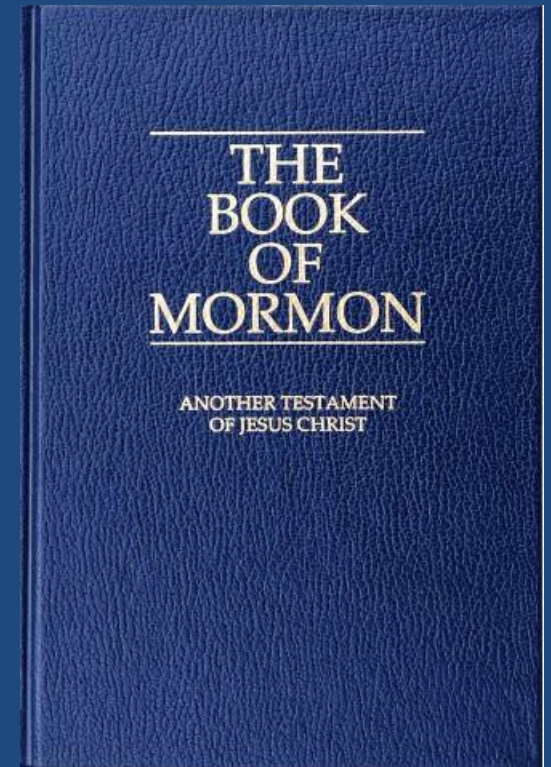


Understanding and Answering The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- day Saints (Mormon/LDS)



Brendon Biggs

Jesus

	Christian	LDS
Relation to time	Eternally God	Preexistent, not God
Identity	Unique Son of God/ 2 nd person of Trinity	Spirit –brother of Lucifer
Divine names	Jehovah/Yahweh and Elohim	Jehovah but not Elohim
Human Conception	Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary	The Father and Mary procreated
Trinity	Father, Son, Holy Spirit, one Being/nature in 3 person	Three distinct gods (polytheism)

Theology

- Polytheism but they say they only pray to the Father.
- People preexisted in heaven before being born on earth.

Salvation – Jesus saves after all you can do

- Eternal progression- we will become gods
- Baptism for the dead
- Three levels of heaven

Beliefs and problems

- LDS believes they are the restored church – we find no evidence in history of any LDS belief by the church.
- LDS believe they are the the new Aaronic/Levitical priesthood
- The believe Peter, James, and John cae down and restored Melchizedek priesthood to Joseph Smith – Bible teaches Melchizedek is a type of Christ (Heb. 7:3). A righteous king/priest of peace. In Genesis he never conferred priesthood to Abraham.

Beliefs and Problems

- Look at Is. 40:13-18 - Its asking who taught God? Answer is no one. In LDS theology god was once a man who learned and grew. Who taught him? See also Is. 40-21-28 45:5-7 and 46:9-10

Beliefs and problems

- Melchizedek continued- Psalm 110 (which they use) is a messianic Psalm pointing to work of Christ alone (David's Lord). He is a king (v 1-3), priest (v4) and victorious warrior (v 5-7).
- Nowhere in Bible does anyone else hold this title/office.
- Heb 7:23-24 says Christ's priesthood is unchangeable, without successor and not transferable.

Beliefs and problems

- LDS says Book of Mormon was written between 600bc and 421 AD but it has quotations from the 1611 KJV including archaic English.

LDS believe Nephite and Lamanite nations had huge populations and fortified cities in the US near New York. No Archeological support for this.

Approach

- Define the terms. What do they mean by God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit/ghost?
- What do they mean by Jesus saves?
- If they are Christian, why are they trying to convert you? What do they think is the difference and make them provide evidence
- How do they know Bible was corrupted?

Approach

- Ask:

1) Do Christians believe in God? answer yes

2) How many Gods do Christians believe in? answer one.
monotheist

3) Is monotheism important? They may say yes

4) How many Gods do Mormons believe in? they answer multiple. They think father, son, holy spirit are 3 gods plus they have more

5) if believing in 1 God is vital to Christianity and Mormons don't believe in 1 God then how can they be Christian?

Questions

- a) Are Father, Son, Spirit 3 gods?
- b) Is the book of Mormon was a true, reliable account of the ancient past?
- c) What happened to the original "eye witnesses" to the golden plates?
- d) Joseph Smith predicted the Lord would come in 1891. What happened?
- e) In this revelation given on September 22 and 23, 1832, Joseph Smith foretold of an LDS temple to be built in Independence, Missouri "Verily, this is the word of the Lord, and that the city New Jerusalem shall be built by the gathering of the saints, beginning at this place, even the place of the temple, which temple shall be reared in this generation" this hasn't happened. When is it planned?
- f) Is grace a free gift or must it be earned? Do you have to be perfect?
- g) What is the Mormon Gospel?

