



Who Do You Say That I Am?

Concerning Jesus Christ, this is without a doubt, the single most important question a human being could ever be asked. How so you may ask? Well, as God's infallible word teaches in Matthew's Gospel, one's very salvation stands or falls on this very question.

Who do you say that Jesus is? Was He just a man, a charlatan, a prophet, an example to mankind? Or is He God the Son, the second person of the Triune Godhead? Is He your Lord and your Savior? Or is He The very essence of what you may also attain, achieve, become?

Sadly, throughout history, people have had a personalized Jesus, rather than a personal relationship with the true Jesus, the Son of God. Because of this, according to the Bible, they were in a state of unbelief, choosing eternal separation from God (hell), rather than eternal communion with God (heaven).

In John's Gospel, Jesus remarked to the Pharisees, *"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."* Quite a radical and very heart wrenching statement to say the very least. Particularly since it was directed to the most esteemed, hyper religious zealots of the day. The very group of leaders the nation of Israel looked up to as a righteous example. However, as Jesus pointed out in His rebuke of them, though religious, they were in a damnable state of unbelief.

Today, the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) or Mormons, are some of the most religious people in America, if not the entire world. The Mormon religion, total membership estimated at 10 million worldwide, half of which reside in the United States, is quickly becoming recognized as a possible world religion, in the same context as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, and even Christianity. Wait a minute you say, Mormonism is Christian. Is it really? How do the teachings of Mormonism's founder Joseph Smith line up with the teachings of the Bible? Should *the Pearl of Great Price* and *the Doctrine and Covenants* of Mormonism be considered on par with the Bible? What about *the Book of Mormon*, allegedly handed down to Joseph Smith through the angel Moroni, is it really superior to the Bible as claimed, or is it the forgery and disgrace Bible scholars, archeologist and quite frankly, any discerning Christian knows it to be?

According to the Bible, God's inspired word (Hebrews 1:1-3; II Timothy 3:16,17), the Book of Mormon and the Mormon religion itself, is ungodly, deceptive and fatally in error. It's alleged prophet, Joseph Smith, is anti-Christ and a false prophet. Allow me to prove these strong and seemingly disrespectful allegations by virtue of the word of God itself.

The Book of Mormon and it's companion writings are false!

According to the Book of Mormon itself, its origin is heavenly, its author is God the Father

Himself, the scribe, the prophet Mormon, his messenger was the angel Moroni, and his translator - Joseph Smith.

"The Book of Mormon, an account written by the hand of Mormon, upon the plates taken from the plates of Nephi . . . sealed by the hand of Moroni . . . translated by Joseph Smith." (Opening page of standard Book of Mormon text published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, SLC, Utah, U.S.).

Whether or not this event actually took place will remain debatable between Christians and Mormons and is for the most part irrelevant in the big picture, however, it's what the Book of Mormon and its doctrines teach that is at issue. However, concerning the authority of the Book of Mormon, the Bible has strong words against its legitimacy and supposed authority. In fact, with a single Bible verse, the entire Mormon religion crumbles and is exposed as being false.

Said Paul the Apostle to the Galatian Church, "I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed." (Galatians 1:6-9)

As noted in this verse, all other gospels are "accursed." Paul even writes that even an angel, acting as a messenger from God, cannot deliver anything superior than what God has already proclaimed through His infallible testimony. In fact, anybody, including the angel is pronounced accursed! So why deem the Book of Mormon as being credible, particularly since the Mormon Church considers the Bible true, "in so far as it is correctly translated," then only the King James Version? An odd concession by the Mormon Church to say the least, particularly since literally thousands of plagiarisms have been noted in the Book of Mormon, stolen directly from the King James Version of the Bible!

Could God have been confused when He inspired the Holy Bible? Worst yet, could He have lied when He proclaimed His word to be true?

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." (John 17:17)

The lies of Mormon prophet Joseph Smith don't stop there, the fate of Mormonism only grows worse.

The Mormon Church is not the true Church of Jesus Christ!

If the very foundation of Mormonism doesn't crumble on its claim that the angel Moroni directed Joseph Smith to the two golden plates that were allegedly translated to become the Book of Mormon, perhaps it does on its claim to be the one true Church of Jesus Christ, with all other churches to have been apostate.

Joseph Smith, and all Mormon disciples since the genesis of Mormonism back on April 6, 1830, teach that God's true Church was restored in the form of the Mormon Church by proclamation by God the Father Himself to Joseph Smith. As a Bible student, two verses immediately come to mind when faced with Smith's claim of having received this testimony from the Father.

Jesus, the Son of the father proclaimed, "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who

is from God; He has seen the Father.” (John 6:46)

If the testimony of Christ Himself isn't enough to believe that Joseph Smith could not have been in the presence of the Father to receive this “holy” command, perhaps further testimony from scripture will further substantiate Smith's dishonesty.

