

Mormonism
Notes from the Video

I Introduction

- 1 The emphasis of this class is to become knowledgeable and committed enough to reach out to Mormons.
- 2 Video is approx one hour.
- 3 If it does not identify the speaker, they are a Mormon.
- 4 Seems to be some duplication at the first
- 5 We will cover other historical facts and doctrines. Therefore, just listen.
- 6 Building with points is the temple in salt lake city

II Books of Mormonism

- 1 The King James Bible: He received revelation from God in the King James English.
 - (1) They did not speak King James English
 - (2) He has exact quotes from the KJV which we now know are inaccurate because they were not made from the best—oldest—manuscripts.
- 2 The Book of Mormon: This is about Jews that Jesus later came to and started a church. Christians who lived on this continent before modern era. Jews who God rescued and brought to America in 586bc and delivered from the Babylonian captivity.
 - (1) Problem of authenticity
 - A No ancient manuscripts to support this.
 - a Compared to the New Testament 5000 Greek manuscripts and 9000 other.
 - B No independent record outside of Joseph Smith to substantiate that such a culture ever existed.
 - a Smithsonian Institute states: "...It can be stated definitely that there is no connection between the archeology of the New World and the subject matter of the *Book of Mormons*"¹
 - (A) Compared to the evidence for Ur, Babylon, Jerusalem, etc
 - (B) 19 Secular historians refer to the historical person of Jesus in Israel like: Lucian, Eristides, Galanos, Marcilenus, Theonopeus, Celsus, josephus etc.²

¹ The Kingdom of the Cults, p 162

² Dr. James Kennedy on Radio in summer of 2000, I have these somewhere, maybe under Jesus

C We do know a lot about early American history, and none of it confirms his notions about it.

- 3 Doctrine and Covenants: This is the record of revelations to Joseph Smith in this revelation.
- 4 Pearl of Great Price: This is an inspired version of ancient documents, which have been restored, in the latter days.

III Doctrine

1 God

- (1) He is a holy man
- (2) Man can become just as God
- (3) Jesus 23 chromosomes from Mary and 23 from God
- (4) Man can gain godhood
- (5) Jesus not just separate manifestation, but a different person

IV Witnessing

- 1 They use our terminology, but they mean something else.
- 2 They used to shun the Bible belt, but they now come here to win unsuspecting

V Public Relations:

- 1 Seeks the normalization of Mormonism
- 2 Visitor center is designed to win you over to the view that Mormonism is another Christian denomination rather than a cult.
 - (1) Testimonies of nice looking, intelligent people
 - (2) Most of the pictures in the center are from New Testament and not the BOOM.
- 3 Mormonism depends on getting people out of traditional Christianity.
- 4 Good commercials, which emphasize family, love, the good life.
- 5 They emphasize their similarities with Christianity and not their Mormon differences.
 - (1) Hence, we must emphasize the differences lest they and others be deceived.
- 6 BUY well respected University
- 7 Stephen Covey, motivational speaker is a Mormon, they own the Marriott hotels, and people like Oren Hatch serve in high places.
 - (1) Educated, unlike J.W.
- 8 Catholic mass practiced in Mormon church provost LDS tabernacle

VI Missionaries

- 1 Two years

- 2 50 000 missionaries, baptize 300,000 new members from Christian denominations each year,
- 3 Notice their training manual and role-playing. We are not prepared.
 - (1) We are trying to make people more comfortable, and they are training to proselytize.
- 4 They are working their way to heaven.
- 5 More committed than us what a shame.
- 6 180 missionaries in Atlanta alone, in Georgia, 1000 a year come to Mormonism from all denominations
- 7 Promote an image of traditional Christianity, 10 million members
 - (1) They emphasize similarities with traditional Christianity.

VII History of Mormonism

- 1 New York, Joseph Smith, 1820, prayed about what church to join. Then, God the Father, and Jesus came to him and said all denominations are an abomination. Later, the angel Moroni took him to hill and showed him golden plates, which he translated. Still later, he said John the Baptist appeared and bestowed the Aaronic priesthood on him and then Peter, James and John restored the Melchizedek priesthood to him.
- 2 The gospel was restored through Jesus in the latter days, ipso facto means that the gospel had been destroyed. Hence, what you have is not the true gospel.
- 3 He started the one true church, Mormon.
 - (1) Note how they went on the attack first. When we speak about them, we are simply answering their charges.
- 4 Joseph Smith was a Money digger, soothsayer—like a palm reader—he started out this way.
 - (1) Scoundrel, involved in magical practices, changed doctrines, ordained himself as king
- 5 He broke the law, and then he became a martyr

VIII Brigham young

- 1 Led them to Salt Lake city

IX Are Mormons Christians

- 1 They accept extra biblical revelation. Their Scripture is actually 4 volumes in one.
- 2 They have a qualified belief in Bible, as far as it is translated properly.
 - (1) They will give you book of Mormons, but their main doctrines come from their Doctrine and Covenants.
 - (2) The following is a sample of what is found in the D&C.

