

Counterfeit Sermon Series
Part #3 – Joseph Smith and Mormonism

Galatians 1:6-8

Matthew 24:4 – Watch out that no one deceives you...

Series Summary

Are there many ways to heaven? Do all religions lead to the same place? This sermon series will begin on Easter Sunday and it will examine the different counterfeit religions that claim to give you power to overcome death and live for eternity. We will begin this series by examining the one authentic way as we strive to follow the one authentic Savior.

Big Idea – False Gospels will Lead Many to Destruction

Main Passage

Galatians 1:6-8 – ⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!

Three False Teachings of the Mormon Church

False Teaching #1 – God was a man that progressed to godhood

^{6a}I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one
 who called you by the grace of Christ...

- I am going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that god was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, and take away the veil, so that you may see. These are incomprehensible ideas to some, but they are simple. It is the first principle of the gospel to know for certainty the character of god and to know that we may converse with him as one man converses with another, and that he was once a man like us, yea, that God himself the father of us all, dwelt on an earth, the same as Jesus Christ himself did; and I will show it from the Bible. **(Joseph Smith, The King Follett Discourse, 1844. Page 5)**
- **Isaiah 43:10** – "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me."

False Teaching #2 – The Restored Gospel is the New Gospel

^{6b}and are turning to a different gospel—⁷which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

- **1 Timothy 4:1** – The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

False Teaching #3 – Joseph Smith is the Savior – Reject Him and Perish

⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel
 other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!

- ... no man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God *without the consent of Joseph Smith....* Every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are ... I cannot go there without his consent.... He reigns there *as supreme a being* in his sphere, capacity, and calling, *as God does in heaven* (**Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p. 289**).
- ... I am *an Apostle of Joseph Smith....* all who reject my testimony will go to hell, so sure as there is one, no matter whether it be hot or cold ... (**Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 3, p. 212**).
- I will now give my scripture—"Whosoever confesseth that Joseph Smith was sent of God ... *that spirit is of God*; and every spirit that does not confess that God has sent Joseph Smith, and revealed the everlasting Gospel to and through him, is *of Anti-christ* ... (**Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 8. p. 176**).
- **1 Timothy 2:5** – For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.
- **Acts 4:12** – Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Memory Verse

- **Galatians 1:6** – I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel...

Application

Counterfeit Challenge – Take the Counterfeit Sermon Series Challenge. Throughout this series, take advantage of the free booklets that are offered and study through them to strengthen your faith and determine the authenticity of Jesus Christ as the one and only Savior of the World!

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