

BASIC TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

1. The Nature of God

Adam, from the Garden of Eden, is our Father and our God and the only God with whom we have to do.¹ God Himself was once as we are now and is an exalted man with a body as tangible as man's who lives near the star Kolob.² He was once a child who had a father before Him, who had a father before Him.³ He is also a member of a council of gods, as well as a mother god.⁴ God has not always been God; he has progressed in knowledge and has man add to his glory.⁵

2. Jesus

Jesus is a created being, one god among many gods, is the spiritual brother of Satan, a polygamist, and was not begotten by the Holy Spirit, but rather was conceived by Heavenly Father having sexual intercourse with Mary.⁶

3. A Member's Responsibility

Faithful Mormons must learn to become gods themselves just as all gods have done before them.⁷ The only men who become gods, even the Sons of God, are those who enter into polygamy. If any deny the plurality of wives, and continue to do so, they will be damned.⁸

4. Salvation

Salvation is not by grace through faith alone, but by grace, after all we can do.⁹ You must be obedient to the laws and ordinances of Christ.¹⁰ You must be immersed in water for salvation.¹¹ You must confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that Joseph Smith is a true prophet, in order to be in possession of God's Holy Spirit.¹² You must have the passport and consent of Joseph Smith to enter the mansion where God and Christ are.¹³ The blood of Christ will never wipe away some sins; your own blood must be spilled in order to atone for them.¹⁴



LDS REFERENCES FROM P. 1

1. A Sermon by President Brigham Young, Delivered in the Tabernacle, Great Salt Lake City, April 9, 1852. Reported by G. D. Watt.
2. Abraham. 3:2-18; Doctrine and Covenants 130:22;
3. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, sel. Joseph Fielding Smith, Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1938, pp. 345-46; LeRoi C. Snow, p. 661.
4. "Apostasy and Restoration," Ensign, May 1995, 84.; Abraham 3:22-28; 1 Nephi 5
5. "Discourse, 7 April 1844, as Reported by Wilford Woodruff," p. 135. <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/discourse-7-april-1844-as-reported-by-wilford-woodruff/3>
6. Doctrine and Covenants 76:23-27; Doctrine and Covenants 93:21; Orson Pratt, The Seer, 158
7. "Discourse, 7 April 1844, as Reported by William Clayton." p. 11. <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/discourse-7-april-1844-as-reported-by-william-clayton/1>
8. Doctrine and Covenants 132:1-20; 132:18-21
9. 2 Nephi 25: 23-27
10. Articles of Faith 1:3
11. Doctrines and Covenants 20:37; 3 Nephi 11:34; Moroni 8:25
12. Chapter 7: Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Ghost: Teaching of Joseph Smith
13. Journal of Discourses 7:289-289.
14. Doctrine of Salvation by Joseph F. Smith Vol. 1, Pg. 135; Journal of Discourse Vol. 3 p. 247; Journal of Discourse Vol 4 p. 51; 51-57.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

All Scripture references are from the ESV.

GET IN TOUCH



Phone
(403) 252-1704



Email
info@fairviewbaptistchurch.ca



Address
230-78 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2H 1C4

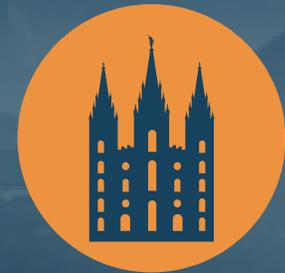


Website
www.fairviewbaptistchurch.ca



CHRISTIANITY AND MORMONISM

IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?



This pamphlet contains four basic teachings of the LDS Church with official references to these doctrines, and a comparison with the Bible to see if they correspond.

THE BIBLE

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, which was verbally communicated to men by the Holy Spirit, and is the final authority on all matters of faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 2:21). Jesus said concerning it, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away” (Matthew 24:35). God’s Word is entirely free from error, and the revelation that claims to be Scripture must harmonize with already existing revelation if they are to be from the same God (Isaiah 8:20; 1 John 4:1).

