

## The 17 Primary Errors of Mormonism

### The Mormon Church Teaches

1. The universe is governed by a head god and his council. "The head God called together the Gods and sat in grand council to bring forth the world...In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it" (Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 348-49).
2. God has goddess wives. "This doctrine that there is a Mother in Heaven was affirmed in all plainness by the First Presidency of the Church" (Bruce R. McConkie, Apostle, *Mormon Doctrine*, p. 516).
3. God is limited by a physical body. "The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's" (*Doctrine and Covenants*, 130:22). "If God possesses a form, that form is of necessity of definite proportions, and therefore of limited extension and space. It is *impossible* for Him to occupy at one time more than one space of such limits" (James E. Talmage, *Articles of Faith*, p. 43).
4. There are many gods: "In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it...In all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods" (Joseph Smith, Founder and First Prophet, *History of the Church*, vol. 6, pp. 308, 474).
5. Jesus and Satan are brothers. "The appointment of Jesus to be the Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God -- Lucifer. This spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind" (Milton R. Hunter, First Council of Seventy, *The Gospel Through the Ages*, p. 15).
6. Mary was not a virgin. "Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers...Christ was born into the world as the literal Son of this Holy Being; He was born in the same personal, real, and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father" (Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, pp. 547,742).

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1. If there is somebody else up there managing things, the all-knowing God who created all things in the heavens doesn't know about it. Isaiah 42:5 defines Him as "God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein." In Isaiah 45:23 that same God says, "I have made the earth, and created man upon it; I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded."
2. There is absolutely no mention of any wives of God. There will be no marrying in heaven (see Matthew 22:29,30).
3. The *one true God* is infinite. Any other "god" is a false god (see 2 Chronicles 6:18; Psalm 139:4-8; Jeremiah 23:24).
4. There was, is, and always will be only *one God* (see Isaiah 43:10,11; 44:6-8; 45:5,6,18-22; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:39; James 2:19).
5. The *real* Jesus is the *only* begotten Son of God. He is God's son (John 1:1-14). Satan was a *created angel* -- not a son of God (Isaiah 14:12). Jesus created all things, and in Him the fullness of God dwells! (see Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-13).
6. Jesus was begotten by the Holy Ghost. Mary was indeed a virgin (see Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:35).

7. Jesus was married. "Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana of Galilee. We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into relation whereby he could see his seed" (Orson Hyde, Apostle, *Journal of Discourses*, vol. 2, p. 82).
7. Jesus and His disciples were guests at Cana (John 2:2). Read John 2:1-12. This Mormon doctrine is generally not taught openly today. Marriage in a Mormon temple (called celestial marriage) is mandatory to progress to becoming a god in Mormonism. To fit the theology of Mormonism, the Mormon "Jesus" *has to be married* -- or He would only be a ministering servant to those in Mormonism's heaven who have "celestial marriage."

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8. "God himself was one as we are now, and is an exalted man...I say, if you were to see him today, you would see him like a man in form...like yourselves in all the person, image, and very form as a man...He was once a man like us; yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth" (Joseph Smith, *History of the Church*, vol. 6, p. 305).
9. Man may become god. "Here then is eternal life...to know the only wise and true God; and you have got to learn how to be God's yourselves, and to be kings and priests to God, the same as all gods have done before you...To inherit the same power, the same glory and the same exaltation, until you arrive at the station of God" (Joseph Smith, *History of the Church*, vol. 6, p. 306).
10. *Total perfection is demanded.* "We also have to forsake the sin and never repeat it, not even in our minds...In order to *remain* forgiven, we must never commit the sin again" (Discussion F, *Uniform System for Teaching Families*, pp. 35-36).
- "In other words, If there is one divine law that he does not keep he is barred from participating in the (Celestial) kingdom, and figuratively guilty of all, since he is denied all" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Answers to Gospel Questions*, vol. 3, p. 26).
11. The black race is a cursed people. "Not only was Cain called upon to suffer, but because of his wickedness, he became the father of an inferior race. A curse was placed upon him and that curse has been continued through his lineage and must do so while time endures. Millions of souls have come into this world cursed with a black skin and have been denied the privilege of Priesthood and the fullness of the blessings of the Gospel" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *The Way to Perfection*, p. 102). (Although it became expedient for the Mormon church to open the Priesthood to blacks in

