

Mormonism vs. Christianity

Nature of God

Mormonism: “God Himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens.” (Journal of Discourses Vol. 6, p. 3)

Christianity: “I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee.” (Hosea 11:9)

Mormonism: “Remember that God, our heavenly Father, was perhaps once a child, and mortal like ourselves, and rose step by step in the scale of progress, in the school of advancement; has moved forward and overcome, until He has arrived at the point where He now is.” (Journal of Discourses Vol. 6, p. 4)

Christianity: “God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it?” (Numbers 23:19) “I am the Lord, I change not.” (Malachi 3:6)

The Virgin Birth of Christ

Mormonism: “Now remember from this time forth, and forever, that Jesus Christ was not Begotten by the Holy Ghost.” (Journal of Discourses Vol. 1, p. 51)

Christianity: “The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” (Matthew 1:18-25)

Justification by Faith

Mormonism: Dr. James E. Talmage calls justification by faith alone “a most pernicious doctrine.” (Articles of Faith, 5th edition, 1909, p. 111)

Christianity: “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.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

Priesthood

The Latter Day Saints claim to have had the Aaronic and the Melchisedec priesthoods restored to them. But there is no indication in the Bible that these orders ever existed in the church of Jesus Christ. Moreover, when Christ died on the cross of Calvary, He fulfilled the types of the Old Testament priesthood and did away with them. This is the teaching of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Eternal Perdition

Mormonism: “The false doctrine that the punishment to be visited upon the erring souls is endless, that every sentence for sin is of intermediate duration, must be regarded as one of the most pernicious results of unenlightened sectarianism.” (Articles of Faith, 1909 edition, p. 63)

Christianity: The Bible teaches that those who die without Christ “Shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” (Matthew 25:46)

Restoration of the Church

Mormonism: “From the facts already stated, it is evident that the church was literally driven from the earth... following the ministry of Christ... But the Lord in His mercy restored through Joseph Smith.” (Articles of Faith, 10th edition, pp. 206-207)

Christianity: Words of Jesus – “I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Marriage

Mormonism: “In the complete ceremony, as prescribed by the church, the man and the woman are placed under covenant of mutual fidelity, not ‘until death do you part,’ but ‘for time and all eternity.’” (Articles of Faith, 10th edition, p. 457)

Christianity: “But Jesus answered them, ‘You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels.’” (Matthew 22:29-30)

Baptism

Mormonism: “Children born in the church are members thereof without baptism until they arrive at the age of accountability.” (Articles of Faith, 10th edition, p. 183)

Christianity: “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:27)

Holy Communion

Mormonism: “For, behold, I say unto you, that it mattereth not what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, when ye partake of the sacrament.” (Articles of Faith, 10th edition, p. 180)

Christianity: “And He took bread, and gave thanks, and broke it, and gave it unto them saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.’ Likewise also the cup...” (Luke 22:19ff)

Work of the Living for the Dead

Mormonism: “As the children learn that without the aid of their progenitors they cannot attain perfection, assuredly will... good works be attempted, for the redemption of their dead; and the departed, learning from the ministers of the gospel laboring among them, that they must depend upon their children as vicarious saviors.” (Articles of Faith, 10th edition, p. 155)

Christianity: “None of them can by any means redeem his brother nor give to God a ransom for him. For the redemption of their soul is precious.” (Psalm 49:7-8) “It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” (Hebrews 9:27)

Nutrition and Diet

Mormonism: “Hot drinks are not for the body or belly.” “Flesh of beasts... should not be used, only in times of winter, or cold, or famine.” “Wheat for man, and corn for the ox, and oats for the horses.” (Written in 1882. Did the Lord not know that the food industry would produce Corn Flakes, Cheerios, etc.?) (The Word of Wisdom, President Richards, 1882)

Christianity: “Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink.” (Col. 2:16)