

# Denominational Doctrines – Part 10

## Mormonism

### Introduction:

- A. History.
  - 1. Organized April 6, 1830 - Fayette, N.Y.
  - 2. Joseph Smith and Gold plates
  - 3. 1831 move to Kirkland, Ohio.
  - 4. Move to Missouri
  - 5. Move to Nauvoo, Ill. – polygamy introduced.
  - 6. Hyrum and Joseph Smith jailed at Carthage, Ill.
    - a. Both killed by mob.
    - b. Mormons split.
  - 7. Main body to Utah in 1848 led by Brigham Young.
- B. Mormons have variety of strange doctrines.

### Discussion:

#### **I. The Nature of God.**

- A. God has flesh and bones.<sup>1</sup>
  - 1. God is Spirit (John 4:24)
  - 2. Spirit does not have flesh and bones (Lk. 24:39).
  - 3. Flesh and blood cannot inherit heaven (1 Cor. 15:50).
- B. Adam is God and father of race.<sup>2</sup>
- C. God was once a man, now we seek to become gods.<sup>3</sup>

#### **II. The Nature of Christ.**

- A. Begotten of Adam (our God and Father) - not Holy Spirit<sup>4</sup>
- B. Jesus was likely a polygamist.<sup>5</sup>

#### **III. The Nature of the Bible.**

- A. Bible not all of Word of God. (II Nehphi 12:53-64; cf. Jude 3).
- B. Book of Mormon and Doctrines and Covenants of par with New Testament<sup>6</sup>.

#### **IV. The Nature of Salvation.**

- A. Three levels of salvation.
  - 1. Celestial level - Baptized by a Mormon, hands laid on by elders - dwell with God and Christ.
  - 2. Terrestrial level - Died without law - deceived - with Christ, not Father - terrestrial bodies.
  - 3. Third level - Did not receive gospel - did not deny Spirit - receive mansions - without Father and Son.
- B. Baptism for the dead.

#### **V. Eldership.**

- A. Young men called elders.
- B. Elders not overseers.

#### **VI. Apostles and prophets.**

- A. No true church without living apostles and prophets.
  - 1. Built on revelation not personalities of Apostles and prophets (Eph. 2:20-3:5)
  - 2. Apostles were witnesses – no successors. (Acts 1:1-3, 19-22; 10:39-41; 26:16; 1 Cor. 9:1)
  - 3. Prophecy ceased (1 Cor. 13:8)
- B. Joseph Smith a prophet.<sup>7</sup>

#### **VII. Marriage.**

- A. Two kinds – Earthly and celestial.
- B. Polygamy - Some factions still practice - Some received later revelation.

#### **VIII. Water in Lord's Supper.**

1. That which is without body, parts and passions is nothing. There is no other God in heaven, but that God who has flesh and bones. The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's" (D. & C., Sec. 130:22)
2. Now hear it, O inhabitants of the earth, Jew and Gentile, saint and sinner. When our father Adam came into the Garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body and brought Eve, one of his wives, with him. He helped to make and organize the world. He is Michael, the archangel, the Ancient of Days, about whom holy men have written and spoken. He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do." (Pearl of Great Price, p. 60).
3. God himself was once as we are now and is an exalted man and sits enthroned in yonder heavens." (Journal of Discourses, V. 6; p. 3, sermon by Joseph Smith.)  
And you have got to learn how to be gods yourselves ... the same as all gods have done before you (Ibid. p. 5)
4. He (Adam) is our father and our God ... when the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten Him in His own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Spirit. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family? (Journal of Discourses, V. 1, p. 50, sermon by Brigham Young)
5. If none but God's will be permitted to multiply immortal children, it follows that each god must have one or more wives. The evangelists do not particularly speak of the marriage of Jesus, but one thing is certain, that there were several holy women that greatly loved Jesus, such as Mary and Martha, her sister, and Mary Magdalene; and Jesus greatly loved them, and associated with them much ... if all the acts of Jesus were written, we, no doubt should learn that these beloved women were His wives. (The Seer, Vol. 1, pp. 158, 159)
6. Has God given many revelations to men? Ans. Yes; a great number. Where have we any account of his doing so? Ans. In the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and other publications of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. (Catechism, Ch. 3, Questions 1 and 2)

7. But, behold, verily, verily, I say unto thee, no one shall be appointed to receive commandments and revelations in this church excepting my servant Joseph Smith, Jr. for he receiveth them, even as Moses (D and C, Sec 28:2)