

## WHICH JESUS?

While the devout LDS would indicate he believes in Jesus, the question which must be asked is: In “which Jesus” are you putting your trust?

The Apostle Paul warned that there would be those who would come and preach “another Jesus” and “another gospel”:

“For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached,...or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ...For such are false apostles, deceitful workers .... “ (II Corinthians 11:4,13)

Paul further indicated that those who would teach about “another Jesus” would deceive by coming as “ministers of righteousness.” (see II Corinthians 11:15.)

To believe fundamental teachings about Christ which are not true, is in effect believing about “another Jesus,” who in fact does not exist and has no power to save.

The following information compares a few of the major differences between “the Jesus of Mormonism” and “the Jesus of the Bible.”

### JESUS, THE BROTHER OF LUCIFER

A very basic teaching in Mormonism is, Jesus was born in a so-called pre-existence to a “heavenly Mother” and is literally the brother of Lucifer.

Milton R. Hunter, who was one of the General Authorities of the Mormon Church, makes these illuminating statements:

“The appointment of Jesus to be Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God. He was called Lucifer .... this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind.” (*The Gospel Through the Ages*, 1945, p. 15)

The Bible nowhere indicates that Jesus was born in a pre-existence to a “heavenly Mother” or that Lucifer submitted a plan to become Savior of the world. In fact, the Bible teaches Jesus created all angels including Lucifer, so they can’t be brothers.

The New Testament declares in Colossians 1:16:

“For by him [Jesus] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.”

### JESUS, NOT BEGOTTEN BY A VIRGIN

One of the extreme teachings of the Mormon Church which separates it from historic Christianity is its view concerning the virgin birth.

Today, the Mormon Church teaches God the Father has a body of flesh and bones, and the birth of Jesus was the result of “natural action” between God the Father and Mary.

Brigham Young made it very plain that the birth of Jesus was not by the Holy Ghost:

“When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten him in his own likeness. He was NOT begotten by the Holy Ghost.” (*Journal of Discourses*, vol. 1, p. 50)

Apostle Bruce R. McConkie describes the act that took place between God the Father and Mary in similar terms:

“Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, 1979 edition, p. 547)

Apostle Orson Pratt, one of the original Apostles of the LDS Church, was even more specific and makes these unbelievable assertions:

“Therefore, the Father and Mother of Jesus, according to the flesh, must have been associated together in the capacity of Husband and wife; hence the Virgin Mary must have been, for the time being, the lawful wife of God the Father;....” (*Seer*, 1853, p. 158)

The Bible, on the other hand, portrays a Holy, miraculous rather than natural view of the conception of Christ. Not only does the Bible prophesy that the mother of Jesus will be a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), but this is fulfilled in the New Testament, the conception being the result of supernatural intervention “of the Holy Ghost”:

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost .... for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 1:18,20)

### JESUS, THE POLYGAMIST

Since Mormonism considers polygamy a righteous principle and even accuses God of commanding polygamy (see *Doctrine and Covenants* 132), it was an easy step to further charge God the Father and Jesus Christ with having many wives.

In his zeal to condone polygamy, Jedediah M. Grant, second counselor to Brigham Young, made these statements:

“The grand reason of the burst of public sentiment in anathemas upon Christ and his disciples, causing his crucifixion, was evidently based on polygamy .... A belief in the doctrine of a plurality of wives caused the persecution of Jesus, and his followers. We might almost think they were ‘Mormons.’” (*Journal of Discourses*, Vol. 1, p. 346)

Apostle Orson Hyde even indicated who some of Jesus’ wives were:

“...Jesus Christ was married at Cana of Galilee, that Mary, Martha, and others were his wives, and that he begat children.” (*Journal of Discourses*, vol. 2, p. 210)

Apostle Orson Pratt taught both God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ were married and polygamists and will spend eternity with their wives:

“...the great Messiah who was the founder of the Christian religion, was a polygamist .... the Messiah chose to take upon himself his seed; and by marrying many honorable wives himself, show to all future generations that he approbated the plurality of Wives ....” (*Seer*, p. 172)

Nowhere in the Bible does God command polygamy or indicate the Father and Son are polygamists.

