly following the first vision. As recorded in *The Pearl of Great Price*, “Joseph Smith-History” 1:29-54, ‘Smith said an angel named Moroni visited him three times on the night of September 21, 1823 and once the next day, repeating the same message each time. Smith claimed that Moroni was the last of the early inhabitants on the American continent to write his people’s history on gold plates. Just before he died in 421 A D, Moroni hid the gold plates in a hill near where the Smiths lived in Manchester, NY in 1823. The plates contained “*the fullness of the everlasting gospel*” and was scripture for the early Americans much like the Bible was for the Israelites. Moroni told Smith to meet him at the location of the plates on September 22nd each year for the next four years after which he could begin translating them into *The Book of Mormon*.

Three Claims about the Book of Mormon

Claim #1 – It is the Fullness of the Gospel

The *Book of Mormon* is believed by Mormons to be the fullness of the everlasting gospel. The Book of Mormon was needed to restore the gospel to mankind because the Bible was corrupt.

Jude 3 - Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

The truth is that there is only ONE GOSPEL and it is found only in the Bible. This Gospel was entrusted to God’s people once and for all. It has not been corrupted by mankind because the true gospel of Jesus Christ has never changed.

What is the Gospel? Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, came to this earth and died for our sins, was buried, and rose on the third day, conquering death for all of those that come to place their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. (1 Cor. 15:1-3)

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned. (Galatians 1:6-8)

The Apostle Paul reminds Christians not to accept any other gospel. Only accept that which has been proven to be true and authentic through Jesus Christ. Do not trust another gospel even if it comes from an angel. Who gave the Book of Mormon to Joseph Smith? It was the *angel* Moroni.

Claim #2 – The Book of Mormon was given by an Angel

Joseph Smith claims that the angel Moroni (this name is never mentioned in the Bible of any angel) gave him the knowledge to translate gold plates found in the hills near his home and this would become known as the *Book of Mormon*.

We heard a voice from out of the bright light above us, saying, 'These plates have been revealed by the power of God, and they have been translated by the power of God. The translation of them which you have seen is correct, and I command you to bear record of what you now see and hear. (Mormon: History of the Church, vol. 1, p. 54-55)

It is important for every Christian to beware of false teachers and false prophets because they dwell all around us and seek to lead us away from the truth.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 – For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

Satan himself will masquerade as an angel of light in order to lead millions astray. This is witnessed by observing the anti-Christian agenda and foundation of the Mormon faith.

Claim #3 – It is the Most Correct Book on Earth

In 1841, Joseph Smith claimed that the *Book of Mormon* was the greatest and most complete book given to mankind. Smith fully believed that the Bible was not complete and even edited the King James Version of the Bible. The Mormons distribute this edited copy for free all over the world.

I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book. (Introduction, Book of Mormon)

If the *Book of Mormon* was truly the most complete book ever given to mankind and it was given by an angel of the Lord then there should never be any need to edit or add to this book because it should already be complete. If you read the “Brief Explanation” introduction in most of the current editions then you will see this statement:

About this edition: Some minor errors in the text have been perpetuated in past editions of the Book of Mormon. This edition contains corrections that seem appropriate to bring the material into conformity with prepublication manuscripts and early editions edited by Prophet Joseph Smith. – 1981 edition

The truth is that many of the changes that have been made in the Book of Mormon were to correct the errors found in the original 1830 edition. There have been approximately 4,000 changes to the *Book of Mormon* since the 1830 manuscript written by Joseph Smith. Some of these errors are listed below.

- **Mormon 9:32** (*Book of Mormon*) – It claims to have been written in Reformed Egyptian, but Egyptologists say this language does not exist.
- **Alma 46:15** – The saved in America take on the name Christian in 73 B.C. but in the Bible, believers are not called Christian until 50 A.D. in Acts 11:3.
- **Nephi 17:7** – It teaches that leprosy occurred in America in 34 A.D. but no cases of leprosy here are known until 1758.
- **Mormon 9:2** and other references teach that the Indians had official records, scrolls, and other writings, but historical research shows no such records were kept. (Mormon 5:23, 3 Nephi 9:18, 12:18)
- **3 Nephi 9:18** – Jesus allegedly preached to the Nephites who fled Jerusalem in 600 B.C. with concepts communicated in the Greek language. But the Nephites are said to have written and spoken in Reformed Egyptian. Therefore, they would have no knowledge of Greek. Jesus preaching to the non-Greek Nephites declaring, "I am the Alpha and the Omega," would have not made any sense. Moreover, Joseph Smith and the Mormons claim the gold plates from which the *Book of Mormon* was translated had no Greek or Latin in them.

Four Standard Works of the Mormon Faith

We have already drawn your attention to the fact that the Mormon faith recognizes more than one standard work of Scripture. Mormons actually accept four "standard works": *The Bible (as it is translated correctly)*, *the Book of Mormon*, *Doctrines and Covenants*, and *The Pearl of Great Price*.

