

Mormonism

How many of you have had an unbeliever or skeptics ask you something like:

- Don't all paths lead to Heaven?
- What kind of God would send someone to hell?
- What about people who have never heard of Jesus, will they go to Heaven?
- What about all those contradictions that are in the Bible?
- Why would a good God let suffering exist?

The art of Biblically answering those and other questions is called Apologetics.

Apologetics comes from the Greek word *apologia* and means "to give a rational defense of the Christian faith."

Webster's second edition defines apologetics as, "that branch of theology having to do with the defense and proofs of Christianity."

Titus 1:9 exhorts as in the context of qualified elders to "hold fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict." NKJV

1 Peter 3:15 says "and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.." NKJV

We may never run across someone who "asks us a reason" but we should always be prepared and ready to respond in case someone does.

With these verses in mind, what I'd like to talk to you about tonight, over the next hour or so are some of the false teachings propagated by the Mormon Church.

Tonight, we're going to discuss 6 major topics where the Mormons err in their theology and teachings. Keep in mind that there are several more doctrines where orthodox Christianity and Mormonism part ways but we only have time to touch on a few here tonight.

We will be using the acronym J. O. S. E. P. H. to help you remember some of the areas where Mormonism errs:

1. **J**esus of Mormonism
2. **O**nly True Church?
3. **S**alvation According to Mormonism
4. **E**normous problems with the Book of Mormon
5. **P**rophets of God?
6. **H**ell (Outer Darkness), Mormon doctrine of

First, let's get a little background on the Mormon Church officially known as *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* or *LDS* church.

Mormonism's founder, Joseph Smith was born in Vermont in 1805.

At 11 years old, Smith's family moved to New York where at the age of 15, Joseph troubled by the disagreements between the denominational churches of his day, decided to take the verse found in James 1:5 to the Lord in prayer.

James 1:5 says "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him." (NKJV)

As the story goes, Joseph Smith, seeking wisdom on which church to join, walked into the woods and would soon receive divine direction on the issue.

It was there, on a spring day in 1820 that 15 year old Joseph Smith says that God the Father and His Son, Jesus, appeared to him.

They supposedly informed him that...

- the churches "were *all* wrong"
- that "their creeds were an abomination"
- and "their professors were all corrupt."

At this point I would like to stress that we are not attacking Mormonism, as the Mormon on your doorstep might point out, but we are defending the Christian faith from the attack of Mormonism based on Joseph Smith's comments that the existing churches were "all wrong" and "corrupt."

Three years later, in 1823, Joseph Smith alleges that a "messenger sent from the presence of God", an angel named Moroni, appeared to him and informed him where golden plates and translation devices called the "Urim and Thummim" were buried in a nearby hillside in Cumorah, New York, but that he was not yet ready to retrieve them.

According to the Introduction in the *Book of Mormon*, the words written on the golden plates were written by a "prophet-historian", a man named "Mormon."

These golden plates contained an account of two great civilizations and a record of ancient people who had migrated from the near east to America in B.C. 600, later to be separated into two nations called the Nephites and the Lamanites.

Then in 1827, Moroni supposedly again appeared to Smith and allowed him to retrieve the plates and charged him to keep them safe until the angel "should call for them." Smith was not allowed to reveal the plates to anyone except select individuals, "lest he be destroyed."

According to the LDS church, Joseph Smith translated the sacred writings on the plates from "Reformed Egyptian" into English.

Before the plates were taken from the earth, three witnesses – David Whitmer, Martin Harris, and Oliver Cowdery – prayed with Joseph Smith that they might see them.

According to *The Testimony of Three Witnesses* in *The Book of Mormon*, an angel of God came down from heaven and laid the plates before their eyes.

Also, according to the record, sometime after Joseph Smith had finished translating the plates, the plates were removed by Moroni and to this day are unavailable for inspection.

It's interesting to note that all three individuals eventually left the church. Martin Harris, however, returned to the Mormon church late in his life, even though in the interim he had said that several other churches were true.

In March of 1830, three years after having supposedly received the golden plates, Joseph Smith published his results.

And the name of the Book: *The Book of Mormon*

The Book of Mormon claims on its cover to be "Another Testament of Jesus Christ."

- The Book of Mormon is made up of 15 books or divisions and appears to be slightly bigger than our New Testament.
- It claims to be a record of God's dealings with the original inhabitants of the American continent between B.C. 2247 to 421 A.D.
- It teaches that Jesus, after His resurrection, came to America, performed miracles and chose 12 men from a people known as the Nephites to be His American disciples.

One month later, in April 1830, since Jesus had supposedly told Joseph Smith that all other churches, creeds and those who professed them were false and abominable; the "one true church" was founded in Fayette, New

York with Smith receiving a revelation from God that he was to be “a seer, a translator, a prophet, and an apostle.”

In June of 1844, while in prison, Joseph Smith was killed during a blazing gun battle at the hands of an angry mob.

The Mormon Church started off as a small cult on the outer edges of society since its founding in 1830 by a man named Joseph Smith.

Today, *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* is headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah and the current Mormon President is Thomas S. Monson who was ordained February 3, 2008.

Currently, Mormonism has over four million followers in the United States alone.

That growth alone is impressive considering there were only about one million Mormon’s in America in the 1950’s.

There are about twelve million Mormons worldwide and the Mormon Church is estimated to grow at about 1,500 new members per day world wide. That’s staggering!

Brigham Young University projects that by the year 2080 there will be more than 256 million Mormons worldwide, assuming that the church grows at its present rate.

With that little history lesson under our belts, let’s consider the first false teaching of Mormonism by looking in-depth at the first letter ‘J’, in the acronym of **J**. O. S. E. P. H. – [the] Jesus of Mormonism.

