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Witnessing to Cults: Cults are a confusing maze. Rather than trying to learn all their doctrines, your best method is to study the true Word, be prayed-up, full of love & the Spirit, and center on the fact that the Lord **Jesus Christ** is the one and only incarnate Almighty **God**. The whole Bible teaches this, but for starters, memorize the **3:16's** --You can remember them under pressure.

A. I Tim. 3:16 - "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, **received up into glory**."

B. I Jn. 3:16 - "Hereby perceive we the love of **God**, because **He laid down his life for us**: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (SEE also Acts 20:28 - "... the Church of **God**, which **He** hath purchased with **His own** blood."

C. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his **only** [unique] **begotten** Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

1. Only Jesus was conceived by the seed of God. Christians are born **again**, adopted, having the seed [the Spirit of Jesus] implanted in them not at conception, but years after birth, through surrendering to the Lordship of Jesus (allowing Him into the heart).

a. We are all unique (genes, finger-prints, voice, retina, etc.), but Jesus is unique especially in that He was originally begotten of God.

b. The seed of the Father God is of the same substance as God; God is Spirit [Jn. 4:24]; the Spirit giveth life [2 Cor. 3:6]; Jesus is the life [Jn. 14:6; Jn. 11:25]; The Father says, "I kill, and I make alive." [Deut. 32:39] Hence, Jesus **is God**.

c. Jn. 12:44 Jesus cried and said, "He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on Him that sent me." To believe in Jesus is to believe in the Father. Whosoever believeth in Him [Jesus] should not perish. " ... Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established ..." [2 Chron. 20:20b] Hence, Jesus **is God**.

10 False Prophecies of Joseph Smith

Condensed from "Why I left the Mormon Church ..." by Richard D. Baer. Obtainable through: **Concerned Christians, P.O. Box 18, Mesa, AZ 85211-0018** Huge supply of books & literature at their new site, www.concernedchristians.org with online ordering. All you ever need to know about Mormonism.

1. **He prophesied that Jesus would return in 1890.**

2. **He prophesied that his son would follow him as head of the L.D.S. church. It didn't happen. His son left the church and started a new reformed Mormon church.**

3. **Joseph Smith prophesied that if his son left the church his son would die an early death. His son lived to be 82. Joseph Smith lived to be 39.**

4. **He prophesied that the bank he started in Kirkland, Ohio would swallow up all banks. It failed in 1837.**

5. **He prophesied that Independence, Missouri was Zion, and the Mormons would possess it forever. They were driven out of Independence. They eventually settled in Utah.**

6. **He prophesied that there were men on the moon who have a life-span of 1000 years. (There is almost no oxygen on the moon.) We're still searching.**

7. **He prophesied that Elder Anson Call would assist in building cities in the U.S. coast to coast. He [Anson] stayed in Millard County, Utah, and did not assist in building cities in any other county or state.**

8. **He prophesied that Elder W.W. Phelps would be alive at the return of Jesus. Mr. Phelps died in March 7, 1872 in Salt Lake City, UT**

9. **He saw a vision of 12 of his elders in the 'celestial' heaven. Five of them later were excommunicated or declared to be apostate. According to Mormon doctrine, these five cannot be in the 'celestial' heaven.**

10. A. **He prophesied, "I shall triumph over all my enemies, for the Lord God hath spoken it." He died at the hands of his enemies.**

10. B. **He prophesied just a month before his death that he had done a greater work than Jesus Christ, because the disciples of Jesus deserted Jesus, but he [Joseph Smith] had held the L.D.S. church together fifteen years. Evidently the Lord didn't appreciate this prophecy: On June 27, 1844, Joseph Smith died of gunshot wounds while attempting to escape from jail in Nauvoo, IL where he had been imprisoned for arson. With a smuggled revolver, he killed two men before he died. [Matt. 26:52] - "All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." [Deut. 18:20] - "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die."**

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Mormonism (Latter Day Saints) Exposed

What About Mormonism?

