



Basic Mormon Theology

The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints, also known as L.D.S. or Mormons, constantly strives to appear as a Christian denomination, but are they? A close, but brief look at the basic beliefs of the Mormon church reveals they are anything **but** Christian.

The Mormon church teaches that there are an untold number of planets scattered throughout the galaxies, ruled by an equally untold number of gods who were once male humans. They say that long ago, on one of these planets, there was an unidentified god who, along with his many wives, gave birth to a spirit child whom they named Elohim. This spirit child was later given a physical body when he was born to human parents (in essence giving him two sets of parents). After a life of faithful obedience to Mormon teachings, Elohim died and was later resurrected and elevated to godhood as was his spirit father before him.

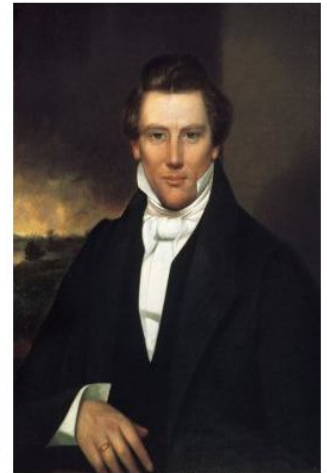
The Mormon church believes that Elohim and his countless wives live on a planet near the star Kolob, and it is on this planet that the Mormon god Elohim and his wives continually procreate, producing innumerable spirit children.

In order to provide a suitable habitat for his many spirit children, Elohim called together a meeting of the “Council of gods,” during which a plan was developed for the creation of the planet Earth, where Elohim's spirit children would be sent to receive physical bodies and learn good from evil. Elohim sent his spirit agents, Jehovah and Michael to actually create the planet. After the creation of the planet was completed, Michael was rewarded by becoming Adam, the first man on Earth. He is considered god (or a god) by the Mormon church.

Also in attendance at this meeting were Elohim's two oldest children, Jesus and his brother Lucifer. They were each asked by Elohim to present a plan of salvation for their siblings who had received physical bodies and lived on Earth. Lucifer proposed that he be granted the position of mankind's savior and be allowed to force all men to become gods. The Mormon Jesus proposed that he be granted the position of savior and that he would allow men the freedom to choose whether or not they wanted to become gods, just as other gods had done on other planets. The Council of gods voted, and by majority decision of the Council members, the plan presented by the Mormon Jesus was approved, and he became the savior of mankind.

The Council's vote infuriated Lucifer and he managed to convince 1/3 of his spirit siblings to join him in a rebellion against Elohim. As a result of this rebellion, Lucifer became the devil, and the 1/3 of the spirits who rebelled alongside him became the demons, forever denied physical bodies. According to the Mormon church, of the remaining 2/3 of the spirits, some fought valiantly alongside Jesus while others chose to remain neutral. Those who remained neutral were punished – they were “cursed” with a dark skin when they received their physical bodies. This is the Mormon explanation for the non-white races. They go on to teach that those spirits who fought bravely were blessed by having physical bodies that were “white and delightsome.”⁽¹⁾

Eventually, according to the Mormon church, it was time for Jesus to come to earth as savior. Because Jesus was special to his father Elohim, Elohim himself came to earth in physical form and had physical intercourse with the unwed, but betrothed Mary. This resulted in the birth of the Mormon Jesus. Because he was a good Mormon, the Mormon Jesus grew to adulthood, entered into polygamous marriages and fathered many, many children. After his



Joseph Smith

Founder of Mormonism

death on a cross, the Mormon Jesus was resurrected, at which time he traveled to North, Central and South America to preach to the native Indians there because they were, according to the Mormon church, descended from the Israelites.



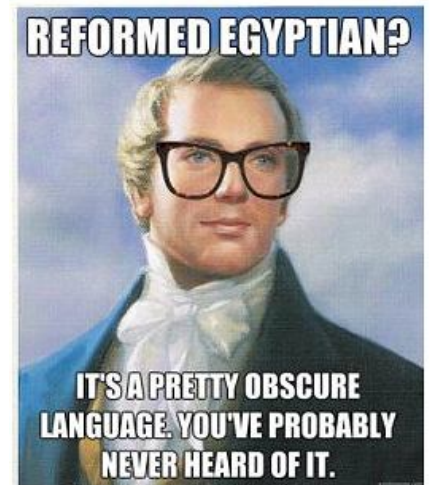
Joseph Smith using his special stones to translate the Book of Mormon

The Mormon church teaches that Israelites migrated to the Americas hundreds of years before the birth of the Mormon Jesus. These migrating Israelites became two races of Native Americans, the Nephites and the Lamanites. The Mormon church believes the dark-skinned Lamanites killed off the last of the light-skinned Nephites by the year 421 A.D. The last of the Nephites, Moroni, is believed to have written down the entire history of the Nephites on gold plates, and then hidden them in the hill called Cumorah, in upstate New York, shortly before he died.