Jesus of Mormonism

There's a word I would like you to become familiar with. It's called *equivocation*.

Wikipedia.com defines equivocation as:

- "The fallacy of **equivocation** is committed when someone uses the same word in different meanings in an argument, implying that the word means the same each time around."

Other definitions of equivocation are:

- Intentionally vague or ambiguous.
- Deliberate vagueness or ambiguity.
- Falsification by means of vague or ambiguous language.
- To use with a purpose to mislead.

In other words, Mormons call Jesus the Son of God just as we do, but they have a whole different idea in mind as to what that means.

Case and point, Mormon apologist Gilbert W. Scharffs wrote that "Latter-day Saints are Christians because they emphatically believe in Christ, use His name in their official church title, and believe in the Bible and the Book of Mormon, which testify repeatedly of the reality of Christ and the truth of His teachings...Mormons are Christians. Christians are those who accept Christ as their Savior."¹

Why that sounds just like Christianity.

But, the meaning that Mormonism pours into the name 'Jesus' is not the same meaning that we, as Christians, pour into the name 'Jesus.'

For example, Gordon B. Hinkley (1910–2008), the fifteen president of the LDS church stated that "As a church, we have our critics – many of them.

They say we do not believe in the traditional Christ of Christianity. There is some substance to what they say. Our faith; our knowledge, is not based on ancient tradition...Our faith; our knowledge comes of the witness of a prophet in this dispensation."

Mr. Hinkley also stated that, "No I don't believe in the traditional Christ. The traditional Christ of whom they [Christians] speak is not the Christ of whom I speak. For the Christ of whom I speak has been revealed in this the Dispensation of the Fullness of Times."

Christians believe that He is *God* the Son (John 20:28), the second person in the Trinity. We went over this in detail in *A Case for the Trinity* Apologetics class.

The Bible teaches that He existed from all eternity (Micah 5:2) and that He is equal in nature with God the Father (John 5:18, Hebrews 1:3). We pray to Jesus and we worship Jesus as *God* just as the Bible teaches.

Mormonism teaches that:

1. We must not worship Jesus as God the Father is worshiped.

Mormon Apostle Bruce R. McConkie says "*We worship the Father and him only and no one else. We do not worship the Son and we do not worship the Holy Ghost. I know perfectly well what the scriptures say about worshipping Christ and Jehovah, but they are speaking in an entirely different sense-the sense of standing in awe and being reverentially grateful to Him who has redeemed us. Worship in the true and saving sense is reserved for God the first, the Creator.*"²

2. We must not pray to Jesus. They can pray in His name, but not to Him.

³

Again, Mormon Apostle Bruce R. McConkie says "[Prayers] are to be addressed to the Father, should always be made in the name of Jesus Christ."

And again, "As an indication of how far removed most [non-LDS prayer books] are from the true form of prayer is the fact that many of them

are not made in the name of Christ, while others are addressed directly to Christ or to the Holy Ghost rather than to the father.”

3. Jesus was the very first of many sons with one of those sons being Lucifer [Satan] himself.

According to Mormon doctrine, Lucifer, Jesus’ spirit-brother, allegedly did not like it when Jesus was appointed to be the Savior of the world. “The appointment of Jesus to be the Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God. He was called Lucifer, son of the morning. Haughty, ambitious, and covetous of power and glory, this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind.”⁴

4. Jesus is Jehovah the first “begotten” spirit-child of the Father (Elohim) by one of his unnamed wives (often referred to as the “Heavenly Mother”).

Mormon Doctrine says that “Christ is the *Firstborn*, meaning that he was the first Spirit Child born to God the Father in pre-existence.”⁵

Gospel Principles says that “The first spirit born to our heavenly parents was Jesus Christ (see D&C 93:21), so he is literally our elder brother...”⁶

Biblical Teaching

The Bible makes it perfectly clear that Jesus is to be worshiped in the same way that the Father is worshiped.

The word “worshiped” [Greek: *proskuneo*] is the same word used in the Gospel accounts when God the Father is “worshiped” and Jesus always accepted such worship as completely appropriate.

- Jesus accepted worship from Thomas (John 20:28)
- All the angels are told to worship Jesus (Hebrews 1:6)
- The wise men worshiped Jesus (Matthew 2:11)
- A leper worshiped Jesus (Matthew 8:2)

- A ruler bowed down before Jesus to worship Him (Matthew 9:18)
- A blind man worshiped Jesus (John 9:38)
- A woman worshiped Jesus (Matthew 15:25)
- Mary Magdalene worshiped Jesus (Matthew 28:9)
- The disciples worshiped Jesus (Matthew 28:17)

God the Father and Jesus receive the exact same worship in Revelation.

God the Father is worshiped in Revelation 4:10 and the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, is talked about being worshiped in Revelation 5:11-14.

The Bible says it's perfectly acceptable to pray to Jesus.

- Acts 7:59 says that as Stephan was being stoned he was, "calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."
- Romans 10:12, 13 says, "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

We know that Paul is referring to Jesus as "Lord over all" according to Galatians 3:28 and he is referring to the Father when he says, 'whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered' because he's quoting from Joel 2:32.

I point this out because in both the Acts and Romans passages, Jesus and God are used interchangeably.

The Bible absolutely *does not* teach that Jesus and Lucifer were spirit-brothers. In fact, the Bible teaches that:

- Jesus is the Creator of all things (Colossians 1:16).
- Lucifer is a created angelic being (Ezekiel 28:13-19; Isaiah 14:12-15).

Mormonism, in support of their belief that Jesus is the offspring of Heavenly Parents will point out that Psalm 2:7 reads, "I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."

Mormons will typically interpret the word "begotten" in the sense of procreation, the offspring of the Father and an unnamed "Heavenly Mother."