Questions

- H) Is this a true statement: Jesus was first “procreated” as a spirit child of Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother, then later conceived in an act of physical sexual intercourse between God the Father and Mary. He is the spirit brother of Satan, and is rather common in terms of His nature (in that he is one of many gods who share the same nature). Jesus was once sinful and flawed but earned His salvation through good works, eventually being exalted into godhood (like other obedient Mormons have been and will be). He is not a member of the triune Godhead but is instead a separate god from God the Father.
- I) If Jesus was a created being isn't that 3rd party atonement? Is 43:11 says God is the savior.

Summary

- Bottom line is Christianity and God of the Bible is not the same God Mormons worship. They are opposites and law of non-contradiction says they both cant be true. God of the Bible doesn't change. He was the same yesterday today and tomorrow. He was always eternally God. Mormons have a god who changes. He was once a man then changed into a god. Will he change again?

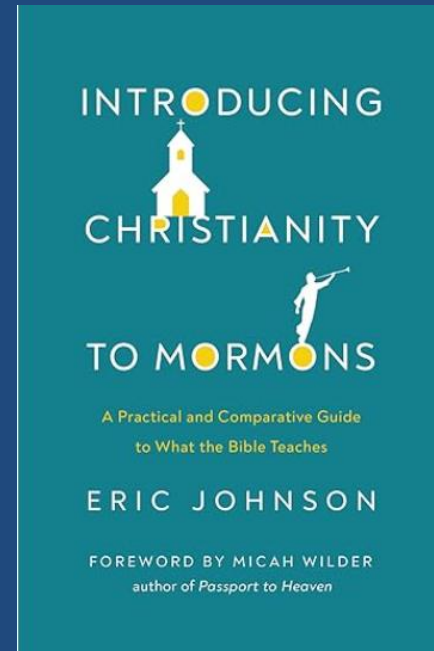
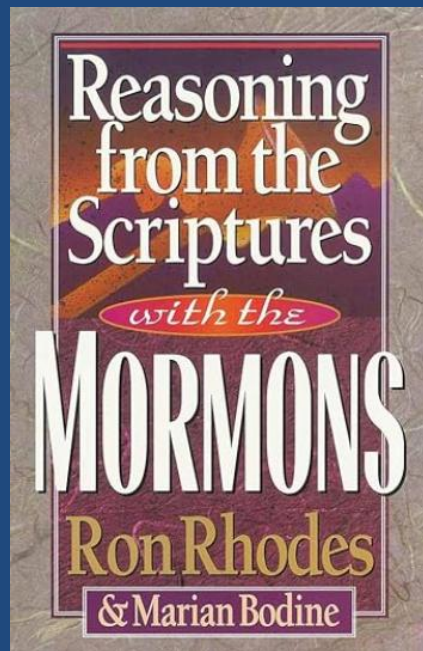
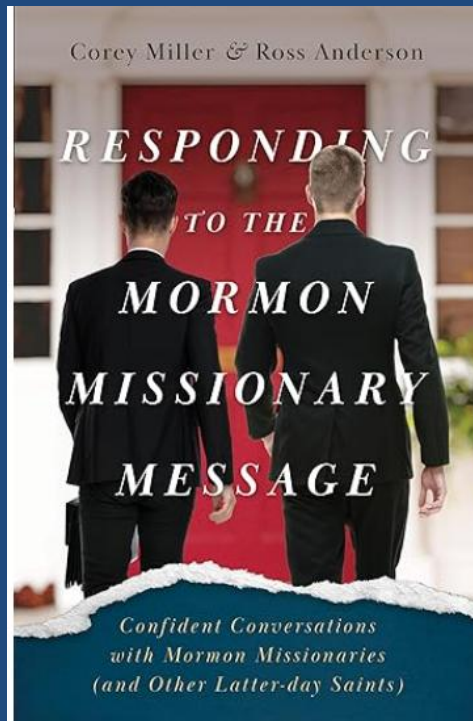
Summary

- God of the bible is monotheistic. Duet 6:4-6
"Hear O Israel! The Lord God is one!"
- Yahweh is not a committee of gods.
- Isaiah 43:10 "..Before Me there was no God formed, and there will be none after me."
There were no true gods besides Yahweh.
There is none after. He is eternal. It doesn't say there were no relevant gods formed. He says there are NO God formed but Me. It is impossible to fit a plurality of gods into Christian Scripture. Also Is 44:6-8

Resources

- J Warner Wallace interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdFrCjr9ECg>
Mormon testimony approach- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-PlhHm881Q>
<https://mormonmissionarymessage.com/>
- Podcast: -<https://coldcasechristianity.com/podcasts/podcasts-about-evangelism-and-case-making/how-can-i-introduce-my-mormon-friends-to-christianity-cold-case-christianity-broadcast-s8e22/>
<https://thecultishshow.com/podcast-1>

Resources



Resources

- <https://carm.org/world-religions/mormonism/>
- <https://www.str.org/blog/verses-your-conversations-mormons#.Wyz15PZFxPZ>
- Mormons at your door:
- <https://www.4mormon.org/questions-to-ask-mormon-missionaries-at-the-door/>