

# 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](http://www.gcfmn.org)

# Resources

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## 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”

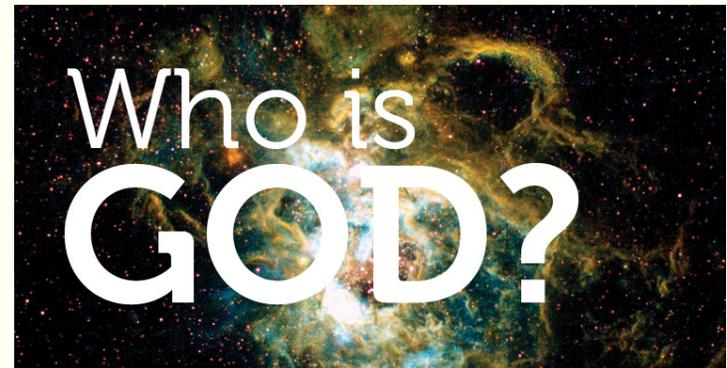


## The Doctrine of God

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Mormons believe that “As man is, God once was. As God is, man can become.”

- The “heavenly father” was once a sinful man who became God.
- They call him “Elohim.”
- Elohim populated this planet with his spirit-wife. Their first child was Jesus, their second was Lucifer, and then there was the rest of us.

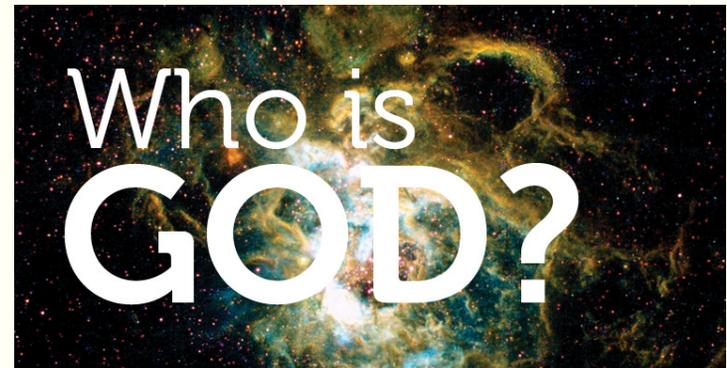


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- Jesus is the “only begotten” of God because Elohim had physical relations with Mary.
- Jesus is not God become man; he is sinful man become God.
- In this way, he showed other men how to become gods, and I do mean “men” as women’s hope is in marrying the right man.

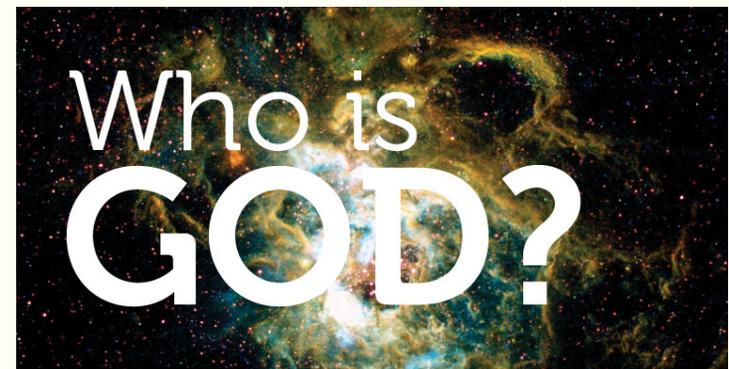


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- The Holy Ghost is part of the god-head. He is one in purpose with Elohim and Jesus but a separate being.
- The Holy Ghost is a spirit whose purpose is to testify to Elohim and Jesus, to reveal truth, to comfort, and to sanctify.
- The Mormons teach a different gospel and their leaders are accursed—Galatians 1:6-9.



# Heaven and Hell

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Mormons currently believe that there are three levels of heaven.

- **Celestial:** This is where Elohim and Jesus reside, and where all Mormons who meet the criteria will go.
- **Terrestrial:** This is for Mormons who don't meet the criteria and for righteous non-Mormons.
- **Telestial:** This is for those who would not repent. They will not be with Elohim but the glory of their kingdom passes understanding.



# Heaven and Hell

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- **Hell:** The current teaching is that there is a hell reserved only for the devil and his angels, the sons of perdition, and a few apostate Mormons.
- To Joseph Smith, even people like Hitler will not go to hell but to the Telestial kingdom.



# Sin and Salvation

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Mormons believe that all sin and that Jesus died to overcome its physical effects. To get to the celestial heaven and have eternal life, one must:

- Have faith in Jesus, accept Joseph Smith and his successors as God's mouthpiece, and be baptized into the LDS church.
- Keep the commandments, the laws of the church, do good, and tithe.
- Keep the "word of wisdom."
- Earn a "temple recommend."



# Genealogy and Baptism

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Mormons believe that they can be baptized on behalf of dead Mormons, allowing them to reach any level of heaven.

- The comes from a misinterpretation of 1 Corinthians 15:29.
- The genealogical industry that has sprung up from them has to do with this doctrine. It's their version of indulgences.



## How to Share the Gospel with a Mormon

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Although we have serious disagreements with Mormons, we should love, listen, and pray for them.

- Make contact or invite them in if they come to your home.
- Focus on the authority of the Bible – 2 Timothy 3:16 (J. B. Lightfoot, *How We Got the Bible*, 3rd edition).
- Focus on the sufficiency of the work of Christ – John 1:1-5, Ephesians 2:1-10, Colossians 1:15-23, Hebrews 1:1-14.