But turning to Acts 13:33, 34 and using the *basic interpretive principle* that *Scripture interprets Scripture*, we can clearly see that Psalm 2:7 deals not with the Fathers alleged procreation of Jesus but rather with Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

- "God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath *raised up Jesus again*; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he *raised him up from the dead*, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the mercies of David." (emphasis added)

Mormon theology also denies the Biblical account of the virgin birth. It teaches instead that the human body Jesus was given at His birth was the product of a physical sexual encounter between God the Father who visited earth and had sexual relations with Mary, (who was previously his spirit daughter in heaven!)

Let's move on to the 'O' in the acronym J. **O**. S. E. P. H. – Only True Church?

Only True Church?

According to the official version of Joseph Smith's first vision account, as he was in the woods praying about which Church to attend, two personages appeared to him in a dazzling light and one of them told him that he shouldn't join any of the churches because,

- the churches "were *all* wrong"
- that "their creeds were an abomination"
- and "their professors were all corrupt."

Since all the churches were wrong, Mormonism teaches that the “one true church” needed to be restored and that God chose Joseph Smith for this monumental task.

Mormonism teaches that nothing less than a “complete apostasy” happened and in fact teaches there were seven apostasies in total.

The last and final apostasy happened because “as the Apostles were killed, revelation to guide the Lord’s church ceased, along with authority to operate it.”⁷

Therefore, Mormons believe that the final restoration of the “one true church” was established through Joseph Smith on April 6, 1830.

Mormonism has taught this throughout their history as seen in some of these quotes from *Reasoning From the Scriptures with the Mormons* by Ron Rhodes and Marian Bodine.

- Brigham Young, the second president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said, “The Christian world, so called, are heathens as to their knowledge of the salvation of God.”
- Orson Pratt, a leading Mormon apostle, said, “All other churches are entirely destitute of all authority from God: and any person who receives Baptism, or the Lord’s Supper from their hands will highly offend God, for he looks upon them as the most corrupt of all people.”
- The late apostle Bruce McConkie, one of the LDS Church’s foremost doctrinal authorities, said, “Mormons...have the only pure and perfect Christianity now on earth.” He also declared, “All other systems of religion are false,” and that “If it had not been for Joseph Smith and the restoration, there would be no salvation. There is no salvation outside the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.”

As the Mormon document *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* puts it:

- “Nothing less than a *complete apostasy* from the Christian religion would warrant the establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints...There was no possible excuse for the introduction of a new Christian sect.”⁸ (emphasis added)

But, what does the Bible say about a “complete apostasy” of the church that requires the establishment of the LDS church?

Again, by using the *basic interpretive principle* that *Scripture interprets Scripture*, we can look at several passages that can help the Christian make the point that there *never* would be a total apostasy of the entire church.

- Jesus said to Peter in Matthew 16:18, “Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and *the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*” (emphasis added)
- Jesus promised His followers in Matthew 28:20, “Lo, I am with you always, *even unto the end of the world.*” (emphasis added)
- In Ephesians 3:21, the apostle Paul wrote, “Unto him be glory *in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages*, world without end.” (emphasis added)

It’s worth pointing out that the Ephesian church was growing towards spiritual maturity, not spiritual immaturity. – Ephesians 4: 11-16

- The apostle Peter points out in 1 Peter 1:25 that, “the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

The word *endureth* or *endures* [Greek: *meno*] literally means to stay, abide, continue, be present, or remain.

- Jesus affirmed to His followers in Matthew 18:20, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

So, there is no indication that there was a time or would come a time when a “complete apostasy” of the church would happen even though there would be people who became apostate throughout the ages.

And, since the word of the Lord endures forever, it bears fruit in every generation and there have always been *some* faithful believers who, in fact, know the reality of Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

This leads us to the next letter 'S' in the acronym J. O. **S**. E. P. H. – Salvation According to Mormonism.

Salvation According to Mormonism

When Mormons talk about salvation, eternal life and heaven, they are talking about the Mormon concepts and belief systems that they have been taught. They are pouring a whole different meaning into the word *salvation* than what the Bible teaches...remember equivocation?

General Salvation

Mormonism teaches that Christ's death on the cross brings about a *general* salvation for *all* mankind.

The result of this salvation is that all mankind will be resurrected and given eternal life.

This salvation will be granted even to the worst of sinners (including non-Mormons).

Individual Salvation

The Mormon Church also teaches a second type of salvation called *individual* salvation.

Individual salvation, exaltation, eternal life, the highest of the three heavens and the family unit are all closely related in Mormon theology.

In fact, they are all related in some way to the ultimate goal of Mormonism, the concept of becoming a god and as one of the main Mormon teachings puts it, "As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become."

- Brigham Young, the second president of the LDS Church said, "the Lord created you and me for the purpose of becoming Gods like himself...We are created...to become Gods like our Father in Heaven."⁹
- The official *Gospel Principles* manual says that "exaltation is eternal life, the kind of life that God gives...We can become Gods like our heavenly Father. This is exaltation."¹⁰
- The *Doctrines of the Gospel* teaches, "Each one of you has it within the realm of his possibility to develop a kingdom over which you will pre- side as its king and god."¹¹

Let's first look at what the Bible has to say about the "one true God" (John 17:3) and the possibility of any other gods.

- Isaiah 43:10 says, "Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD...before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me."
- Isaiah 44:6 says, "Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; *I am the first, and I am the last*; and beside me there is no God." (emphasis added)
- Isaiah 44:8 says, "Is there a God beside me? Yea, there is no God; *I know not any.*" (emphasis added)
- See also Isaiah 44:24; 45:5, 6, 21; 46:9; 1 Cor. 8:4; James 2:19; John 5:44; 17:3, Romans 3:29,30; Galatians 3:20.