The pseudo-Christian sect known today as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was founded in the early 1800s by the "prophet" Joseph Smith. Smith claimed that God had appeared to him in 1820, and having asked God which "sect" he should join, Smith relates the following: "I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all wrong...all their creeds were an abomination in his (God's) sight; that those professors were all corrupt" (The Pearl of Great Price; Writings of Joseph Smith, Section 2, vs. 19). Isn't it strange that today Mormons want us to think that they are just another "Christian" denomination, although that is the exact opposite of what their founder taught? However, when one realizes that Mormonism is based on deception, such double-talk is to be expected.

Joseph Smith thought himself to be the prophet who would restore the true teachings that had been corrupted by 1800 years of Christianity. Mormons believe that Joseph Smith, and the "scribe" Oliver Cowdry, received the Aaronic priesthood from John the Baptist on May 15, 1829, and a short time later received the Melchizedek priesthood from Peter, James, and John. The priesthood is passed on through the church. Brigham Young became the second president and infallible prophet of the Mormon church following Smith's death, thus beginning the doctrine of president-prophet succession.

Besides the Bible (so long as it is interpreted correctly), the Mormons consider the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price to be scripture. "In addition to these four books of scripture, the inspired words of our living prophets become scripture to us (Gospel Principles, pages 49, 51-52, 1978)." In the words of Brigham Young: "I say to the whole world, receive the truth no matter who presents it to you. Take up the Bible, compare the religion of the Latter-day Saints with it, and see if it will stand the test" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 16, p. 46, 1873). This we will do. What follows is a comparison of the teachings of Mormonism with those of historic Christianity.

AUTHORITY OF THE MORMON PROPHET

Three of the 'Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet':

First: The prophet is the only man who speaks for the Lord in everything.

Fourth: The Prophet will never lead the Church astray.

Sixth: The Prophet does not have to say "Thus Saith the Lord," to give us scripture.

"I am here to give this people, called Latter-day Saints, counsel to direct them in the path of life....I have never given counsel that is wrong. (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 16, pg. 161, 1873)"

GOD

LDS: Mormons are polytheists. "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, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 6, pg. 5, 1844).

Man will become God. "(A)nd you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves, and to be kings and priests to God, the same as all Gods have done before you" (Joseph Smith, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 6, pg. 4, 1844).

BIBLE: There is only one God. "I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God" (Isaiah 44:6). Man will not become God. "Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me" (Isaiah 43:10).

GOD THE FATHER

LDS: God the Father has a body of flesh and bones. "The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's" (Doctrine and Covenants, 130:22).

God is an exalted man. "God himself was once as we are ourselves, and is an exalted Man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens" (Joseph Smith, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 6, pg. 3, 1844).

Brigham Young taught that Adam was our God and Father, and the Archangel Michael. "When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives with him. He helped to make and organize the world. He is MICHAEL, the Archangel, the ANCIENT of DAYS!He is our FATHER, and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourse, Vol. 1, pg. 50, April 9, 1852).

BIBLE: God is not a man, but spirit. "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).

JESUS CHRIST

LDS: Jesus is the spirit-brother of Lucifer. Lucifer rebelled when Jesus' plan for the salvation of mankind was chosen over his plan. (Joseph Smith, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 6, pg. 8, 1844)

Jesus was born as result of sexual relations between God the Father and Mary. "The birth of the Saviour was as natural as are the births of our children; it was the result of natural action. He partook of flesh and blood -- was begotten of his Father, as we were of our fathers" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 8, pg. 115, 1860).

Jesus was not begotten by the Holy Spirit. "Now remember from this time forth, and for ever, that Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost" (Brigham Young, Millennial Star, Vol. 15, pg. 770, 1853).

BIBLE: Jesus is the eternal God, and does not have a spirit-brother. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" (Rev 22:12).

The Bible teaches the virgin birth. Mary "was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit....The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son" (Mat 1:18, 22).

