

NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sermon Notes - Mormonism Compared to What We Believe Pt 2 - Mormon Doctrine
Topic: Mormon Doctrine
Scripture Text: Acts 16:25–33
03/25/2018

“My home is in Heaven. I'm just traveling through this world. “
Billy Graham

Acts 16:25–33 (NKJV) ²⁵ But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. ²⁷ And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. ²⁸ But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, “Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.” ²⁹ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.

Last week we began third religious denomination comparison of the Mormon denomination to what we believe. I am not touting that what we believe and the way we practice our belief is the only right way. But before you can compare anything you must have something to compare it to sometimes called a standard. Our standard or foundation is the Word of God without spurious additions or later secret or special revelations.

The **International Committee for Weights and Measures** (abbreviated **CIPM** from the French *Comité international des poids et mesures*) consists of eighteen persons from Member States of the [Metre Convention](#) (*Convention du Mètre*) appointed by the [General Conference on Weights and Measures](#) (CGPM) whose principal task is to ensure worldwide uniformity in [units of measurement](#) by taking direct action or by submitting proposals to the CGPM.

Last week we covered the Name of the Mormons: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint

We covered its beginning

Its size and influence

265 million members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) worldwide by 2080.

Total church membership	15,882,417
Congregations	30,204
Published languages	188
Missions	422

Its Prominent members include:

Glenn Beck
Mitt Romney

Osmond Family
Gladys Knight (Joined 1997)
Harry Reid
Senator Orrin Hatch
Senator Marco Rubio (3 years only)

Their holy Books which are:

1. Book of Mormon
2. The doctrine and Covenants
3. The Pearl of Great price
4. Holy Bible

And began looking at their doctrine.

LDS believe that we are all eternal, uncreated spirits who became the literal offspring of our Heavenly Father and Mother.

LDS believe Adam and Eve's act of eating the forbidden fruit was not a sin but was a noble deed that was necessary for the blessing of the human race.

Today I want to continue looking some of their doctrine mainly those that are in direct conflict to what we believe.

1. **LDS Believe Joseph Smith Is the Prophet of The Restoration, who did more for mankind's salvation than anyone besides Jesus Christ.** Although Mormons do not worship Joseph Smith, he is adulated in LDS art and music (including LDS hymns) and has a place in LDS religion comparable to that of Muhammad in Islam

a. *Matthew 11:11 (NKJV)*¹¹ *"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. (Luke 1:15–17)*

2. **They Believe That, The Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints Is the Only True Church, and its priesthood and ordinances are necessary for entrance into God's presence in the celestial kingdom.**

Christianity was "apostate" (fallen away) between about the second century and 1830, the year that Joseph Smith organized the LDS Church. Mormon doctrine maintains that baptism, to be valid, must be performed by a man holding the LDS priesthood authority; thus, all non-Mormon baptisms are invalid.

- a. Any group that touts that their way is the ONLY TRUE way is one of the first signs of a Cult. But let us remember that Christianity says the same thing.

*John 14:6 (NKJV)*⁶ *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

*Acts 4:12 (NKJV)*¹² *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*

Big difference is that with “True” Christianity it is Christ alone for salvation, PLUS nothing.

With LDS it is their church, their priesthood and their ordinances necessary to enter into God’s kingdom.

Do you see another “Red flag”?

Anything that is “Christ Plus Anything” is heresy. Christ is enough.

3. LDS Believes in A Celestial (Heavenly) Marriage Doctrine

Celestial marriage refers to a type of marriage which Mormons believe is intended to last beyond the grave and through eternity. Mormons assert that for a celestial marriage to occur, several key steps must be followed. First, the man and woman must be sealed, or bound, by one holding the authority of God to perform such sealings, which can only take place in Mormon temples with a “recommend card. Second, the couple must seek, with all their hearts, to individually and jointly follow Jesus Christ. Third, the sealing must be confirmed by God through His Spirit.

Mormons generally use Matthew 16:19 to prove that *marriage* is for eternity
Matthew 16:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ *And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*” They apply this to marriage.

I do not believe that it relates to marriage at all. It is referring to sins of the people in the church.

16:19 the keys of the kingdom of heaven. These represent authority, ... Christ laid out specific instructions for dealing with sin in the church (*see note on 18:15*). The sum of it all means that any duly constituted body of believers, acting in accord with God’s Word, has the authority to declare if someone is forgiven or unforgiven. The church’s authority is not to determine these things, but to declare the judgment of heaven based on the principles of the Word. When they make such judgments on the basis of God’s Word, they can be sure heaven is in accord.¹ (*Matthew 18:15–20*)

This is not just a standalone doctrine for they believe that God is married
Since eternal marriage is one of the ordinances required to achieve exaltation, many Latter-day Saints do indeed believe that Jesus Christ was married.

The teaching does not end there. LDS believe that those that go to heaven will be married and occupy their own planet and have multiple children with multiple wives(?) (I think)

Mormonism teaches [that God is made of flesh and bone](#) and, while not articulated in any standard works, Mormon authorities have taught that Mary was impregnated with Jesus through physical sex with God.

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). [The MacArthur Study Bible](#) (electronic ed., p. 1423). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

- **Joseph Fielding Smith** (Mormonism's 10th president-prophet): “Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God in the flesh. Well, now for the benefit of the older ones, how are children begotten? I answer just as Jesus Christ was begotten of his father ...Jesus is the only person who had our Heavenly Father as the father of his body” [*Family Home Evening Manual* (1972), 125, 126.]
- <https://beliefmap.org/mormonism/mormonism-teaches-god-and-mary-sexually-produced-jesus/>

4. LDS Are Required to Baptize for The Dead

The doctrine that the living can provide baptism and other essential ordinances to the dead vicariously was revealed anew to the Prophet Joseph Smith (see [D&C 124](#); [128](#); [132](#)). He learned that the spirits awaiting resurrection are offered not only individual salvation but they can be bound in heaven as husband and wife and be sealed to their fathers and mothers of all generations past and have sealed to them their children of all generation’s future. The Lord instructed the Prophet that these sacred rites are appropriately performed only in a house built to His name, a temple.