How many times does the LORD have to say, "There is no other God"?!?

It's worth pointing out to your Mormon acquaintance that man fell in the garden because of his desire to be a god (Genesis 3:5) and Lucifer fell from heaven because of his desire to be a god (Isaiah 14:12-15).

To experience individual exaltation to godhood, one must have:

- repented
- been baptized in the Mormon church

- and lived a life of obedience to the laws and teachings of the Mormon church.

So to the Mormon, Christ's work is merely the *beginning* of salvation and human works are needed to *complete* the process.

Thus, Mormonism is a works based religion.

Depending on your works, the Mormon Church teaches that you can achieve one of three different levels in heaven:

- **Celestial Kingdom** – the highest level – Actually three separate levels with the top level being the place where Mormons hope to be exalted.
- **Terrestrial Kingdom** – the middle level – This is the place where the "lukewarm" Mormons and the "honorable" or "good" people will end up.
- **Telestial Kingdom** – the lowest level – This is where the "wicked" people will spend all of eternity.

To make it into the Celestial Kingdom, the highest level, one must also be married in the Mormon temple sometime in this life.

As Ron Rhodes points out, "Exaltation to godhood in Mormon theology ultimately involves not just what a person does in the earthly life (*mortality*), but also what he has already done in *premortality* (that is, in his "pre-existence" as a spirit-child) and in *postmortality* (that is, in his return to the spirit world following physical death). A person's progression toward godhood is an extended process."

One of those works is that Mormon Church membership is required and has its role in salvation:

- "salvation is in the church, and of the church, and is obtained only through the church."¹²

- Mormon general authority, Milton R. Hunter, affirms that the person on the road to godhood “must become a member and live the gospel principles and ordinances of the true church of the Master – which is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, restored to earth through divine revelations to the prophet Joseph Smith.”¹³

The necessity of good works to obtain complete salvation - eternal life - the Mormonism way can also be seen in the following quote:

- “one common erroneous concept is that belief alone in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only requirement for salvation...Salvation comes through living the Lord’s commandments and doing good works.”¹⁴

It is important to realize that in Mormon theology, grace alone does not save:

- “one of the most fallacious doctrines originated by Satan and propounded by man is that man is saved alone by the grace of God; that belief in Jesus Christ alone is all that is needed for salvation.”¹⁵

Again, all we have to do is turn to our Bibles, the *final court of arbitration* to see that close to 200 times in the New Testament, salvation is said to be *by faith alone* – with no works in sight:

- John 3:15 tells us that “whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”
- John 5:24 says, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, *He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*” (emphasis added)
- In John 11:25 Jesus says, “I am the resurrection, and the life; *he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.*” (emphasis added)
- John 12:46 says, “I am come a light into the world, that *whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*” (emphasis added)

It must be pointed out to the Mormon that we are saved by faith *for* good works. In other words, works are a result of a faith that is a saving faith.

The New Testament repeatedly states that salvation is a free gift from God – salvation is by grace and grace alone entirely apart from the law or any works:

- Ephesians 2:8, 9 says, “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.”
- Titus 3:5 says, “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us...”
- Romans 3:20 tells us that “by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified [declared righteous before God] in his sight...”
- See also Romans 4:4; 11:6 and Galatians 2:26

Let’s move on to the next letter in the acronym J. O. S. **E**. P. H. – the letter ‘E’ or the Enormous problems with the Book of Mormon.

Enormous problems with the Book of Mormon

Joseph Smith said about the *Book of Mormon*, “I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon *was the most correct of any book on earth*, and the key-stone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than any other book.”¹⁶ (emphasis added)

David Whitmer, one of Joseph Smith’s associates, describes the translation process from the golden plates into the *Book of Mormon*:

- “Joseph Smith would put the seer stone into a hat, and put his face in the hat, drawing it closely around his face to exclude the light; and in the darkness the spiritual light would shine. A piece of something resembling parchment would appear, and on that appeared the writing. One character at a time would appear, and under it was the interpreta-

tion in English. Brother Joseph would read off the English to Oliver Cowdery, who was his principal scribe, and when it was written down and repeated to Brother Joseph to see if it was correct, then it would disappear, and another character with the interpretation would appear. Thus the Book of Mormon was translated by the gift and power of God, and not by any power of man.”¹⁷

Oliver B. Huntington recorded in his journal that in 1881, Joseph F. Smith, who later became the sixth president of the Mormon Church, taught that the Lord gave Joseph Smith the *exact English wording and spelling* that should be used in the Book of Mormon:

- “but every word and every letter was given to him, by the gift and power of God...The Lord caused each word spelled as it is in the book to appear on the stones in short sentences or words, and when Joseph had uttered the sentence or word before him and the scribe had written it properly, that sentence would disappear and another appear.”¹⁸

According to Joseph Smith, following the translation of the Book of Mormon, he saw a bright light and he heard a voice that said:

- “These plates have been *revealed by the power of God*, and they *have been translated by the power of God*. *The translation of them which you have seen is correct*, and I command you to bear record of what you now see and hear”¹⁹ (emphasis added)

In view of the quotes described above – the process that involved *the correct translation of individual characters and specific words* – it would appear that there was no room for human error.

Remember, Joseph Smith said that the Book of Mormon is the “most correct of any book on earth.”

With that said, there were more than 3,913 changes to the original 1830 edition of the Book of Mormon and the ones printed and issued through the mid 1970s. The 1981 edition of the Book of Mormon introduced between one and two hundred additional changes.

Now, just in case you think that these changes are minor in nature, remember the process we just read about. God revealed by His power and then confirmed the correct wording according to Joseph Smith.

