

Whom Do Ye Say That I Am?



A Study In Contrasts.

Is there a distinction worth making ?

The Biblical Jesus The Mormon Jesus

1- Jesus is absolute deity (Jn. 1:1; 20:28; Rom. 9:5; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:8; 1 Jn. 5:20; D&C 20:28; 2 Nephi 32:21)

1- Jesus is not the one true God (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 370)

Jesus Himself claimed to be God! (Jn. 10:25-30). The Jews were ready to stone Him, as they said, "You being a man make Yourself God" (v. 33).

2- Jesus is God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16; 3 Nephi 11:17; Mosiah 15:1-5; Alma 11:44; Mormon 7:7).

2- " Millions of Apostate Christendom abase themselves before the throne of a mythical Christ they vainly suppose is incorporel, uncreated" (Mormon Doctrine).

Opening page to the Book of Mormon states, "to the convincing of the Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God,

Manifesting himself unto all nations-". Also, The Testimony of the Three Witnesses to the Bof M stated, "-honor be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, which is one God, Amen".

3-Jesus is equal with Heavenly Father (Jn 5:23; D&C 38:1-3).

3- Jesus BECAME a god in the Pre-existence (Mormon Doctrine, 1966, p.129).

In reading Rom. 9:5, no amount of interpretive gymnastics can deny the simple grammar of this verse that Jesus Christ is God. In Phil. 2:10 -11, Jesus is worshiped. God would not allow anyone lesser than He to be worshiped. It would violate the first commandment (Matt. 4:10). A literal translation of the grammar in Titus 2:13 shows Paul was referring to only one person here: God the Son.

4- Jesus is eternal, self existent, never had a beginning (Jn. 5:21,26; 14:6; 1:1; D&C 39:1; Col. 1:16-17)

4- Jesus is not eternal (Mormon Doctrine p. 590). He is only one of many of Gods "Literal" offsprings (Messages from the First Presidency 5:26, and Encyclopedia of Mormonism, vol. 4, appendix 4).

We read in Jn. 8:56-58, the Jews were aghast, how could a man so young claim to have seen Abraham. Jesus using the term 'I AM' undoubtedly reminded the Jews of Gods statement to Moses at the burning bush (Ex. 3:14. And they knew Jesus had just declared his deity, His timelessness and His identity with Yahweh.

5-Jesus has power to forgive sins (Mark 2:5; Luke 7:48,49; 2 Nephi 25:20b; 2 Nephi 2:46-47).

5-Jesus had to "work out his own salvation (The Mortal Messiah, vol. 4,p. 434).

We clearly see in Luke 5:20-24 that Jesus did forgive sins. And the Pharisees knew "Who can forgive sins but GOD ALONE!" (see Is. 43:25, "I even I Am He who blots out your transgressions...").

6- Jesus creates and sustains life (Jn . 1:3; Col. 1:16; Jn. 10:18; Col.1:17; Mosiah 5:15).

6- Jesus is not the only way to salvation (eternal life).
Mormon Doctrine, p. 411.

Literally, "ALL things were made through Him" (Jn. 1:3). Who but God can be credited with creation? Here this verse reveals Jesus as the active agent in creation. This can only be reconciled to conclude that, Jesus the Savior, is also God the Creator!

7- Jesus was qualified to offer complete atonement for our sins (Gal. 6:14; Phil. 2:8; 3 Nephi 9:15-21). He has power over death (Luke 24:36-40; Jn.20:20). Jesus will be THE Judge of ALL mankind (Jn.5:22; Acts 17:31; 2Tim. 4:1).

7- Jesus blood is NOT SUFFICIENT to cleanse us from all sins (Mormon Doctrine, p. 92 and What Mormons Think of Christ, 1973, p. 22). Jesus is only one of millions of saviors on millions of worlds (J. of D. 14:71-72; 7:333). Jesus had a fallen (sinful) nature (J.of D. 6:95-96). Through the Atonement of Christ , all mankind MAY be saved BY OBEDIENCE TO THE (18) LAWS and ORDINANCES of the Gospel (Article of Faith, #3).

This is an unbiblical universal atonement without the Biblical condition of faith in the real Jesus Christ!..."Believers are delivered from the law" (Rom. 7:6). "Jesus has forgiven them ALL trespasses" (Col. 2:14).

8- Jesus is omnipotent (ALL powerful) Matt. 28:18; Heb. 2:8; Mosiah 3:17. He is omniscient (has ALL knowledge) Jn. 16:30; Col. 2:3.

8- Jesus is only the spirit brother of Lucifer the Devil (Teachings of Spencer Kimball p. 32-33). Jesus was a polygamist (J. of D. vol. 4, p. 259).

The Bible (and the B of M) clearly show that Christ is God the Son, "Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). Paul was referring to only one person here: God the Son! The Mormon Jesus is tragically demoted to a mere sinful man. In fact "his incarnation was just the result of sexual intercourse between Heavenly Father and one of his daughters, the virgin Mary" (Family Home Evening Manual, 1972 p. 125, and Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson p. 7).

The Biblical Jesus said, "I Am the way , the truth, and the (eternal) life. NO ONE comes to the Father except through ME (not some church)" Jn. 14:6. "Believe on the (real) Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (go to the ONE HEAVEN) Acts 16:31. "Nor is there salvation (eternal life) in any other (than Jesus), for there is no other name...by which we MUST be saved" (Acts 4:12).

The message is clear: Faith in the real Jesus is the only way to God. So what are you going to do with Him? Will you allow a philosopher's deceiving words to make you mistrust the Savior? Will you permit a translator's trick to cause you to reject the real Jesus? Will you let the musings of mere sinful humans carry more weight than the message of Almighty God?

Please don't! Take Jesus at His word. Put your faith in His sacrifice for your sins on the cross of Calvary . You'll find peace and joy that comes from being SET FREE from the penalty of sin!

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