

Are you in love with a Mormon?

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Have you been pressured by your Mormon boyfriend or girlfriend to be baptised into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (commonly known as the Mormon Church)? Many Mormons say to ‘investigators’ (that is, those being taught by the Mormon missionaries) something like this, “All will be revealed when you are baptised.” Do not be fooled by this, hold on to Jesus’ teachings, as “*the truth will set you free*” (John 8:32). Hiding from the truth will lead to serious consequences, including eternal ones. Having been baptised, you will have to wait at least a year before you may be proved temple worthy and receive a temple recommend, so that you can participate in the temple activities such as endowment¹ and to marry in a Mormon temple. Before making a decision to join the Mormon Church you should consider: (1) *Why temple marriage is important to Mormons.* (2) *The major differences between the Bible and Mormonism.* (3) *What you expect to face if you become a Mormon.* (4) *How difficult it would be to leave the Mormon Church.*

1 Why is temple marriage important to Mormons?

The Mormon Church teaches that marriages performed in the Mormon temple are for time and eternity and other marriages done, even in Mormon meeting houses, are only for time (till death).² In Mormonism, eternal marriage is essential for a person’s exaltation (attaining godhood)³ The Mormon Church has downplayed the teaching on attaining godhood, as this teaching will alarm many non-Mormons, but godhood is still a Mormon’s ultimate goal.⁴ In Mormonism expressions like ‘exaltation’, ‘obtaining eternal life’ and ‘having an eternal family’ all mean becoming a god. (For further information on this topic, please see an article, “*Are Families Forever?*” in the MOM website)

By contrast, the Bible teaches that there will be no marriages in heaven (Matthew 22:30). Jesus informed the Sadducees that there will be no marriage in heaven but that we will be like angels and Jesus makes it clear that angels do not live in families as we do.

2. Are you aware of major differences between the Bible and Mormonism?

The Mormon Church uses the standard vocabulary of the Bible, but with radically different meanings.⁵ See the following examples.

- (1) The God the Father taught by the Mormon Church is not the same one as taught in the Bible.** In Mormonism God the Father was once a man, progressed, to become a god, one of many⁶ and has a body of flesh and bones.⁷ *The Bible teaches that God is eternally God* (Psalm 90:2). *We find God saying that no gods were formed before him and none will be formed after him* (Isaiah 43:10, 44:6, 8). *God is Spirit and invisible* (John 4:24, 1Timothy 1:17).
- (2) The Jesus Christ of the Mormon Church cannot be the same one as taught in the Bible.** In Mormonism, at one time the spirit of the Mormon Jesus Christ did not exist⁸ but was God’s first spirit child and the spirit brother of Lucifer, Satan.⁹ *The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ eternally existed as God - no beginning, no end* (Micah 5:2, John 1:1-3, John 8: 58, Revelation 22: 13) and that Jesus is Lucifer’s creator, not his brother (Colossians 1:16,17).

The Mormon Church also teaches that faithful Mormons can have everything that the Father and Jesus Christ have - all power, glory, dominion, and knowledge.¹⁰ They can become *like* God, as the Mormons say. But this is more than like God, it is being a god.

- (3) Eternal life as taught by the Mormon Church is not the same one as taught in the Bible.** In Mormonism, one can go to heaven, but not have eternal life. Eternal life in Mormonism is synonymous with exaltation: living eternally as a god and having ability to procreate children through eternity.¹¹ Must receive the temple endowment and be married in the temple etc. *In the Bible, eternal life is promised to all true Christians and everyone in heaven has eternal life but we are not promised to become gods in heaven.* John said, “He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God”(1 John 5:12,13, See John 5:24). *Eternal life is a gift, not to be earned* (Ephesians 2:8-10).

3. What does the Mormon Church expect of you?

Just being baptised is not enough, you must demonstrate your worthiness all the time. In Mormonism, every promise of God is conditional on man’s obedience. The word “If” is attached to temporal blessings as well as to

eternal rewards. For example, ‘patriarchal blessing’, one-time blessing, given by a patriarch, which supposedly reveals a person’s lineage and prophetic statement of the life mission of the person, is conditional on a person’s faithfulness.”¹² You are expected to demonstrate your worthiness all the time, which may wear you out.¹³ If you fail to be worthy in every area of your life, you would always be a failure in the eyes of your spouse and his/her family. Your spouse would be frustrated, as he/she knows that he/she would not attain exaltation. How can you demonstrate your worthiness unless you are convinced about the Mormon Church?