I've attached documentation of some of those major changes. This paper and much more documentation on Mormon apologetics can be found at <http://www.utlm.org>.

Listed below is a sample²⁰ of changes that have been made to the Book of Mormon, the so-called "most correct of any book on earth."

Verse	The 1830 Version	Today's Version
1 Nephi 11:21	"And the angel said unto me, Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even <i>the eternal Father</i> " (emphasis added).	"And the angel said unto me, Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even <i>the son of the eternal Father</i> " (emphasis added).
1 Nephi 11:32	"And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me again, saying: Look! And I looked and beheld the Lamb of God, that he was taken by the people; yea, <i>the everlasting God</i> was judged of the world; and I saw and bear record" (emphasis added).	"And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me again, saying: Look! And I looked and beheld the Lamb of God, that he was taken by the people; yea, <i>the Son of the everlasting God</i> was judged of the world; and I saw and bear record" (emphasis added).
1 Nephi 13:40	"These last records...shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people, that the Lamb of God is <i>the Eternal Father</i> and Savior of the world..." (emphasis added).	"These last records...shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people, that the Lamb of God is <i>the Son of the Eternal Father</i> and Savior of the world..." (emphasis added).
Mosiah 21:28	"... <i>King Benjamin</i> had a gift from God, where by he could interpret such engravings" (emphasis added).	"... <i>King Mosiah</i> had a gift from God, where by he could interpret such engravings" (emphasis added).

Since, according to the LDS church history, the *correct translation* was revealed by the power of God, and they have been translated by the power of God, how could these mistakes have been made?
How? -- This is a book not of God but made by man.

Proverbs 30:6 tells us, "Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."

The Book of Mormon has been "found to be a liar" based on:

- **Enormous changes in the Book of Mormon as mentioned above:**

4,000+ changes to the *Book of Mormon* ranging from doctrinal errors to errors in logic, consistency and grammar and odd errors in general, for example, a French word in the *Book of Jacob* almost 1,000 years before French even existed!

- **Plagiarisms in the Book of Mormon from the King James Version:**

27,000 words lifted directly from the King James Version as well as whole verses.

The problem that arises is that if the Book of Mormon was first penned between B.C. 600 and 421 A.D., as it is claimed, how could it contain such extensive quotations from the King James Version that hadn't been written for another 1,200 to 2,000 years?

Even the *italicized words* from the King James Version were plagiarized. The *italicized words* were not in the original language but were added by the King James translators to provide clarity and a better understanding.

- **No Archaeological evidence for the Book of Mormon:**

The Book of Mormon tells of *large cities* with *large fortified walls* that supported *large-scale wars* over *hundreds of years* that ended with *hundreds of thousands* of people killed in 385 A.D. in what is present-day New York State. (See Mormon 6:9-15)

Where are the remains of these great walled cities?

Where are the remains and grave sites of these warring people?

Where are the metal tools, chariot parts, coinage, temples, and foundations of the buildings of these peoples?

Of the thirty major cities mentioned in the *Book of Mormon*, why can't we find cities named Nephi, Manti, Zarahemla, Sidom, Bountiful, Jer-shon, etc.?

- The *National Geographic Society* denies that archaeologists place any weight on the *Book of Mormon*, "Neither the Society nor any other institution of equal prestige has ever used the Book of Mormon in locating archaeological sites. Although many Mormon sources claim that the Book of Mormon has been substantiated by archaeological findings, this claim has not been verified scientifically."²¹
- The *National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution*, in Washington, D.C., affirmed, "Smithsonian archeologists see no direct connection between the archeology of the New World and the subject matter of the book [of Mormon]."²²
- Dr. Chris Moser of the *Mesoamerican Archaeology Study Unit* said of the Book of Mormon, "while I have several Mormon friends, some of them are archaeologists, and as I admire their moral code and way of life, *I am afraid that the Book of Mormon has no basis in fact*"²³ (emphasis added)
- Dee Green, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at *Weber State University* said, "The first myth we need to eliminate is that Book of Mormon archaeology exists...If one is to study the Book of Mormon archaeology, then one must have a corpus of data with which to deal. We do not...No Book of Mormon location is known with reference to modern topography. Biblical archaeology can be studied because we do know where Jerusalem and Jericho were and are, but we do not know where Zarahemala and Bountiful (nor any other location for that matter) were or are."²⁴

- **DNA fingerprinting evidence of Native Americans contradicts what the *Book of Mormon* teaches:**

The Introduction to the *Book of Mormon* states that it “gives an account of two great civilizations. One came from Jerusalem in 600 B.C., [to the Americas] and afterward separated into two nations...After thousands of years, all were destroyed except the Lamanites, and they are the principal ancestors of the American Indians.”

DNA fingerprinting of North, Central and South Native Americans proves that 99.4% of these people are from Northeast Asia and the remaining .6% is of African and European descent.²⁵

There is no Jewish DNA in the Native American Indians in the North, Central and South Americas.

Psalm 19:7, 8 says, “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”

The *Book of Mormon* is neither perfect, sure, right or pure.

The *Book of Mormon* is so unlike, so opposite Psalm 19:7, 8 that it has mans fingerprints all over it. Rest assured the Book of Mormon is not from God but a work of fiction.

On the other hand, the Bible is “given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Tim. 3:16, 17)

Jude 3 tells us, “...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”

- Notice the “definite article” (e.g., *the*) in front of the word faith. It means the “one and only faith”.
- The word *once* [Greek: *hapax*] means “one (or a single) time.” This is something that never has to be repeated again or cannot be changed.
- The word *delivered* [Greek: *paradidomi*] refers to an act that was completed in the past with no continuing action. In other words, the verb tense that is used here refers to a once-and-for-all completed action.