“The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel . . . For our God is a consuming fire . . . And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead . . . No one seen God at anytime. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him . . . God is Spirit . . . And the father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.” (Heb. 12:29; Ex. 24:17; John 1:18; John 4:24; John 5:37)

The fact of the matter is, Joseph Smith not only did not see God the Father, he could not have as Christ himself has declared! Would this not then make him a liar? If what has been demonstrated thus far is insufficient for you as a Mormon, please continue to read on.

Further demonstrating that the Mormon Church is a non-Christian cult rather than true Christianity, Christ Himself declares concerning His bride, the gentile Church,

“And I say to you Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Throughout history there has no doubt been professing Christians that are in fact, imposters or apostate believers. But, for the true church of Christ, Jesus assures us that the gates of Hades (hell) would not prevail against His church, yet, Joseph Smith, the self-proclaimed prophet of God in effect calls Christ a liar by claiming first, to have been given a proclamation directly from the Father, and secondly, that the proclamation was that all churches were apostate and he (Smith) was to establish the “true” church of Jesus Christ, hence, *the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*. Who should be believed, Christ Himself and His infallible word, or a self-proclaimed prophet of God, known historically as a charlatan, diviner, seer and false prophet, ultimately murdered for his heresies?

Mormon Doctrine is heretical!

Due to sheer space constraints and the defeat of this message in it's intended form, an evangelistic tract, I'm unable to go into great detail concerning the monstrosity of heresy that is Mormonism, however, in a simple format, the following should be more than “food for thought” to you the Mormon disciple, and reason enough to be like a “Berean” (Acts 17:11) and check the scriptures to see what I am saying is true.

The Mormon Jesus is unbiblical!

Journal of Discourses 1:50, “When the Virgin Mary conceived the Child Jesus, the father had begotten Him in His own likeness, He was not begotten of the Holy Ghost.”

The Bible, *“And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, the Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.” (Luke 1:35)*

Journal of Discourses, “We say it was Jesus Christ who was married at Cana of Galilee.”

The Bible, *"Now both Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding."*

Who Do You Say That Jesus is?

If you'll recall, the question asked by Jesus and directed to the disciples in Matthew's Gospel is the single most important question a human being could ever be asked. For the Bible proclaims, *"It is appointed once for a man to die, then the judgement."* With this sobering fact in mind, are you willing to risk your eternal destiny on the lies of Joseph Smith, the false prophet of God? Are you willing to sacrifice your eternal destiny, choosing the outer darkness of hell to remain faithful to the false religion of Mormonism out of pride? The Bible teaches clearly that wrong belief is unbelief and that unbelief is sin. A sin that leads to eternal damnation. Let's look at Peter's answer to Jesus' all important question.

"When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. He said to them, But who do you say that I am?' And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Jesus answered and said to him, blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 16:13-17)

As noted in the text, Peter was pronounced blessed for proclaiming Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the Living God." All other perceptions of Jesus were deemed false and not revealed by God. Yet, the Mormon Church would have you believe that Jesus is the spirit brother of Lucifer himself, that He (Jesus) was married, and that you, as a Mormon, can be a god just like the Father! All this as it flies directly in the face of the Bible and its infallible teachings. Is the Mormon Jesus the correct Jesus? Is the Mormon Church truly God's anointed Church? Is Joseph Smith God's chosen prophet? The Bible vehemently declares NO! And like wise declares Mormonism to be counterfeit and Mormons destined for hell just like the Pharisees is they do not repent!

"... For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves." (Matthew 23:15)

Dear Mormon friend, *wrong belief is unbelief and unbelief is the only thing that can send a soul to hell!* Please recognize the deception of the Mormon Church and its murderous legacy, for it has been sending souls to hell for nearly 200 years! Orthodox Christianity has recognized this since the beginning, please open up your hearts and mind to the truth so that you too may know this. Pray to the Lord Jesus Christ that He may reveal Himself to you in Spirit and in Truth. Ask Him to forgive your for your sins, for your unbelief. Ask Him for a discerning spirit, even His Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. *Flee the Mormon Church and all of its affiliations, repent of your sins and become "born-again" by the Holy Spirit (John 3:3) so that you may have everlasting life!*

Prayer requests, recommendations, comments and criticisms may be directed to: Tom Sevilla at: TASevilla@hotmail.com This text originated out of the love of God in my heart toward the Mormon faithful. All scripture references are from the NKJV Bible. Author is Born-Again by the Holy Spirit and expresses no denominational affiliations but wholeheartedly recommends *Calvary Chapel Churches*, among other evangelical churches, as a viable place of worship and study.