

**TEN REASONS WHY  
I CANNOT BE A MORMON  
(Latter-Day Saint)**

By Rev. John Hornok



**1. MORMONISM DOES NOT TEACH THAT THE BIBLE IS THE INFALLIBLE WORD OF GOD.**

"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" (Articles of Faith, No. 8).

As Christians we believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed (Matt. 5:18; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).

**2. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT GOD IS AN EXALTED MAN AND HAS A PHYSICAL BODY.**

"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man" (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pg. 345). "The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's..." (Doc. & Cov., Sec. 130:22).

The Bible says, "God is not a man..." (Num. 23:19). "God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in Truth" (John 4:24). "A spirit hath not flesh and bones..." (Luke 24:39).

**3. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT CHRIST AND THE DEVIL ARE BROTHERS.**

"...that Lucifer, the son of the morning, is our elder brother and the brother of Jesus Christ" (Mormon Doctrine by Bruce McConkie, pp. 163-4).

The Bible says the devil is a created being, created by God. "Thou was perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee" (Ezek. 28:15). "For by Him (Christ) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in the earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by Him and for Him..." (Col. 1:15-17).

**4. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS MARRIED AND THAT HE IS POLYGAMOUS.**

"We say it was Jesus Christ who was married at Cana of Galilee" (Journal of Discourses, Vol. 2, p. 80). Mormonism teaches that Jesus was the natural child of Adam and Mary. "When the Virgin Mary conceived the Child Jesus...He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is his Father? He is the first of the human family" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, pp. 50-51).

The Bible says, "In the beginning was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God;...The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:1, 14). "Then Mary said unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered...The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee..." (Luke 1:34-35).

**5. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT THE TRUE CHURCH CEASED TO EXIST UNTIL IT WAS RESTORED TO JOSEPH SMITH.**

The church (LDS) was restored April 6, 1830 by Joseph Smith (Doc. & Cov., 20:1).

Jesus Christ said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18). "For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11). "...And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph. 2:20).

**6. MORMONISM TEACHES ANOTHER (PERVERTED) GOSPEL THAN THAT OF THE BIBLE.**

The gospel to Mormonism is, "Faith, Repentance, Baptism, Receiving the Holy Spirit by laying on of hands, Morality, Loyalty, Tithing, Word of Wisdom, Duty, Celestial Marriage (for eternity)" (LDS chart on FREE AGENCY and Articles of Faith, No. 4).

The Bible says, "Moreover brethren, I declare unto you the gospel...how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (1 Cor. 15: 1, 3-4). "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:9).

**7. MORMONISM TEACHES SALVATION FOR THE DEAD BY PROXY WATER BAPTISM.**

This doctrine is based on one misunderstood Scripture: "Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?" (1 Cor. 15:29).

Paul did not practice baptism for the dead. He excluded himself by using the pronoun "they" rather than "we" or "ye". He is asking a question rather than making a statement. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27).

**8. MORMONISM TEACHES GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH FOR THE DEAD.**

"Let us, therefore, as a church and a people, and as Latter-day Saints, offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness; and let us present in his holy temple, when it is finished, a book containing the records of our dead, which shall be worthy of all acceptance" (Doc. & Cov., Sec. 128:24).

The Bible says, "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies" (1 Tim. 1:4). "But avoid foolish questions and genealogies..." (Titus 3:9).

**9. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT THERE ARE MODERN DAY PROPHETS AND MODERN DAY REVELATIONS FROM GOD.**

Mormonism claims that Joseph Smith received the Aaronic Priesthood from John the Baptist. The Melchizedek Priesthood and Apostleship was restored by Peter, James and John shortly afterwards in 1829 (Doc. & Cov., Sec. 13).

The Bible says, "God...hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds" (Heb. 1:1-2). The test of a prophet is given in Deut. 18:20-22.

**10. MORMONISM TEACHES THAT SALVATION DEPENDS UPON GOOD WORKS AND ACCEPTANCE OF JOSEPH SMITH.**

"No man who rejects the testimony of Joseph Smith can enter the kingdom of God" (Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. 1, pg. 190). "Men have work to do if they would obtain salvation" (Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. 3, pg. 91).

The Bible teaches that salvation is provided by Jesus Christ alone, "for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:10-12). "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9).

My friend, the Bible clearly states the way for a person to escape the wrath of God and enjoy the blessings of eternity in God's presence. Jesus said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). In God's way of salvation a person must accept certain facts about God, about himself, and about Jesus Christ.

He must understand that God in love provided the method by which men may come to Him. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). This God is not limited by a body of flesh and bones.

Man must also acknowledge that he has fallen short of God's standard and so deserves eternal punishment and separation from God. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

An individual must realize that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man and that He paid the price for each man's sin. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit" (1 Pet. 3:18).

In God's plan each individual must personally receive God's gift in order to be saved. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

Salvation comes not through man's works, proxy water baptism, or a belief in Joseph Smith, but by accepting the finished work of Jesus Christ. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5).

At the moment of salvation a person becomes a member of the church composed of all individuals who are trusting Him for their eternal salvation. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body (the church)" (1 Cor. 12:13).

Are you a Christian? Have you come to God in God's way as described in the Bible?

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