1400 years later, Joseph Smith, the founder and first president/prophet of the Mormon church claimed to have been visited by Moroni, who revealed to him the location of the gold plates. Smith then claimed he recovered the plates. With the aid of two special stones called the “Urim and Thummim,” Smith claimed to be able to translate the plates which were allegedly written in what Smith called, “Reformed Egyptian.”⁽²⁾

Smith would take the two special stones and place them into his hat, and then place his face into his hat, looking at the stones, and then dictate to his secretary, Oliver Cowdery, what the Smith claimed was written on the gold plates. After his “translation” was complete, Smith claimed that the long deceased Nephite-Israelite-Indian-turned-angel, Moroni, came and retrieved the gold plates and hid them, leaving behind no evidence whatsoever of their existence. The result of this “translation” was the **Book of Mormon** (named after Moroni's father, Mormon) and was first published in 1830.

Joseph Smith remained president and prophet of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints until he was killed during a fierce gun battle between Smith and a determined lynch mob in 1844. After killing two or three men in the mob,⁽³⁾ Smith and his brother Hyrum were themselves killed. After Joseph Smith's death, the L.D.S. church split into two main (and many minor) churches. The Utah Latter-day Saints, and the Reorganized Latter-day Saints (R.L.D.S.) of Independence, Missouri.



The Mormon Law of Eternal Progression

As stated earlier, according to the L.D.S. church, the Mormon god Elohim is busy producing spirit children with his multiple polygamous wives on a (as yet undiscovered) planet near the (as yet undiscovered) star Kolob. This is the beginning of what is known in Mormon theology as “The First Estate,” and is where all humans begin their existence as spirit children of the Mormon god. These spirit babies will eventually need a physical body in order to continue their journey to godhood, and so are sent to earth to be physically born to human parents (who at one time were their spirit siblings – but that's another topic for a later discussion!). This physical birth to human parents on Earth is known as “The Second Estate.”

According to the Mormon church, at death all people will go to one of two places. If they are Mormons they will go to “Paradise.” If they are not Mormons they will go to “Spirit Prison,” which is also known as hell. Those Mormons in Paradise will be required to go on mission trips to “Spirit Prison” in order to preach to those incarcerated there, who will then have the opportunity to become Mormons as well. Sort of a second chance last ditch evangelism effort. After this comes the judgment.

At the judgment, all will be sent to one of seven possible eternal places. The devil (Lucifer), his followers (the 1/3 of the spirits who rebelled with him), and all active anti-Mormons (whom are known by the Mormon church as the “sons of perdition”) will be sent to the second death – which is total and complete annihilation. All of the wicked of the earth – those who refuse to repent of their sin, those who reject Mormonism, those who are simply inherently evil, will all go

to the lowest of the three Mormon heavens, known as the “Telestial Kingdom.” The honorable of the world – those who are ethical, morally good, honest, kind and loving, but who still reject Mormonism – will be sent to the second Mormon heaven, known as the “Terrestrial Kingdom.”

This leaves those who are sent to the third, or highest of the three Mormon heavens, the “Celestial Kingdom,” also known as the “Third Estate.” The “Celestial Kingdom” is itself divided into three levels and is reserved only for Mormons. The lower level is for those Mormons who did not follow all of the Mormon ordinances or requirements. They did not marry in the Mormon temple, they did pay their tithes or did not pay enough tithes, and were basically inactive members of the Mormon church.

The middle level is reserved for those Mormons who were active in the Mormon church and followed all of the ordinances or requirements, but for one reason or another they did not get married in the temple. The upper level of the “Celestial Kingdom” is reserved for those good Mormons who followed all the Mormon church ordinances and requirements, including marriage in the Mormon temple. Only those male Mormons who have completed and met all of the requirements for entrances into the upper level of the “Celestial Kingdom” can become gods themselves, thus maintaining the cycle started by that first Mormon who became a god (although this does beg the question of, if all gods were once human Mormons, who later became gods themselves [as taught by Joseph Smith], then which came first – the Mormon man who was once a god, or the god who was once a Mormon man who, of course, created the Mormon man who became a god?).

Footnotes:

(1) Editions of the Book of Mormon printed from 1830 to 1978 state that those spirits who remained neutral during the rebellion were given physical bodies with dark skin, but if they became Mormons while inhabiting those dark skinned physical bodies, they would physically change and their skin would become “white and delightsome.” Editions of the Book of Mormon printed after 1978 have been changed to read that they will become “pure and delightsome.” The L.D.S. church claims that the word “white” in the older editions should have been “pure”, but that a “typographical error” had occurred, and presumably remained completely undetected for 148 years. At least that's their story and they're sticking to it.

(2) No such language has ever existed.

(3) According to local newspaper accounts from that period.

NOTE: The above information is intended expose to the reader the often “hidden” or “not talked about to potential converts” teachings of the Mormon church. Nothing has been added or changed to make any Mormon doctrine or teaching sound “strange” or “weird” or “bizarre.” It is simply a case of the truth actually being stranger than fiction. The above information was taken directly from the following sources: The Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, The Pearl of Great Price (the three books of Mormon scripture, each believed to be inspired and more accurate than the Bible), “Mormon Doctrine” by Mormon apostle Bruce R. McConkie, the “Journal of Discourses” (an L.D.S. church produced written record of the sermons and messages of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young), the “Millennial Star” (an L.D.S. church produced newspaper of the 1800's), as well as other L.D.S. church produced literature.

Image of Joseph Smith looking into his hat courtesy of lifeafter.org; image of Joseph Smith courtesy of Wikipedia, Joseph Smith meme courtesy of meme generator.

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