LDS apostle Bruce McConkie points in *Mormon Doctrine* that “Almost all the doctrines of the gospel are taught in the Book of Mormon with much greater clarity and perfection than those same doctrines revealed in the Bible...such subjects as the atonement, plan of salvation, gathering of Israel, baptism, gifts of the Spirit, miracles, revelation, faith, charity, (or any of a hundred other subjects), will find conclusive proof *of the superiority of the Book of Mormon.*” (emphasis added)

Bottom line, the *Book of Mormon* and the LDS Church teach a different gospel than what the Bible teaches.

Galatians 1:8 says, “But though we or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”

...angel from heaven...another gospel...sound familiar? Joseph Smith alleges that a “messenger sent from the presence of God”, an angel named Moroni, appeared to him and informed him where golden plates and translation devices called the “Urim and Thummin” were buried.

So, when it comes to the Book of Mormon, the evidence shows that it’s NOT a Book of God... this moves us on to the next letter in the acronym J. O. S. E. **P.** H. – the letter ‘P’ or the Prophets of God?

Prophets of God?

Mormons will claim that since the days of Adam, God has always used His chosen prophets through whom He reveals His instructions, laws, ordinances, and the gospel.

When sin became too rampant, God would basically leave his people in spiritual darkness by removing the everlasting covenants given through the prophets.

But, according to LDS church teachings, the great prophet Joseph Smith came in the fullness of time to restore that which had been lost.

According to the *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*:

- "Latter-day Saints call him "Prophet" because in the tradition of Old and New Testament prophets, he depended on REVELATION from God for his teachings...Joseph Smith's role in history was to found the Church of Jesus Christ based on this restored gospel in preparation for the second coming of Christ."

The official church magazine, *The Ensign*, explains the central role of Joseph Smith:

- "Joseph Smith, like Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and others, stands as the dispensation head...The dispensation head stands as the preeminent prophetic witness of Christ."

LDS apostle Bruce McConkie, in his book *This Generation Shall Have My Word Through You*, tells of Joseph Smith's role as God's prophet:

- "Every prophet is a witness of Christ; every dispensation head is a revealer of Christ...All such come to echo to the world and to expound and unfold what God has revealed through the man who was appointed for that era to give his eternal word to the world."

Mormonism teaches that the mantle of "Prophet, Seer and Revelator" fell on Joseph Smith and continues to apply to his successors in the office of church president to this day.

The Mormon president is the mouth piece of God at virtually all times.

First, let's point out what the qualifications are for a prophet of God as defined in Deuteronomy 18:20-22:

- "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

The point you want to emphasize to the Mormon is that according to Deuteronomy 13:1-8 and 18:20-22, the Biblical test for a true prophet of God is that he has to be 100% accurate. Anything less than 100% accuracy brought death by stoning.

So, do these Mormon "prophets" pass the test of a true prophet of God?

Let's look at some of the prophecies these so-called prophets of God have made.

One example that any Mormon can find recorded directly in his own Scripture is Joseph Smith's prophecy regarding New Jerusalem:

- [The] city shall be built, beginning at the temple lot, which is appointed by the finger of the Lord, in the western boundaries of the State of Missouri, and dedicated by the hand of Joseph Smith, Jun., and others with whom the Lord is well pleased. Verily this is the word of the Lord, that the city New Jerusalem shall be built by the gathering of the saints, beginning at this place of the temple, which temple shall be

reared in this generation ("Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Kirtland, Ohio, September 22 and 23, 1832" *Doctrine and Covenants* 84:3,4).

Obviously those "prophetic" words were spoken by Joseph Smith in 1832, over 150 years ago. That generation passed away the New Jerusalem being built in western Missouri so that prophecy was false.

Here's another example of a false prophecy given by the Mormon "prophet" Joseph Smith:

- I prophecy in the name of the Lord God of Israel, unless the United States redress the wrongs committed upon the Saints in the state of Missouri and punish the crimes committed by her officers that in a few years the government will be utterly overthrown and wasted, and there will not be so much as a potsherd left, for their wickedness in permitting the murder of men, women and children (Joseph Smith, May 18, 1843, *History of the Church*, vol. 5, p.394).

The fact that the United States Government has not been "overthrown and wasted" only attests to the fact of another false prophecy.

In this "prophecy" about the Civil War, Brigham Young, the second President of the LDS church states:

- Will the present struggle free the slave? No; but they are now wasting away the black race by thousands (Oct. 6, 1863, *Journal of Discourses*, vol. 10, p.250).

How about Brigham Young's "prophecy" regarding statehood and polygamy:

- Do you think that we shall ever be admitted as a State into the Union without denying the principle of polygamy? If we are not admitted until then, we shall never be admitted (August 19, 1866, *Journal of Discourses*, vol. 11, p.269).

With the Mormon Church abandoning the practice of polygamy in 1890, followed by Utah's almost immediate admission to the Union as a state, we can most definitely classify this prophecy as false.

How about Brigham Young's affirmation that the moon and sun were inhabited:

- Who can tell us of the inhabitants of this little planet that shines of an evening, called the moon?...When you inquire about the inhabitants of that sphere you find that the most learned are as ignorant in regard to them as the most ignorant of their fellows. So it is with regard to the inhabitants of the sun. Do you think it is inhabited? I rather think it is. Do you think there is any life there? No question of it; it was not made in vain (July 24, 1870, *Journal of Discourses*, 13:271)

As we can clearly see from the above statements and as pointed out by Mormon apostle, Bruce McConkie that, "Any new revelation for the Church would...be presented to the people by the President of the Church, *he being the mouthpiece of God on earth.*"²⁶ (emphasis mine), these men were clearly false prophets.