- **The "Inspired Version" of the Bible** – Joseph Smith believed that all translations of the Bible were corrupt & translated his own version. Smith did not know Greek or Hebrew so he modified the King James Version of the Bible, inserting one passage in Genesis 50 prophesying the coming of Joseph Smith.
- **Book of Mormon** – Joseph Smith called this the most complete book on earth and claimed that he had translated it from writings of ancient civilizations. There is undeniable evidence

that chapters of it were taken directly from the King James Version of the Bible.

- **Doctrines and Covenants** – Joseph Smith claimed that the *Book of Mormon* was not only the most correct book on earth but also the most complete. Yet three years after publishing the *Book of Mormon* he wrote the *Book of Commandments* and two years after this he wrote *Doctrines and Covenants* which Mormons use as their basic doctrine.
- **The Pearl of Great Price** – Joseph Smith claimed that this was given to him by the Lord through a collection of Egyptian artifacts that he translated. This collection contains Smith’s translation of the Book of Moses, Gospel of Matthew, and the Articles of Faith. The Egyptian artifacts were later confirmed to be remnants of an ordinary Egyptian funeral text.

Five Mormon Religious Beliefs

The Mormon faith has always claimed to be the most perfect form of the Christian faith yet the fact that they reject the Bible as being the inerrant Word of God proves to us that they cannot be Christian in nature. Observe these beliefs of the Mormon faith.

- **Multiple gods vs. One True God** – The Mormon Church teaches that there are many gods (Book of Abraham 4:3ff), and that we can become gods and goddesses in the celestial kingdom (*Doctrine and Covenants* 132:19-20; *Gospel Principles*, p. 245; *Achieving a Celestial Marriage*, p. 130). It also teaches that those who achieve godhood will have spirit children who will worship and pray to them, just as we worship and pray to God the Father (*Gospel Principles*, p. 302).
 - The Bible teaches that there is only one True and Living God and apart from Him there are no other gods. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; 44:6,8; 45:21,22; 46:9; Mark 12:29-34).
- **God was Once a Man** – The Mormon Church teaches that God the Father was once a man like us who progressed to become a god and has a body of flesh and bone (*Doctrine and Covenants* 130:22; *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 345-347; *Gospel Principles*, p. 9; *Articles of Faith*, p. 430; *Mormon Doctrine*, p. 321).
 - The Bible teaches that God is Spirit (John 4:24; 1 Timothy 6:15,16), He is not a man (Hosea 11:9; Romans 1:22, 23), and has always (eternally) existed as God. (Psalm 90:2; 139:7-10; Isaiah 40:28; Luke 1:37).

- **Jesus is our Elder Brother/Brother of Lucifer** - The Mormon Church teaches that Jesus Christ is our elder brother who progressed to godhood, having first been procreated as a spirit child by Heavenly Father and a heavenly mother. He was later conceived physically between Heavenly Father and the virgin Mary (Achieving a Celestial Marriage, p. 129; Mormon Doctrine, pp. 546-547; 742). Mormon doctrine affirms that Jesus and Lucifer are brothers (Gospel Principles, pp. 17-18; Mormon Doctrine, p. 192).
 - The Bible teaches that Jesus is the unique Son of God; he has always existed as God, and is co-eternal and co-equal with the Father (John 1:1, 14; 10:30; 14:9; Colossians 2:9). While being never less than God, at the appointed time He laid aside the glory He shared with the Father (John 17:4,5; Philippians 2:6-11) and was made flesh for our salvation; His incarnation was accomplished through being conceived supernaturally by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin (Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:34-35).
- **No Trinity - Three Separate gods** - The Mormon Church teaches that Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate Gods (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 370; Mormon Doctrine, pp. 576-577), and that the Son and Holy Ghost are the literal offspring of Heavenly Father and a celestial wife (Joseph Fielding McConkie, Encyclopedia of Mormonism, vol. 2, p. 649).
 - The Bible teaches that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct Persons within the one Triune Godhead. Throughout the New Testament the Son and the Holy Spirit, as well as the Father are separately identified as and act as God (Son: Mark 2:5-12; John 20:28; Philippians 2:10,11; Holy Spirit: Acts 5:3,4; 2 Corinthians 3:17,18); yet at the same time the Bible teaches that these three are only one God.
- **All are Saved** - The Mormon Church teaches that the purpose of the atonement was to bring immortality to all people, regardless of whether they accept Christ as Savior. Christ's atonement and obedience to all the commands of the Mormon church are what leads to eternal life in the highest heaven. (Gospel Principles, pp. 74-75; Mormon Doctrine, p. 669).
 - The Bible teaches that Christ died on the cross to provide the complete solution for mankind's sin. However, those who reject God's grace in this life will have no part in this salvation but are under the judgment of God for eternity (John 3:36; Hebrews 9:27; 1 John 5:11-12).