Following the creation of Adam and Eve, God gave the standard:

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his WIFE...” (Genesis 2:24)

### JESUS, “A GOD”

From the time of Joseph Smith to the present, Mormonism has taught that God the Father was once a man and men may become Gods. Because of this teaching the leaders of the Mormon Church have likewise taught that Jesus progressed to become “a God.”

Milton R. Hunter, who was one of the General Authorities of the Mormon Church, gives this information:

“Jesus became a God and reached His great state of understanding through consistent effort and continuous obedience to all the Gospel truths and universal laws.” (*The Gospel Through The Ages*, p. 51)

Apostle Bruce R. McConkie makes it plain that Jesus is only one of 3 Gods that is to be worshipped:

“--Father, Son, and Holy Ghost--comprise the Godhead .... To us, speaking in the proper finite sense, these three are the only Gods we worship.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, p. 576, 577)

To teach that Jesus is one of many Gods is to deny the most foundational teaching in the Bible.

The Bible emphatically declares there is only one true and living God. In Isaiah 44:6, the Lord Himself pronounces:

“... I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.”

### JESUS, THE INSUFFICIENT SAVIOR

Most Mormons would be quick to point out they believe in Jesus Christ as “Savior”, but exactly what was Jesus’ part in their salvation?

The *Third Article of Faith* of the Mormon Church explains that more than faith in Christ is necessary to be “saved”:

“We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.”

The LDS position is also found in the *Book of Mormon* which indicates that we must earn part of our salvation:

“... for we know that is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.” (*II Nephi 25:23*)

Yet, the New Testament tells us that we are saved by the grace of God which is offered as a GIFT that cannot be earned:

“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.” (Ephesians 2:8,9)

We find further how we are justified:

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

### **JESUS, COMPARED WITH JOSEPH SMITH**

In many ways Joseph Smith has a position equally as important as Jesus Christ in the salvation of men.

Joseph Fielding Smith, who became the 10th Prophet of the Mormon Church declared:

“No Salvation Without Accepting Joseph Smith. If Joseph Smith was verily a prophet, and if he told the truth .... No man can reject that testimony without incurring the most dreadful consequences, for he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” (*Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, p. 190)

Apostle Bruce McConkie adds:

“If it had not been for Joseph Smith and the restoration, there would be no salvation.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, p. 670)

Obviously these men do not believe Acts 4:12 which states:

“Neither is there salvation in any other [Jesus]. For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

While the Mormon Church places considerable importance on Joseph Smith, the Bible tells us eternal life is dependant upon a single individual, Jesus:

“He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” (I John 5:12)

### **JESUS, HIS BLOOD INADEQUATE**

For well over a century, Mormon leaders have insisted that “certain sins” are “beyond the reach of the atoning blood of Christ.”

Joseph Fielding Smith gives this information:

“Joseph Smith taught that there were certain sins so grievous that man may commit, that they will place the transgressors beyond the power of the atonement of Christ. If these offenses are committed, then the blood of Christ will not cleanse them from their sins even though they repent. Therefore their only hope is to have their own blood shed to atone, as far as possible, in their behalf.” (*Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, p. 135)

President Brigham Young, who was one of the greatest advocates for the doctrine of blood atonement made these shocking statements:

“Will you love your brothers and sisters likewise, when they have committed a sin that cannot be atoned for without the shedding of their blood? Will you love that man or woman well enough to shed their blood? .... This is loving our neighbor as ourselves; if he needs help, help him; and if he wants salvation and it is necessary to spill his blood on the earth in order that he may be saved, spill it.” (*Journal of Discourses*, vol. 4, pp. 219-20)

It’s almost unbelievable that the leaders of the Mormon Church, who claim to be guided by God Himself, would attempt to lead their people so far from the Holy Word of God, the Bible.