- A , God has a body, bapt for dead, section 132, temple marriage, and polygamy
- 3 Pearl of great price includes the book of Abraham and the book of Moses. The book of Abraham claims to be an actual translation of papyri.
 - (1) At the time, no one could read it; however, now they can, and it has nothing to do with Abraham
- 4 The President, two counselors, and the apostles can receive new revelation.
 - (1) No Scripture is final
 - (2) The president holds the keys because of apostolic succession.
 - A Their own prophets contradict each other
- 5 God
 - (1) God is an exalted man, a man of holiness
 - A God progresses and has a wife, this is against his infinity
 - (2) God was once a man as we are and through spiritual development, He became a God.
 - (3) Trinity is really three distinct personages.
 - A The Father and the Son have a body of flesh and bones.
 - B The Holy Spirit does not.
 - (4) Their gods cannot be the God of the Scripture, since He is:
 - (5) Omnipresence which flesh and blood does not permit
 - A Hence, this is radically different from Christianity.
 - (6) As you are gods once was, as God is you can become.
 - A I am, very unbiblical
 - (7) The biblical definition of God precludes someone from becoming God.
- 6 Christ
 - (1) He is as all humans that are born as spiritual children of heavenly parents.
 - A Not son of Joseph or of Holy Spirit
 - B Literal offspring of God
 - a Jesus born of physical relationship of God with Mary,
 - b Jesus progressed into a divine personage
 - C
 - D He is our elder brother
 - a No Scripture to support this
 - b Over 300 men named Jesus were crucified.

(A) Faith in only one saves, if you have the wrong Jesus you cannot be saved.

E Direct contradict Scripture

F Talk about Jesus as my older brother we have a problem

a We are not the same species; He is creator and had no beginning as with Mormons idea that He achieved godhood.

(A) We believe John 1:1

7 Salvation:

(1) Christ shed His blood in order that we can be forgiven and born again in order to receive the fullness.

A A person must believe, repent, be baptized, and continue faithful until he receives the ordinances of the temple.

a He said, "We believe there are certain works that we must perform."

B To become temple worthy, a person must live a chaste virtuous life, no coffee etc.

a They make other covenants with God of exaltation so people can become as God is, married for time and eternity and have their own offspring and populate their own earth, this is the full glory of God

C After life, celestial this is the highest you get godhood get own world, presence with son, father and the spirit this all by works.

D Telestial is second best.

E Terrestrial is the lowest. I need to show 4 world views

F Word of God refer to KJV and their other books

X Can Mormons be won to Christ

1 The family they showed who were Mormons was very cute.

(1) Mormons do not look like cult members—Heaven's Gate.

2 Win with truth, differences with Christianity, time. Life, love, living it

(1) Like lady who translated and ran across contradictions which created doubts

3 James Walker, founder of Watchman fellowship and was a 4th generation Mormon said:

(1) Lakeside had more Mormons and Jehovah witnesses than any church outside of salt lake and other churches

4 No one witnessed to this x-Mormon, teach them the word of God

(1) Lady said she needed a Christianity friend

(2) Become genuine friend, Mike Gray has won many, then focus on what we have in common, emphasis on family, morals etc

- (3) Then go directly that we differ in salvation by grace
- 5 WE must be well equipped with our own faith, before we can share it.
 - (1) This is failure of Evangelicalism in many cases.
 - (2) Get well grounded in the Word of God, then basic knowledge of Mormonism;
 - A They have a different God, Jesus, and salvation
 - B This should be a focal point not the peripherals.
 - (3) Know how to ask people to receive Christ
 - (4) Note that this family spent four days a week serving God
 - A We give an hour or two?
 - (5) Share your testimony, grace salvation,
 - A Ask can you share your testimony.
 - B Contrast it with their works if appropriate.
 - (6) The girl's parents were from southern Baptist background.
 - A We are a prime target because we believe the Bible, but we do not know the Bible.
 - (7) The ex-Mormon man said "cults flourish because of biblical illiteracy"
 - A "Any person who knows their Bible cannot be converted into Mormonism because Mormonism is a nonbiblical, non-Christian counterfeit church"
 - (8) Ask questions, Average Christians should not take on Mormon missionary.
 - A They have conversation memorized
 - B They run the meeting
 - (9) Go to others but go to missionaries if you are ready.
 - (10) Prayer is essential, it takes the power of God
 - (11) Do not be argumentative, they need to see the love of the lord Jesus Christ and grace
 - A That it is a relationship not a religion,
 - B Live out our relationship with Christ before them.
 - (12)