- a. They base this practice on the following passage
1 Corinthians 15:29 (NLT) ²⁹ *If the dead will not be raised, what point is there in people being baptized for those who are dead? Why do it unless the dead will someday rise again?*

I spent some time researching this and all I found is that there is no clear understanding about this verse.

- One commentator said: “But who shall interpret this very obscure passage, which, though it consists of no more than three words, besides the articles, has had more than three times three senses put on it by interpreters? It is not agreed what is meant by baptism, whether it is to be taken in a proper or figurative sense, and, if in a proper sense, whether it is to be understood or Christian baptism properly so called, or some other ablution” 2MH
- EXAMPLE: ALFORD thinks there is an allusion to a practice at Corinth of baptizing a living person *in behalf of* a friend who died unbaptized; thus Paul, without giving the least sanction to the practice, uses an *ad hominem* argument from it against its practicers, 3

Since there is no definitive explanation to us of what Paul is saying, I am sure the readers of the day understood.

² Henry, M. (1994). [*Matthew Henry’s commentary on the whole Bible: complete and unabridged in one volume*](#) (p. 2274). Peabody: Hendrickson.

³ Jamieson, R., Fausset, A. R., & Brown, D. (1997). [*Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*](#) (Vol. 2, p. 293). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

We may not understand exactly what Paul meant but we can tell why he said it. The conversation was dealing with the doctrine of resurrection as the heading in some of your Bible says. Paul was in effect challenging them that if they do not believe in the resurrection they why are they going through the effort of baptizing people for those that were already dead?

The LDS picked this up and has made it a central point in its Doctrine and Covenants for the benefit of salvation for the dead. This is still practiced today.

The Bible does not teach that we can affect the salvation of anyone that has died. And to further say, that the dead cannot affect the salvation of the living. Remember the story of Lazarus and the rich man. (*Luke 16:19–31*)

Contrary to the thought, the Bible tells us of the fate of those that die without salvation through Christ who are believers whose names are written in the Book of Life.

Philippians 4:3 (NKJV) ³ And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life. (Luke 10:20)

Revelation 20:12–15 (NKJV) ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

Revelation 20:15 ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Again, I must stop now with so much more to say.

I beg you to know what you believe and why you believe it.

END

Message Scriptures: **Acts 16:25–33**, *Matthew 11:11, Luke 1:15–17, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Matthew 16:19, (Matthew 18:15–20), John 1:14, 1 Corinthians 15:29, Luke 16:19–31, Philippians 4:3, Luke 10:20, Revelation 20:12–15*

RESOURCES

The Church of Jesus Christ The Latter-Day Saints

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Name_of_The_Church_of_Jesus_Christ_of_Latter-day_Saints

Facts and Statistics

<https://www.mormonnewsroom.org/facts-and-statistics>

The Persecution of the Mormons

<http://www.crf-usa.org/bill-of-rights-in-action/bria-17-1-b-the-persecution-of-the-mormons>

50+ Practicing Mormon Celebrities

https://www.ranker.com/list/practicing-mormon-celebrities/celebrity-lists?ref=collections_btm&l=1756197&collectionId=1125

26 Celebrities who left the Mormon Church

https://www.ranker.com/list/ex-mormon-celebrities/celebrity-lists?ref=collections_btm&l=1756194&collectionId=1125

Mormonism 101: What is Mormonism?

<https://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/mormonism-101>

Introduction at The Front of The Book of Mormon.

<https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/introduction.html?lang=eng>

Video – The complete Restoration of Jesus Christ’s original Church on earth.

<https://www.lds.org/languages/eng/content/video/mormon-beliefs/2015-01-1030-jesus-christs-church>

God’s Wife

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2011/jul/06/gods-wife-heavenly-mother-mormon-church>

LDS contradict the bible

<http://www.utlm.org/onlineresources/ldsviewcontradicts bible.htm>

Mormon Secrets: What the Missionaries Don't Tell - YouTube (4:24 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-VKT4hrBTuk>

This one is hard to believe

Banned Mormon Cartoon (8:41)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r iamL AbuTQ>

There is only one God

<http://mit.irr.org/28-biblical-passages-which-explicitly-teach-there-only-one-god>.

Temple of the Godmakers (25 Min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebD0cop_a3U

God's wife, the mysterious mother of Mormons

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2011/jul/06/gods-wife-heavenly-mother-mormon-church>

Mormons in Transition

<https://mit.irr.org/mormon-belief-doctrine-of-lds-church#Weareall>

What Do They Believe About Salvation and Eternal Life?

<https://mit.irr.org/mormon-view-of-salvation>

They will be like God

<https://mit.irr.org/mormon-belief-doctrine-of-lds-church#FaithfulMormons>

Racism and Priesthood: Led Astray for 100 Years

<https://mit.irr.org/mormon-church-disavows-previous-teachings-on-blacks-and-priesthood>

Banned Mormon Cartoon - EXTENDED VERSION

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_riamLAbuTQ

five-marks-of-the-divinity-of-Jesus-Christ?

<https://www.lds.org/new-era/1980/12/five-marks-of-the-divinity-of-jesus-christ?lang=eng>