I John 1:7 makes it plain that the blood of Jesus is sufficient for “all sin”:

“...the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from ALL SIN.”

Ephesians 1:7 states:

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”

### **CONCLUSION**

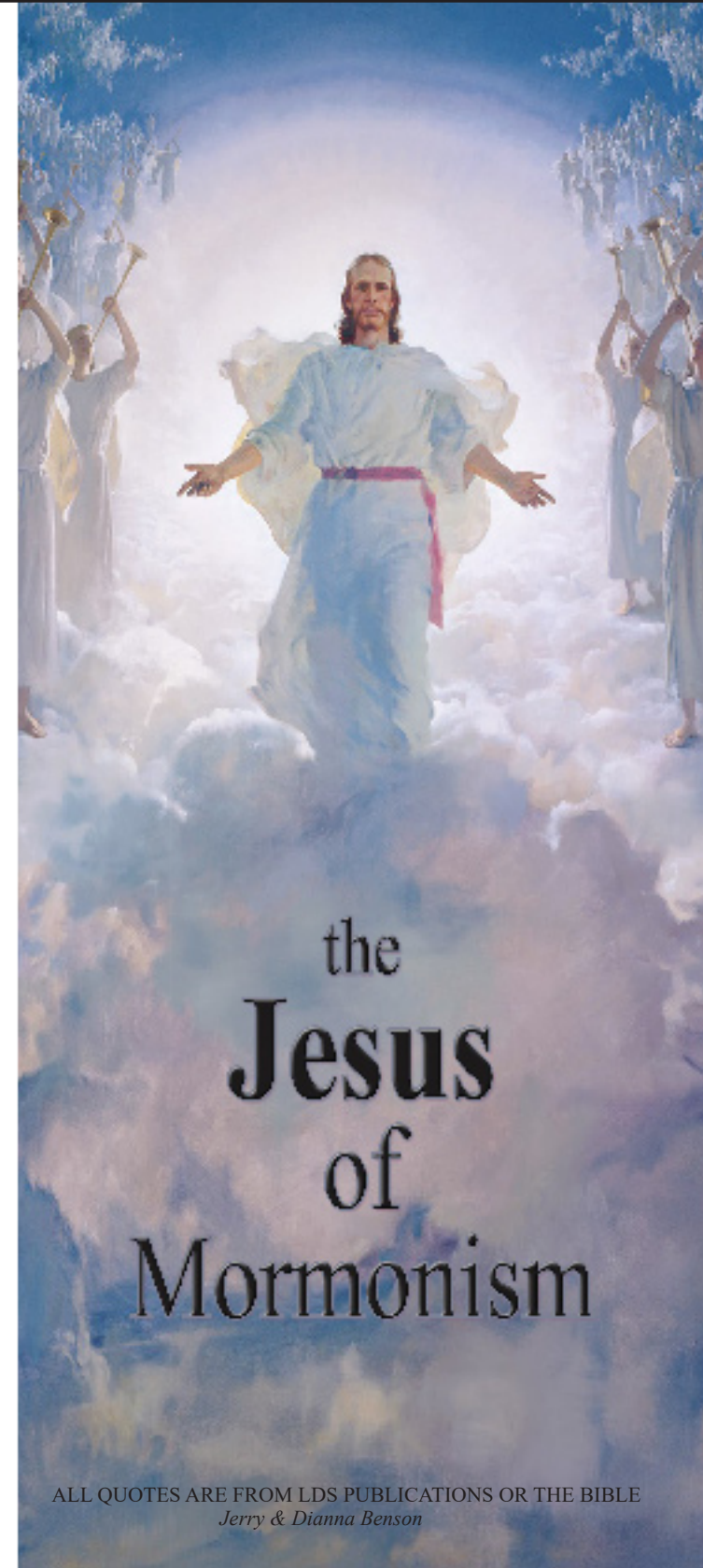
“But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” (II Corinthians 4:3,4)

If this tract has been a blessing to you or you have questions or comments, please write:

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# the Jesus of Mormonism