THE TRINITY

LDS: Mormons deny the Trinity. "Many men say there is one God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are only one God! I say that is a strange God anyhow -- three in one, and one in three!...All are to be crammed into one God....He would be a giant or a monster" (Joseph Smith, History of the Church, Vol. 6, pg. 476, 1844).

BIBLE: God is one. "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one" (Deut 6:4).

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are God. "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mat 28:19).

SALVATION

LDS: Entry into God's kingdom requires an OK from Joseph Smith. "Joseph Smith holds the keys of this last dispensation....namely that no man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith....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 Discourse, Vol. 7,pg. 289, 1869).

Salvation requires works. "Baptism is just as essential to salvation, as Faith and Repentance. -- Without being immersed in water no man can enter the fullness of Celestial glory" (Orson Pratt, The Seer, pg. 255, 1854).

BIBLE: Salvation is by grace, through faith, and not by works. Joseph Smith is not mentioned. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not by works" (Ephesians. 2:8-9).

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9-10)

More of the same: Article #2

Polygamy & 6 Other Reasons Why Mormonism Can't Be True Christianity

WINSOME TV ADS INVITE PEOPLE to learn the teachings of Christ from the Mormons, who call themselves the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints. The Mormons I know are moral people, wonderful people. Certainly Mormonism draws very heavily on the Christian vocabulary and on the Bible. But is Mormonism really Christian? Examine the following seven ways Mormonism has perverted, essentially changed, true Christian teaching, and see for yourself if Mormonism is really true Christianity. You'll observe, these are quoted original Mormon sources--the early authoritative prophets of the church--so you can understand the foundational principles of Mormonism as stated by Mormons. Understand, however, that the LDS Church is trying to back away from its rather bizarre origins and appear as another form of Christianity. Many Latter Day Saints members are quite unaware of their history and the real sources of their faith. But consider the following seven beliefs which are directly contrary to what the Bible teaches:

1. Mormonism teaches that God has a *physical body, while the Bible indicates that God is Spirit and is invisible, Mormons contend that "The Father has a body of flesh and bone as tangible as man's." Early Mormon James Talmage states, "To deny the materiality of God's person is to deny God." In fact, Mormon prophet Brigham Young said that Adam is our God. To make God a physical human complicates the concept of Deity with sex. There is no sex or marriage in heaven (Mat 22:30).

God has a *body only to the extent that we understand that Jesus **IS** God. The Father is in Jesus, and Jesus is in the Father [Jn 14:10,11]. The CENTRAL problem is, Mormonism teaches that the SPIRIT in God's body is NOT the same one that is in the Son's body. The Word of God says: "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us ..." [I Jn 3:16] The Almighty God was crucified and resurrected for us.

2. According to Mormonism, supposedly God in his physical body had sex with the Virgin Mary to beget Jesus. Brigham Young declared, "He [Christ] was not begotten by the Holy Ghost ... Jesus our elder brother was begotten in the flesh by the same character who was in the Garden of Eden, who is our father in heaven." The Bible clearly states that Mary was a virgin, and that Jesus was conceived supernaturally by the Holy Spirit, not through sexual intercourse. Even the Book of Mormon affirms this.

3. Mormons say that God the Father was once just a man himself who evolved and progressed into a god. Lorenzo Snow, former President of the Mormon Church, stated this flagrant heresy in memorable form, still quoted by Mormons: "As man is, God once was, as God is, man may become." Joseph Smith, founder of Mormonism, in a sermon given two months before his death, said, "...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 did." Now consider the implications of this: God Himself must have had a father. Smith asked provocatively: "If Jesus had a Father, can we not believe that He had a father also?" This meant that God must have changed and evolved. Orson Hyde, early Mormon leader, wrote, "Remember that God our Heavenly Father was perhaps once a child and mortal like we are, and rose step by step in the scale of progress, in the school of advancement: has moved forward and overcome until He has arrived at the point where He now is." The Bible and, interestingly enough, even the Book of Mormon, strongly deny this. By no stretch of the imagination is this what true Christianity teaches.