2 Peter 1:21 says "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved [e.g. carried along] by the Holy Ghost."

It's clear that in Old Testament times, God used prophets to warn His people prior to judgment and to let them know what was up ahead or where they were straying. But today, we have the Bible to warn us and we no longer need a continual stream of prophets.

As noted earlier in 2 Tim. 3:16, 17 Scripture is sufficient and all we need. Again, according to Deuteronomy 13:1-8 and 18:20-22, the Biblical test for a true prophet of God is that he has to be 100% accurate. Anything less than 100% accuracy brought death by stoning.

Let's finish up the last letter in the acronym J. O. S. E. P. H. by looking at the letter 'H' – Hell (Outer Darkness), Mormon doctrine of.

Hell (Outer Darkness), Mormon doctrine of

According to the Mormon Church, hell is only a temporary place of suffering for the wicked, but all are eventually resurrected and pass into the telestial kingdom, or in other words, after their time of punishment they will be accepted into glory.

As Joseph Fielding Smith explains, "These, after they have been punished for their sins and have been turned over to the torments of Satan, shall eventually come forth after the Millennium, to receive the telestial kingdom."²⁷

Only the "sons of perdition", such as apostates, who have given themselves over to Satan will remain in Hell forever.

More examples of Mormonism teachings that Hell (Outer Darkness) is not an *eternal* place of torment:

- "Hell will have an end"²⁸
- "no soul shall be kept in prison or continued in torment beyond the time requisite to work the needed reformation and vindicate justice for which ends alone punishment is imposed."²⁹
- "after the debt has been paid the prison doors shall be opened, and the spirits once confined in suffering, then chastened and clean, shall come forth to partake of the glory provided in their class."³⁰

Let's take a look at what the Bible teaches when it comes to hell.

The Biblical Doctrine of Hell, as well as Heaven, can be seen in Matthew 25:46:

- "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

It's important to note here that the punishment is said to be everlasting or eternal [Greek: *aionios* - pronounced *ah-ee-o-nee-os*]. It's the same Greek word used to describe the righteous to eternal [*aionios*] life.

The same Greek adjective is used to describe the eternal [*aionios*] God in Romans 16:26; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 9:14; 13:8 and Revelation 4:9.

Professor and Chair, Dept. of Theology at Talbot School of Theology, Alan Gomes notes:

- "What is particularly determinative here is the fact that the duration of punishment for the wicked forms a parallel with the duration of life for the righteous: the adjective *aionion* is used to describe both the length of punishment for the wicked and the length of eternal life for the righteous. One cannot limit the duration of punishment for the wicked without at the same time limiting the duration of eternal life for the redeemed. I would do violence to the parallel to give it an unlimited signification in the case of eternal life, but a limited one when applied to the punishment of the wicked."³¹

Scripture consistently classifies two types of people, *saved versus the unsaved* or *believers versus unbelievers* and portrays the final destiny of each and every person to one of two realities, *heaven* or *hell*, not three levels of Heaven and one temporary Hell.

Let's look at verses that support the Biblical evidence that *two classes of people will have two possible destinies*.

- In Matthew 13:30, Jesus, in a parable says, "Let both [tares and wheat] grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them into bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." Note the two classes, *tares and wheat* and the two possible places to go, one to be *burned* and the other into *my barn*.
- In Matthew 13:49, Jesus says, "So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just."

Again, two classes, the *wicked* and the *just*.

- In Matthew 25:32, Jesus, talking about His Second coming says, "before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats."

Here, *sheep and goats* are used to differentiate between believers and unbelievers.

The sheep (all of them) will enter into God's (single) kingdom (verse 34) and inherit eternal life (verse 46) and the goats to eternal punishment (verse 46).

- In the parable of the Rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:26, Abraham says to the Rich man in Hades, "And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us."

Notice again, that there are two possible places to go in this parable; Abraham and Lazarus (the saved) are in "paradise" while the Rich man (the unsaved) is in the place of "torment."

So, as we have seen, Scripture consistently classifies the *saved versus the unsaved* and portrays the final destiny of each and every person to one of two realities, *heaven* or *hell* based upon whether or not they placed saving faith in Jesus Christ during their time here on earth.

Acts 16:31 – "And they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.'"

Conclusion

As we have seen using the acronym J. O. S. E. P. H., the *Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* errs when it comes to:

1. The Jesus of Mormonism:

- We looked at Bible verses that showed that Jesus accepted the same worship as the Father.
- We saw in Acts and Luke that it's perfectly acceptable to pray to Jesus.
- We looked at verses that showed that Jesus is eternal while Satan is a created being.
- And finally, we refuted that Psalm 2:7 teaches that Jesus was "begotten" in the sense of procreation.

2. Being the Only True Church

- We saw that there was never a "complete apostasy" as Mormonism teaches and thus no need for the Mormon Church by their own admission. (See page 11)

3. Salvation the Mormonism way

- We looked at Bible verses that show that *salvation is by God's grace alone* and that no works are required.

4. Enormous problems with the Book of Mormon

- We demonstrated that with the 4,000 errors, the plagiarism issues, the lack of archaeological evidence, and the DNA evidence that the *Book of Mormon* as NOT "Another Testament of Jesus Christ" but a false gospel, a manmade document and a work of fiction.

5. Prophets of God?

- We looked at some false prophecies that the so-called "mouthpieces of God" uttered and determined that the founding fathers of Mormonism were indeed false prophets.

6. The Mormon doctrine of Hell or (Outer Darkness)

- And lastly, we looked at the erroneous Mormon teaching of Hell and determined that the Biblical Hell, like Heaven will indeed be for eternity.

The bottom line is that the Mormon Church is considered a cult and “outside the pale of orthodoxy” because of their stance on important orthodox Christian doctrines.