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8. God was never a man. He created man! God has been God from all eternity to all eternity (see Psalm 41:13; 90:2; 102:25-27; Romans 1:22,23).
9. The great lie of Satan from the beginning was that man may become a god (see Genesis 3:1-5; Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:1-10).
10. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23); "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12); and Galatians 2:21: "I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."
11. The color of a person's skin has no merit with God: "For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:11); and "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father" (Romans 8:15). That includes all of us here on earth -- black, white, red or yellow, king or slave. All of us are made in God's image.

1978, the alleged revelation did not change Mormon doctrine regarding the penalty of being black. This revelation also directly contradicted established Mormon doctrine.)

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12The Bible is incomplete and has serious .translation errors. "Ignorant translators, careless transcribers, or designing and corrupt priests have committed many errors -- many plain and precious things were deleted, in consequence of which error and falsehood poured into the various churches. One of the great heresies of modern Christendom is the unfounded assumption that the Bible contains all of the inspired teachings now extant among men" (Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, pp. 82, 83).

13Except for the LDS (Mormon) Church, all .churches are false. "I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all wrong; and the personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; and those professors were all corrupt" (*Pearl of Great Price*, Joseph Smith 2:19). "This Church is the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth" (*Doctrine and Covenants*, 1:30). "There is no salvation outside the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints" (Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, p. 670).

14Joseph Smith was a holy prophet. "I have more .to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet" (Joseph Smith, *History of the Church*, vol. 6, pp. 408-409).

15Prophets are above Scripture. "The living .Prophet is more vital to us than the Standard Works (Bible, Book of Mormon, etc.). The living Prophet is more important to us than a dead prophet (David, Moses, Isaiah, etc.). Those who would remove prophets from politics would take God out of government" (LDS prophet, President Ezra Taft Benson, address at Brigham Young University, Feb. 26, 1980).

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12The Bible is God's Word; and the word of God .will stand forever (see Isaiah 40:8; 1 Peter 1:25).

13The *church* is the spiritual body of Christian .believers with Jesus at its head. That is the true church -- not any specific organization (see Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 12:12; Matthew 16:18).

14No prophet of God ever made a statement like .Joseph Smith's. King Nebuchadnezzar had a similar pride to Joseph Smith's. He was driven out by God to live with the animals (see Daniel 4:28-33).

15In these last days God speaks through His Son .(Hebrews 1:1,2). The authority claimed by the Mormon Church is through an "Aaronic Priesthood," which cannot be valid since Jesus abolished it when He took its place (Hebrews 7:11-19; 8:6-13), and a "Melchizedek Priesthood," which never existed as any operative "priesthood." Jesus is our *only* High Priest in the likeness of Melchizedek -- He alone holds this priesthood permanently (see Hebrews 7:15-28; 9:11-15).

16Mormons are also saviors. "We are the only people that know how to save our progenitors, how to save ourselves, and how to save our posterity in the celestial kingdom of God; that we are the people God has chosen by whom to establish his kingdom and introduce correct principles into the world; *and that we are in fact the saviours of the world...*" (John Taylor, *Journal of Discourses*, vol. 6, p. 163).

17Joseph Smith will be our final judge. "No man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith. From the day that the Priesthood was taken from the earth to the winding up scene of all things, every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are" (Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses*, vol. 7, p. 289).

16Over 500 verses deal with death, and over 300 deal with salvation. Not one verse even hints that we can be saviors of the dead. The Bible tells us in Hebrews 9:27, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Note that this *isn't* the Mormon concept, which states: "After this comes missionary lessons, a proxy baptism, and a series of Mormon ordinances that will allow you to become gods..."

17Jesus said we would be judged by His word and made no mention of Joseph Smith. John 12:48 says, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." Paul referred to *Christ* as our judge -- not Joseph. Second Timothy 4:1 states, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom."