

GIVING AN ANSWER: PART 2

Mormonism

The Gospel¹

- I. Introduction: You can approach an argument in a number of ways:
 - A. Criticism of the strange tenets of the Book of Mormon. — Such things as God creating Jesus and Satan (Lucifer) and others on Kolob, etc. The modern Mormons try to downplay this stuff, so its not helpful to get into it, even though it is in their teaching. Requires reading into the *Book of Mormon* and *Pearl of Great Price*.
 - B. Criticism of the origin and history of Mormonism. — There is use in this especially in noting the changes, i.e. polygamy to monogamy, allowing black members, etc. Requires extensive study into the history of the cult.
 - C. Verse-by-verse refutation — There is plenty of resource on this.²
 - D. Identification of the heresy in Mormonism — subordinationism, non-trinitarian, Jesus (Son of God) as a created being
- II. What is the Mormon Gospel?

The gospel of Jesus Christ is our Heavenly Father's plan for the happiness and salvation of His children. It is called the gospel of Jesus Christ because the Atonement of Jesus Christ is central to this plan. According to His plan, our Heavenly Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to show us how to live meaningful and happy lives and experience eternal joy after this life. Through the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ, you can become clean from sin and enjoy peace of conscience. You can become worthy to live in Heavenly Father's presence after this life.³

- A. What is the Nature of the Mormon Gospel?
 1. It is synergistic:

You can live the gospel of Jesus Christ by:

- Developing faith in Jesus Christ.
- Repenting.
- Being baptized and receiving the Holy Ghost.
- Enduring to the end.⁴

1. Where in the Bible are we taught that we “live the Gospel” in this manner.

Atonement

The event that enables us to be reconciled to God. To atone is to suffer the penalty for sin, thereby removing the effects of sin from repentant sinners. Jesus Christ was the only one capable of making a perfect Atonement for all mankind. His Atonement included His suffering for our sins, the shedding of His blood, and His death and Resurrection. Because of the Atonement, everyone who has lived will be resurrected. The Atonement also provides us with a way to be forgiven of our sins and to live forever with God.⁵

- II. Philippians 2:5-11: ⁵Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to

be grasped,⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- A. Isaiah 45:21-25: ²¹"Declare and set forth your case; indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none except Me. ²²Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. ²³I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance. ²⁴They will say of Me, 'Only in the LORD are righteousness and strength.' Men will come to Him, and all who were angry at Him will be put to shame. ²⁵In the LORD all the offspring of Israel Will be justified and will glory."
- B. Romans 5:9-10: ⁹Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

1.From: <https://www.lds.org/?lang=eng>

2.<https://carm.org/mormonism/verses-witnessing-to-mormons>
<https://biblereasons.com/mormons/>
Kingdom of the Cults, Walter Martin

3.<https://www.lds.org/manual/the-gospel/the-gospel?lang=eng>

4. *ibid*

5.<https://www.lds.org/manual/the-gospel/list-of-terms?lang=eng#p1>