1. The Nature of God

God is the Creator of all things and made mankind in His own image (Genesis 1:27; 2:7). There were no gods formed before God, and no gods will exist after Him (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 44:6, 45:5, 45:22; 1 Corinthians 8:1-6). God has been God from all eternity (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:2, 93:2). God does not have a body of flesh and bones, but is Spirit (John 4:24; Luke 24:39). God said that He doesn’t know of any other gods (Isaiah 44:8). Jesus taught that there is only one God and no others (Mark 12:28-34; Revelation 22:7-13).

2. Jesus

Jesus was not created, but rather created all things in existence, including Satan (John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:14-17). Jesus is the eternal God (Isaiah 9:6-7, 7:14; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:12; John 1:1, 14, 8:58, 10:30-33; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:14-19; Acts 20:28; Titus 2:13). Jesus was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary (Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:35). “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5).



3. A Member’s Responsibility

Contrary to LDS teaching, the Bible states that there were no gods formed before God, and there won’t be any after Him, which excludes the opportunity to become gods one day (Isaiah 43:10, 44:6, 8). God commanded us not to multiply wives, and Jesus confirmed this teaching (Deuteronomy 17:17; Matthew 19:4-6).

4. Salvation

After all the good we can do, we are all the more hopeless. “All our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment” (Isaiah 64:6). “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one” (Romans 3:10-12). Salvation is by God’s unmerited favor through placing upon us Christ’s righteousness because of our faith in His person and work on the cross to pay for all of our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21; John 6:47; Romans 3:20-31, 4:1-8, 5:1-2). Being immersed in water is only a picture of what happens spiritually but does not save in itself (1 Corinthians 1:17; 1 Peter 3:21). Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). Christ’s death on the cross paid the penalty for sin once and for all (Romans 3:23-26).



THE WAY TO A NEW LIFE

The Scriptures make it clear how altogether helpless we are before the perfect standard of God’s justice; if left to our own righteousness, we stand condemned before our Holy God (Isaiah 53:6; Psalm 143:2; Job 25, 4:17-19, 14:4; Jeremiah 17:9). Mankind is lost, and in itself, there is no light at all (1 John 1:5). “For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out” (Romans 7:18). “If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?” (Psalm 130:3).

The Scriptures also make clear the Good News of salvation Jesus came to preach; one of hope for the lost. Jesus commands everyone to repent, which means to be sorry for sin and to hate and reject it because it is displeasing to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Isaiah 55). “Now [God] commands all people everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30). Jesus taught that when a sinner trusts in Christ alone for salvation, they are guaranteed forgiveness of their sins, and eternity in heaven to worship God (John 3:15-18, 36; 5:24). “This is the work of God, that you believe in [Jesus] whom [God] has sent” (John 6:29).

THERE IS HOPE IN JESUS CHRIST

The only true hope for the sinner who has turned against the Holy God is found in Jesus Christ (Revelation 15:4), solely by the undeserved favor God has shown through the full payment for sin paid by His Son Jesus on the cross (Revelation 7:9-10). A person who believes in Christ trusts Him alone for salvation (Acts 16:31). “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). The Apostle Paul declared, “For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20a), and, “For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law” (Romans 3:28).

God says through the Apostle Paul in Galatians 5:4 that you do not earn, but are rather severed, from God’s favor when you attempt to justify yourself before Him on the basis of your own goodness. When God has drawn you to Himself, and you turn to Him in faith, the righteousness of Jesus Christ is placed upon you, and all of your sins are laid on Him on the cross (Romans 3-5).



The Scriptures are constantly warning us against “another gospel” (Galatians 1:6-9), even another “Jesus” and a different “Spirit” (2 Corinthians 11:4). If you do not have Jesus revealed to you in the Scriptures, you have embraced a false “way” and have no access to the one true God (John 14:6). The Bible commands believers everywhere to “prove all things” in the light of its truth (1 Thessalonians 5:21) and “to earnestly contend for the faith, which was once delivered to the saints” (Jude 3). We strongly encourage you to seek out what the Scriptures plainly teach about God and the Way of salvation—your very soul depends on it.

Friend, you have received this information from someone who cares deeply for your soul. This is not an issue you can wait to answer. We plead with you, in the Name of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13), to prayerfully consider this information and what you believe in view of God’s revealed Word. Please feel free to contact us, as we would be happy to meet you, share God’s Word with you, and answer any questions you may have.