4. There are many different gods. Does this sound like Christianity? It is basic to Mormonism. Joseph Smith taught, "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." Apostle Orson Pratt wrote, "In heaven where our spirits were born, there are many gods, each of whom has his own wife or wives which were given to him previous to his redemption while yet in his mortal state." The Bible, on the other hand, consistently teaches only one unique God. So, interestingly enough, does the Book of Mormon.

5. If Mormon males are good enough in this life they can become gods themselves, and populate new worlds with their own offspring. Dream on! Mormons believe, as part of their core teaching, that, just as God the Father and Jesus are to this world, they can become like God and Jesus to the worlds they create. Brigham Young taught, "In the resurrection,

men who have been faithful and diligent in all things in the flesh ... and [are] worthy to be crowned Gods, even the sons of God, will be ordained to organize matter," that is, to be creators in their own right. Rather than just being able to produce physical children, now they can produce spirit children. Orson Pratt wrote, "Who will be the subjects in the kingdom which they will rule...? Their own children, their own posterity will be the citizens of their kingdoms; in other words, the patriarchal order will prevail there to the endless ages of eternity, and the children of each patriarch will be his while eternal ages roll on." Mormons ignore Jesus' teaching concerning marriage in heaven: "At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven."

6. In spite of the Book of Mormon's prohibition, Joseph Smith declared plural wives to be God's plan. Strangely, the Book of Mormon condemns polygamy: "This people begin to wax in iniquity; they understand not the scriptures, for they seek to excuse themselves in committing whoredoms Behold, David and Solomon truly had many wives and concubines, which thing was abominable before me, saith the Lord." The New Testament forbade multiple wives, too. But on July 12, 1843, Joseph Smith claimed to receive a new revelation that men were to have many wives and concubines, and declared it "a new and everlasting covenant." Those who rejected it were to be damned. It appears that his first wife opposed the new wives her husband was bringing into his home. So he received a revelation specifically for her: "And let mine handmaid, Emma Smith, receive all those that have been given to my servant Joseph ... But if she will not abide this commandment she shall be destroyed, saith the Lord." It must have been hard to have a husband who lusted after other women, and claimed to be God's spokesman. Mormon leaders developed large families: Brigham Young had 17 wives and 56 children, and Young's adopted son, John D. Lee, had 19 wives and 64 children. Some Mormons have taught that Jesus had two wives, Mary and Martha, and had children by them. Of course the Bible says no such thing.

The Mormons traveled to Utah to avoid U.S. law which forbade polygamy, but gradually, enforced by the presence of federal troops, a federal governor was appointed and polygamy was declared to be a criminal offense in 1871. In 1890, Mormon President Wilford Woodruff officially abolished polygamy as the practice of the Mormon Church, no matter what Joseph Smith had said about this being an "eternal covenant." As late as 1906, President James Fielding Smith, was convicted of practicing polygamy. Meanwhile the modern LDS Church backs away from its sordid history by covering up, rather than confessing its secret sins. These are the founders. These are the prophets of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints.

7. Mormonism teaches that we were angels or "gods" in heaven before we entered our human bodies. This is clearly fantasy when a person considers that they have no memory of these alleged eons in heaven (or wherever), but yet a person clearly can remember events when they were as young as a year or two old. God says, "I knew you before you were in your mother's womb," meaning, he **planned**, predestined, and created us---but did **we know Him** before our birth? No! He is continually exhorting men to seek Him and to meet Him as Lord and Savior, because our natural state from birth is that we do not know God, unless we repent of lies such as Mormonism and then surrender our will to the one and only almighty God Who is the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 20:28 says to the church elders and leaders, "... Feed the Church of **God**, which **He** hath purchased with **His own blood**."

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