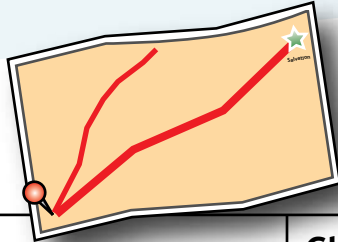


# Understanding Mormonism

A Comprehensive Look At Mormon Doctrine According to Biblical Truth



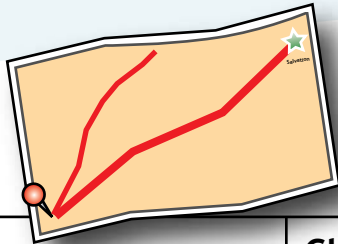
Roadmap to understanding...



Topic	Christian Doctrine	Mormon Doctrine
<b>God</b>	<p>There is only one God (Isaiah 43:11; 44:6,8; 45:5). God is a spirit without flesh and bones (John 4:24; Luke 24:39). God has always been God (Psalm 90:2; Isaiah 57:15).</p>	<p>"And they (the Gods) said: Let there be light: and there was light (Book of Abraham 4:3).</p> <p>"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens!!! . . . We have imagined that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea and take away the veil, so that you may see," (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 345).</p> <p>"The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's," (Doctrine and Covenants 130:22; Compare with Alma 18:26-27; 22:9-10).</p> <p>"Therefore we know that both the Father and the Son are in form and stature perfect men; each of them possesses a tangible body . . . of flesh and bones," (Articles of Faith, by James Talmage, p. 38).</p>
<b>Trinity</b>	<p>The Trinity is the doctrine that there is only one God in all the universe and that He exists in three eternal, simultaneous persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>The trinity is three separate Gods: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. "That these three are separate individuals, physically distinct from each other, is demonstrated by the accepted records of divine dealings with man," (Articles of Faith, by James Talmage, p. 35).</p>

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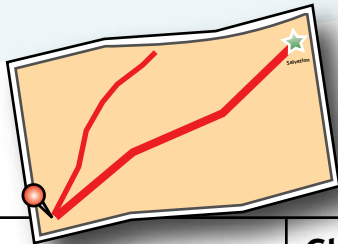
Mapping the differences



Topic	Christian Doctrine	Mormon Doctrine
<p><b>Jesus Christ</b></p>	<p>Jesus was born of the virgin Mary (Isaiah 7:14; Matt. 1:23).</p> <p>Jesus is the eternal Son. He is second person of the Trinity. He has two natures. He is God in flesh and man (John 1:1, 14; Col. 2:9) and the creator of all things (Col. 1:15-17).</p>	<p>(Isaiah 7:14; Matt. 1:23). "The birth of the Saviour was as natural as are the births of our children; it was the result of natural action. He partook of flesh and blood - was begotten of his Father, as we were of our fathers," (Journal of Discourses, vol. 8, p. 115).</p> <p>"Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers" (Mormon Doctrine, by Bruce McConkie, p. 547).</p> <p>Jesus is the literal spirit-brother of Lucifer, a creation (Gospel Through the Ages, p. 15).</p>
<p><b>Holy Spirit</b> <b>Holy Ghost</b></p>	<p>The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is not a force. He is a person. (Acts 5:3-4; 13:2)</p>	<p>Mormonism distinguishes between the Holy Spirit (God's presence via an essence) and the Holy Ghost (the third god in the Mormon doctrine of the trinity).</p> <p>"He [the Holy Ghost] is a being endowed with the attributes and powers of Deity, and not a mere force, or essence," (Articles of Faith, by James Talmage, p. 144).</p>

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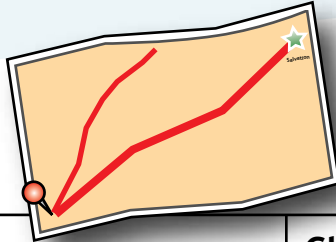
Mapping the differences



Topic	Christian Doctrine	Mormon Doctrine
<b>Canonized Scripture</b>	The inspired inerrant word of God (2 Tim. 3:16). It is authoritative in all subjects it addresses.	<p>"We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly. . ." (8th Article of Faith of the Mormon Church).</p> <p>"Brother Brigham took the stand, and he took the Bible, and laid it down; he took the Book of Mormon, and laid it down; and he took the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and laid it down before him, and he said: "There is the written word of God to us, concerning the work of God from the beginning of the world, almost, to our day." "And now," said he, "when compared with the living oracles those books are nothing to me; those books do not convey the word of God direct to us now, as do the words of a Prophet or a man bearing the Holy Priesthood in our day and generation. I would rather have the living oracles than all the writing in the books." That was the course he pursued. When he was through, Brother Joseph said to the congregation, "Brother Brigham has told you the word of the Lord, and he has told you the truth."</p> <p>- President Wilford Woodruff, Conference Report, October 1897, pp. 22-23.</p>

# Understanding Mormonism

A Comprehensive Look At Mormon Doctrine According to Biblical Truth



Mapping the differences



Topic	Christian Doctrine	Mormon Doctrine
<b>Salvation</b>	<p>Salvation is the forgiveness of sin and deliverance of the sinner from damnation. It is a free gift received by God's grace (Eph. 2:8; Rom. 6:23) and cannot be earned (Rom. 11:6).</p> <p>Salvation (forgiveness of sins) is not by works (Eph. 2:8; Rom. 4:5; Gal. 2:21).</p>	<p>Salvation has a double meaning in Mormonism: universal resurrection and . . .</p> <p>"The first effect [of the atonement] is to secure to all mankind alike, exemption from the penalty of the fall, thus providing a plan of General Salvation. The second effect is to open a way for Individual Salvation whereby mankind may secure remission of personal sins," (Articles of Faith, by James Talmage, p. 78-79).</p> <p>"As these sins are the result of individual acts it is just that forgiveness for them should be conditioned on individual compliance with prescribed requirements -- 'obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel,'" (Articles of Faith, p. 79).</p> <p>"For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the <i>immortality</i> and <i>eternal life</i> of man," (Moses 1:39)</p>