Comparison between Mormonism & Christianity

We have been warned through the Word of God that false teachers and false prophets would arise in the last of days to lead many astray. We must arm ourselves with the truth in order to be able to respond to these false prophets. Observe the following comparison chart and arm yourself with the Word of God.

	Biblical Christianity	Mormonism
God	The one God is a Spirit who is the personal, eternal, infinite Creator of all that exists. He is the only God and necessary for all other things to exist. He exists eternally as a Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (see Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43:10; 44:6-8; Matt. 28:19; John 4:24; 17:3)	God (Heavenly Father) is an exalted man with a physical body of flesh and bone. Joseph Smith said, "If the veil were rent today, and the great God who holds this world in its orbit, and who upholds all worlds and all things by his power, was to make himself visible-I say, if you were to see him today, you would see him like a man in form" (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 345). The trinity is also denied with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost seen as three separate entities.
Jesus Christ	Jesus Christ was the virgin born God incarnate who existed in all time with the Father and Holy Spirit in the eternal Trinity. As a man He possessed two natures -human and divine. He lived a sinless life and willingly died on the cross as a sacrifice for the sin of all humanity. (see John 1:1-18; 8:56-59; Phil. 2:6-11; Col. 1:13-22; Heb.1:3; 13:8)	Jesus was the spiritual "first born" Son of God in the preexistence. "Every person who was ever born on earth was our spirit brother or sister in heaven. The first spirit born to our heavenly parents was Jesus Christ, so he is literally our elder brother" (<i>Gospel Principles</i> [GP], p. 11).

		<p>The atonement of Jesus provides immortality for all people regardless of their faith. "Christ thus overcame physical death. Because of his atonement, everyone born on this earth will be resurrected . . . This condition is called immortality. All people who ever lived will be resurrected, 'both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, both the wicked and the righteous' (<i>The Book of Mormon</i> [BOM], Alma 11:44)" (<i>GP</i>, p. 74). (See <i>GP</i>, pp. 11, 17-19, 61-77.)</p>
Sin	<p>Human beings have chosen to sin against God, rejecting His nature and pursuing life opposed to His essential character and revealed law. (see Rom. 3:23; 7:14-25; 1 John 1:8-10)</p>	<p>People sin by disobedience to God's laws. Adam's fall, a part of Heavenly Father's plan, caused a loss of immortality, which was necessary for mankind to advance, (see <i>GP</i>, pp. 31-34). As Eve declared according to LDS scripture, "Were it not for our transgression we never should have . . . known good and evil, and the joy of our redemption, and the eternal life which God giveth unto all the obedient" (<i>PGP</i>, Moses 5:11; see also <i>BOM</i>, 2 Nephi 2:22-25). Each person is responsible for his or her own sin.</p>

Salvation	<p>Men are saved from their sins only by a personal faith in Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Christ's death on the cross was an atonement for God's wrath against sin so that God could freely forgive those who trust His son (1 Jn. 2:2; Jn. 3:16).</p>	<p>Jesus' atonement provided immortality for all people. Exaltation (godhood) is available only to Mormons through obedience to LDS teachings: faith, baptism, endowments, celestial marriage, and tithing. "Wherefore, as it is written, they are gods, even the sons of God- Wherefore, all things are theirs" (D&C, 76:58-59).</p>
Final Outcome of Mankind	<p>Eternal life in heaven with God for those who have trusted in Jesus Christ. Eternal separation from God's presence in hell for the unsaved. (see Matt. 5:12-30; 25:41; Rev. 20-22)</p>	<p>Mankind will achieve one of three levels of glory:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exaltation in the Celestial Kingdom for faithful Mormons where people may become gods or angels; "Then shall they be gods" (D&C 132:20). 2. Terrestrial Kingdom for righteous non-Mormons; "These are they who are honorable men of the earth, who were blinded by the craftiness of men. These are they who receive of his glory, but not of his fullness" (D&C 76:75-76). 3. Telestial Kingdom for wicked and ungodly (not hell); "These are they who are liars, and sorcerers, and adulterers . . . who suffer the wrath of God on earth"(D&C 76:103-104). (See also D&C 76:57-119; 131:1-4.)

How Now Shall We Respond?

We have exposed and responded to the false claims made by the Mormon Church by bringing these beliefs into the light of God's Word. It is important for us to understand that there are many more false religions, false prophets, and false teachers all around us. We conclude this booklet by asking this question:

How will you respond to Mormonism as a Christian?

1 Peter 3:15 – But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...

Now is the time for Christians to rise up and respond to the false religions that we are encountering in this world. Prepare your heart and mind by implementing the following steps.

- **Step #1** – Study and memorize the Word of God.
- **Step #2** – Apply the Word of God in your life.
- **Step #3** – Guard your heart and mind through prayer and the Word of God.
- **Step #4** – Always be ready to give a response for the Hope that you have through Christ alone!

Scripture quotations are New International Version, taken from the Holy Bible, NIV Version, Copyright 1973, 1978 & 1984 by IBS.

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