

CULTS FACT SHEET

KEY VERSES:

Psalms 119:105	Galatians 1:6–9; 2:21	2 Timothy 3:15–17
Proverbs 30:5–6	Ephesians 2:1ff	Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–8
John 17:17	Colossians 2:13	2 Peter 1:3; 3:15–16
Romans 5:12ff	1 Timothy 2:5	1 John 4:1–6
2 Corinthians 11:1–15		

KEY PUBLICATIONS:

Spiritual Counterfeits Project | www.scp-inc.org |

KEY QUOTES:

Mormons

"The Bible is the word of God, written by men. It is basic in Mormon teaching. But the Latter-day Saints recognize that errors have crept into this sacred work because of the manner in which the book has come to us. Moreover, they regard it as not being complete as a guide.... Supplementing the Bible, the Latter-day Saints have three other books: the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price. These with the Bible constitute the standard works of the church."¹

"Many men say there is one God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are only one God. I say that is a strange God anyhow—three in one, and one in three! It is a curious organization...All are to be crammed into one God, according to sectarianism. It would make the biggest God in all the world. He would be a wonderfully big God—he would be a giant or a monster."²

"I have always declared God to be a distinct personage, Jesus Christ a separate and distinct personage from God the Father, and that the Holy Ghost was a distinct personage and a Spirit; and these three constitute three distinct personages and three Gods."³

"[I] am going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, and take away the veil, so you may see. ...he was once a man like us; yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth, the same as Jesus Christ himself did; and I will show it from the Bible...Here, then, is eternal life—to know the only wise and true God, and you have got to learn to be Gods yourselves, and to be kings and priest to God, the same as all Gods have done before you..."⁴

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints discounts the notion of Original Sin and its ascribed negative impact on humanity...[W]e believe that we are not born sinners...In other words, we're born good; we learn to sin as we grow older."⁵

"Indeed, we honor and respect Adam and Eve for their wisdom and foresight. Their lives in the Garden of Eden were blissful and pleasant; choosing to leave that behind so they and the entire human family could experience both the triumphs and travails of mortality must not have been easy. But we believe they did choose mortality, and in so doing made it possible for all of us to participate in the Heavenly Father's great, eternal plan."⁶

¹ Gordon Hinckley, *What of the Mormons?: A Brief Study of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saint*, (Salt Lake City, UT: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints), pp. 9,11.

² Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, (Salt Lake City, UT: Desert, 1976), p. 372.

³ Ibid.,p. 370.

⁴ Ibid.,pp. 345–46

Jehovah's Witnesses

"Is [the Bible] too puzzling and complex to be understood? Can the average person understand it? What help is needed for one to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures?...It is obvious that we need help if we are to understand the Bible...[T]he fact is that we cannot understand the Bible on our own. We need help...Jehovah, through his organization, however, has allowed his loyal servants to understand its meaning today...You too can gain this understanding with the assistance of those who are experienced in 'handling the word of the truth aright'...All who want to understand the Bible should appreciate that the 'greatly diversified wisdom of God' can become known only through Jehovah's channel of communication, the faithful and discreet slave [The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society]." ⁷

"Jesus Christ further deserves honor because He is Jehovah's chief angel, or archangel." Footnote 9: "Why do we conclude that Jesus is the archangel Michael...?" ⁸

"In [the] beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god." ⁹

KEY CRITIQUES:

Online Articles: <http://www.summit.org/resources/essays/>

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⁵ Russell Ballard, *Our Search for Happiness: An Invitation to Understand the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints* (Salt Lake City, UT: Deseret, 1993), p. 87.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ *The Watchtower* (1 October 1994), pp. 4,6,8.

⁸ *The Watchtower* (1 February 1991), p. 17.

⁹ John 1:1 *The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

Rhodes, Ron. *The 10 Most Important Things You Can Say to a Mormon*. Eugene, OR: Harvest, 2001.
Rhodes, Ron, and Marian Bodine. [*Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons*](#). Eugene, OR: Harvest, 1995.

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