To become temple worthy, you must keep the *Word of Wisdom* (the prohibition of the use of liquor, tobacco, and “hot drinks”¹⁴), tithe (See below), and support the church authorities . The law of consecration requires dedicating all of one's time, talents, and possessions to the Church and its purposes.¹⁵

4 Fear of leaving Mormonism

If your spouse leaves the Mormon Church, his/her family will try to win him/her back to the Mormon Church. Your spouse will face alienation from their Mormon family and friends and they will blame you for destroying his/her testimony and for them you are a tool of Satan. There is deep-seated fear many experience when contemplating leaving the Mormon Church: fear of losing family, friends and jobs, fear of losing their patriarchal blessings and fear of becoming an apostate and ending up in outer darkness.¹⁶

Finally if you prayed about the Book of Mormon or/and the Mormon Church, and were convinced that that the Book of Mormon or/and the Mormon Church is true, please see our articles.¹⁷

Conclusion: Whether or not you decide to be baptised into the Mormon Church, you need to know the truth about the Mormon Church, and hold to Jesus’ teachings. Jesus is the truth that sets us free (John 8:31). Facing the truth can be hard, when emotion is involved, but hold on to Jesus’ promise: “*If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” Some Christians backed off in their romantic involvement with their Mormon friends, once they realised that Mormonism is counterfeit Christianity. But others joined the Mormon Church to marry Mormons, despite their doubts about the Mormon Church. Whichever course of action you choose, consider that you cannot have a personal relationship with the God who is all-powerful, all- knowing and everywhere present, if you trust the Heavenly Father and Jesus of Mormonism. It is not an easy decision, but in the end you have to choose between the Jesus in the New Testament or your Mormon boyfriend /girlfriend. Which is more important to you?

1 “Certain special, spiritual blessings given worthy and faithful saints in the temple” (Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine* (Utah Bookcraft, 1979) p.226, 227 - non official Mormon source)

2 *Gospel Principles* (1978, 2009) p.235 - an official Mormon Church teaching manual

3 Ibid, p.219

4 *Doctrine & Covenant 132:19,20* - one of Mormon scriptures, teaches the final destiny of faithful Mormons.

5 See our article, "*Terminological Differences between Mormonism and the Bible* in the MOM website. Many Mormons do not mean to be deceptive but they have no idea how the Bible defines gospel, grace, and salvation etc.

6 *Gospel Principles*, p.279 (see also *Doctrine & Covenants 121:32, 132:18-20,21, The Book of Abraham 4:3*- in “*The Pearl of Great Price*”) - *The Doctrine & Covenants* and *The Pearl of Great Price* are Mormon scriptures.

7 *Doctrine & Covenants 130:22*

8 The first two paragraphs of chapter 2 of *Gospel Principles*

9 *Gospel Principles* (1997) p.17, *Moses 5:13*, - *Moses* is part of *The Pearl of Great Price*

10 *Gospel Principles*.p.275-277

11 *Doctrine & Covenants 131:1-4, 132:19-25, 30, 55*

12 Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, p.558.

13 Mormons do not seem to share their weakness and negative feelings with others. Pep talks on achieving perfection and others’ testimonies in fast and testimony meetings with many saying how following the principles of Mormonism brought blessings will do little to help you cope with stress.

14 ‘Hot drinks’ is officially interpreted tea and coffee. (See *Doctrine and Covenant 89*)

15 See D&C 82:19; 64:34; 88:67-68; 98:12-14

John Farkas who runs Berean Christian Ministries in USA (<http://www.bcmmin.org>) wrote:

“I can only speak about how the law of consecration works in the United States. I suspect it will not be different in Australia, but I don't know this for sure. You will be asked to pay more than 10% of your gross net income, that is based on your income before taxes. You probably also will be asked to not only tithe but to contribute toward the ward (the Mormon congregation) budget. The total contribution could be 12-13 %. And you will also be expected to give your time to a church calling and church projects when they come along. In other words you not only give of your money, but also your time and skills. And you will be expected to make temple activity a regular activity. You should ask the bishop what he would expect, some are okay with twice a year temple activity.

In addition you will not only have a calling but you will be expected to be a Home Teacher. You could get anywhere from 2 to 6 families assigned to you and you would be expected to visit each family once per month and to deliver a message to the family. Some times the message is found near the front of the Mormon Church's monthly magazine, ‘The Ensign’. This is what done in the United States.”

16 Outer darkness is the abode of Satan, demons and the sons of perdition (See *Doctrines of the Gospel*, p.91, *D & C 76:31-48*). Outer darkness in Mormonism is not the same as hell in the Bible (See “*The Truth about Hell*” in the MOM website).

17 In the MOM website, see [Should we pray about the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon?](#) and [Where does "burning in the bosom" come from?](#)