Although Mormonism claims to be Christian, they are not and if Joseph Fielding Smith, the tenth LDS President is correct that Mormonism must, “stand or fall on the story of Joseph Smith”³² then by their own words, they have indeed fallen.

Here are a few Witnessing tips for Mormons (Chapter 21 of *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons*) by Dr. Ron Rhodes:

- 1.** Identify with the Mormons - Be honest with them.
- 2.** Labor persistently with the Mormons – Don't give up until they refuse further contact.
- 3.** Exhaust every effort to answer the questions of Mormons.
- 4.** Allow the Mormon to save face.
- 5.** Don't approach the Mormon with a "spiritual chip" on your shoulder.
- 6.** Be patient.
- 7.** PRAY for the Holy Spirit to enlighten them and show them the true saving faith of Jesus Christ!

Resources used and recommended reading material:

1. The Majority of the teaching, paper, and notes section was taken directly from: *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons*, Ron Rhodes and Marian Bodine, Harvest House Publishers, ISBN 1565073282
2. *Mormonism*, DVD Video [and text] by Charlie H. Campbell – www.AlwaysBeReady.com
3. *Behind the Mask of Mormonism*, John Ankerberg & John Weldon, Harvest House Publishers, ISBN 1565074432
4. *The 10 Most Important Things You Can Say to a Mormon*, Ron Rhodes, Harvest House Publishers, ISBN 0736905340
5. *Mormonism 101*, Bill McKeever and Eric Johnson, Baker Book house, ISBN 9780801063350
6. *The Forgotten Trinity*, James R. White, Bethany House Publishers, ISBN 1556617259
7. *The Trinity Evidence and Issues*, Robert Morey, World Publishing, ISBN 0529106922
8. *Mormons Answered Verse by Verse*, David Reed and John R. Farkas, Baker Book House, ISBN 0801077613
9. *The Interlinear KJV-NIV Parallel New Testament in Greek and English*, Alfred Marshall, Zondervan Publishing House, ISBN 0310950708
10. DNA vs. The Book of Mormon (DVD) Living Hope Ministries
11. The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon (DVD) Living Hope Ministries

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible since it is the only recognized version the LDS church will accept.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email info@calvary-co.church.

Notes

1. Gilbert W. Schraffs, *The Truth About "The God Makers"* (Salt Lake City, UT: Publishers Press, 1986), pp.6-20 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, pg. 267.
2. Bruce R. McConkie, *Sermons and Writings of Bruce R. McConkie*, pg. 60. (Italics in original) as cited in *In Their Own Words – A Collection of Mormon Quotations* (Kearney, NE: Morris Publishing, 2009), pg. 289.
3. Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine* (Salt Lake City, UT: Bookcraft, 1966), pg. 581, 587.
4. Milton R. Hunter, *The Gospel Through the Ages*, pg. 15 cited in *In Their Own Words – A Collection of Mormon Quotations* (Kearney, NE: Morris Publishing, 2009), pg. 180.
5. Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine* (Salt Lake City, UT: Bookcraft, 1966), pg. 281.
6. *Gospel Principles* (Salt Lake City, UT: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1997), pg. 11
7. *Church History in the Fulness of Times*, Church Educational System (Salt Lake City, UT: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1989), p. 4 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, pg. 42
8. Joseph Smith, *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* (Salt Lake City, UT: Deseret Book Company, 1973) 1:XL cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, pg. 43.
9. Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses* (London: Latter-day Saint's Book Depot, 1854-56), 3:93 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 312
10. *Gospel Principles* (Salt Lake City, UT: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1986, p. 290 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 312
11. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, *Doctrines of the Gospel*, p. 29 cited in *Behind the Mask of Mormonism*, p. 153.
12. *Deseret News*, Church Section, 14 April 1973, p. 14 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 333
13. Milton R. Hunter, *The Gospel Through the Ages* (Salt Lake City, UT: Stevens and Wallis, Inc., 1945), pg. 166 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, pg. 333, 334.
14. *Deseret News*, Church Section, p. 11 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 334.
15. Spencer W. Kimball; quoted in *Book of Mormon Student Manual* (Salt Lake City, UT: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1989), p. 36 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 366
16. Joseph Smith 4:461 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 87
17. David Whitmer, *An Address to All Believers in Christ* (Concord, CA: Pacific, 1976, p. 12 cited in *The 10 Most Important Things*, pp. 19-20
18. *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 117
19. Joseph Fielding Smith, *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* (Salt Lake City, UT: Deseret, 1973), 4:461 as cited in *The 10 Most Important Things You Can Say to a Mormon* by Ron Rhodes (Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishing, 2001), p. 20.
20. Reproduced from *Reasoning From the Scriptures with Mormons*, Ron Rhodes and Marian Bodine, p. 119 – To obtain photocopies of these and other passages from the 1830 version of the Book of Mormon, you can contact the Utah Lighthouse Ministry, BOX 1884, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84110 or <http://www.utlm.org>.
21. Ron Rhodes & Marian Bodine, *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1995), p. 129
22. Jerald and Sandra Tanner, *Major Problems of Mormonism* (Salt Lake City, UT: Utah Lighthouse Ministry, 1990), pp. 148-154 as cited in *The 10 Most Important Things*

23. *You Can Say to a Mormon* by Ron Rhodes (Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishing, 2001), p. 25
24. Ron Rhodes & Marian Bodine, *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1995), p. 129
25. *Ibid.*, p. 129
26. DVD: *DNA vs. The Book of Mormon*, A Production of Living Hope Ministries (Brigham City, UT: Living Hope Ministries, 2003)
27. McConkie, p. 606 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, p. 66
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31. Talmage, p. 148 cited in *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, pg. 373
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33. McKeever and Johnson, *Mormonism 101* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 2000), p. 13