

WORLD RELIGIONS: MORMONISM

Pastor Charlie



Christians and Mormons What's the Difference?

Adult Sunday School, January 15 & 22 @ 11:00 a.m.
Handke Center - Elk River, MN
www.gcfmn.org

Resources

Ray Comfort:

- *World Religions in a Nutshell*

Ron Rhodes:

- *Reasoning from the Scripture with Mormons*
- You Tube: “Differences Between Mormonism and Christianity”

Ravi Zacharias:

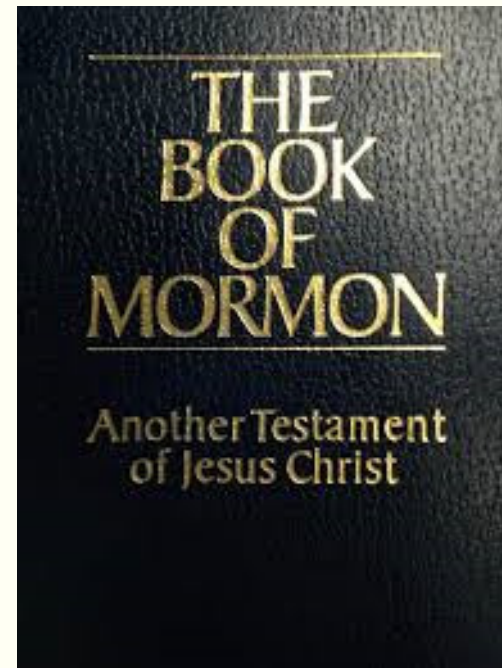
- You Tube: “RZ at the Mormon Temple”



Mormon Sources of Authority

The Book of Mormon

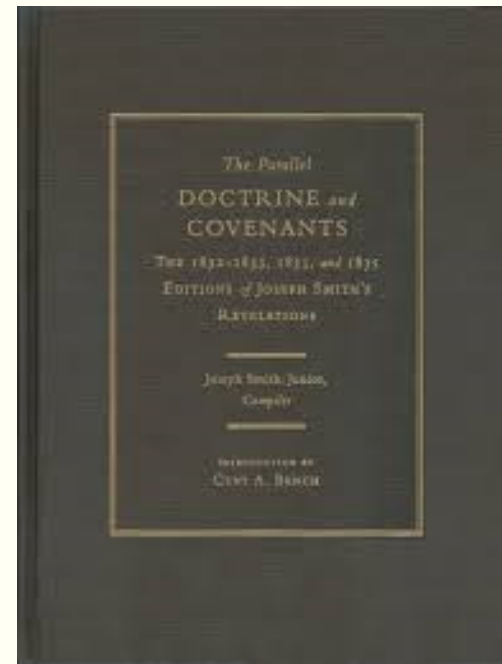
- Joseph Smith claimed that an angel named “Moroni” guided him to golden tablets.
- The word “Mormon” is the name of the prophet JS claimed wrote the book.
- The name is a combination of the English word “More” and the supposed Egyptian word “mon” meaning “more good/better”



Mormon Sources of Authority

The Doctrine and Covenants

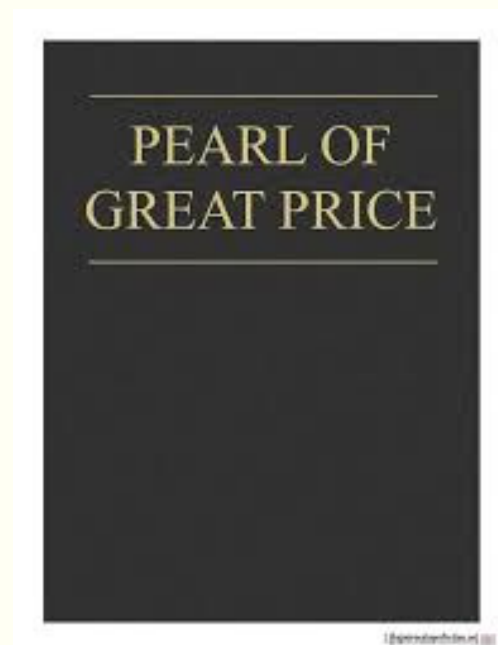
- The “Doctrines” portion of this book is made up of lectures, mainly by Joseph Smith.
- The “Covenants” portion of this book is made up of visions had by JS and other important founders.
- The main Mormon sects, the LDS and RLDS, have separated the “Doctrines” from the “Covenants.”



Mormon Sources of Authority

Pearl of Great Price

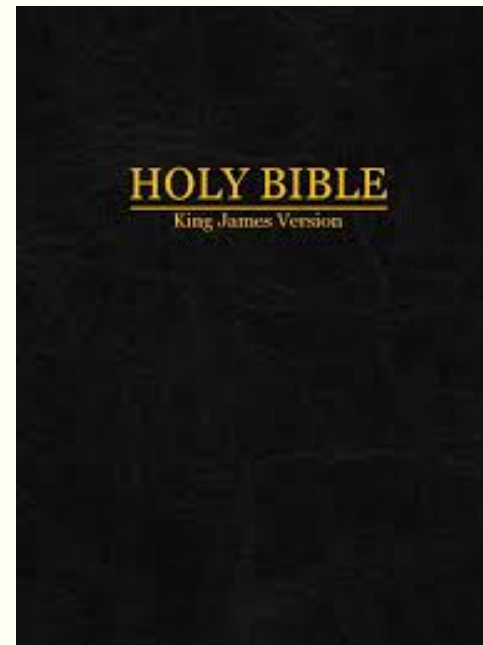
- This book is made up of articles written by JS.



Mormon Sources of Authority

The King James Version

- Joseph Smith edited the KJV.
- Later, to avoid controversy, the LDS decided to use the KJV as it with their own notes.
- This was first published in 1979.



The Mormon Priesthood

The Aaronic Priesthood

- Entry level priesthood
- It can be attained as young as twelve years old.
- It includes the offices of bishop, priest, teacher, and deacon.



The Mormon Priesthood

The Melchizedek Priesthood

- This priesthood gives one great authority, responsibility, and power.
- This priesthood is reserved for those who have special power in the life of the church.



The Mormon Priesthood

The Patriarchal Priesthood

- This priesthood is rarely acknowledged and shrouded in mystery, as are many things in the life of the Mormon church.



The Mormon Presidency and Apostles

The Presidency

- To Mormons, the “President” is “one who presides.”
- Thus, there are various presidencies.
- “The First Presidency” presides over the other presidents and is made up of three men.
- The chief of the three is “The President of the Church” and is considered to be infallible.
- The current President is Thomas S. Monson.



The Mormon Presidency and Apostles

The Apostles

- The Quorum of the Apostles is the second highest office in the church.
- They govern many aspects of the church, and have great power.



The Mormon Stakes and Wards

LDS Organization

- The LDS is divided into large “Areas” and subdivided into “Stakes.”
- A stake is made up of 5-12 congregations called “Wards” (300 or more people) or “Branches” (less than 300 people).
- Each Ward is led by a “Bishop” and two counselors along with support staff; each Branch is led by a president, two counselors, and support staff.
- In 2012, there were 75 wards/branches in MN with 50k members.

