

# LATTER-DAY SAINTS, WATCHTOWER, & CHRISTIANITY

## COMPARING MORMONISM, JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, AND CHRISTIANITY

### MORMONS

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

### CHRISTIANITY

“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God”  
(2 Corinthians 4:4)

If you have a friend who's a Mormon or a Jehovah's Witness, how could you start a conversation about his or her faith? Here are some resources that may help.  
**On the Web:** [www.christiananswers.net](http://www.christiananswers.net), keywords: mormonism and Jehovah's Witness.  
**At the bookstore:** *Why So Many Gods?* by Tim Baker and Kate Etue (Transit).

	MORMONS	JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES	CHRISTIANITY
<b>BASIC BELIEFS</b>	Believe each man has the potential to be a god of his own planet if he meets the requirements of Mormonism while on earth. Women will live on the planet on which their husband is god.	Believe 144,000 people will go to heaven based on what they do. Only their church members can be saved.	Believe people can't be good enough to meet God's standard of perfect holiness. Through accepting Jesus's sacrifice, people are given right standing with God.
<b>SUPREME BEING</b>	Believe that Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit are three different gods, not one God. Believe that the God of the Bible was a physical person and came in the flesh to earth (like Jesus did). Through his good conduct he became god of earth.	Believe God is a single person who doesn't know all things and isn't everywhere. Jesus is the human form of archangel Michael, who was created by God. The Holy Spirit is not a Person; He is God's impersonal active force.	Believe there is one God in three Persons—God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All three Persons have existed for all eternity.
<b>SACRED BOOK(S)</b>	<i>The Book of Mormon; Doctrine and Covenants; Pearl of Great Price</i> ; the Bible—although Mormons believe the Bible is corrupted and incomplete.	The Bible, New World Translation (heavily adapted text from the Bible).	The Bible
<b>SALVATION AND AFTERLIFE</b>	At death, people go to spirit prison or paradise. Mormon spirits go to paradise where they progress toward godhood if they're worthy. Those in spirit prison have opportunities to accept the Mormon gospel and become Mormon.	Only 144,000 people spend eternity with God. They're called the "anointed class." Good people who aren't part of the 144,000 stay and inhabit earth, which will always exist. Everyone else dies into nothingness. There is no hell.	There are two eternal fates for mankind—heaven and hell. Forgiven people who have accepted Jesus' sacrifice for their sins go to heaven. Those who've rejected it go to hell. This earth will eventually be destroyed.
<b>SERVICES</b>	Held in a branch or a ward. Temple is only for the worthy Mormon who has received a recommendation from his or her bishop. Services are reverent and silent. There are no musical instruments.	Held in places called Kingdom Halls. Have weekly meetings to practice witnessing to people. Elders give talks and teach lessons.	Services are held in churches.
<b>THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST</b>	Believe Jesus was conceived naturally by God and Mary. He was a physical man who became a god. Satan is Jesus' brother who contended with Him for the right to be the redeemer of earth but Jesus won. Satan then rebelled.	Believe Jesus is a creation of God, not the Son of God, and is inferior to God. Believe He became the Messiah at His baptism. He never sinned and He died on a torture stake for the sins of mankind, but He did not die for Adam's sins.	Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to die to pay the spiritual cost of our sins. Personally accepting Jesus' sacrifice reconciles a person to God.
<b>SACRAMENTS</b>	Baptism of the dead (a living person is baptized as a stand in for a person who has died and didn't have an opportunity in life to believe in Mormon teaching). Celestial marriage (marriage for all eternity where couples are able to procreate spirit children to populate their planets).	Baptism is required for salvation and can only happen once a person has studied for at least six months and has answered questions before a panel of elders. The 144,000 celebrate the Lord's Supper once a year and receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.	Baptism, the Lord's Supper
<b>HISTORY</b>	In 1820 an angel named Moroni appeared to 14-year-old Joseph Smith and said all churches during that time were evil and he should start his own church.	From 1870-75, 19-year-old Charles Taze Russell led a Bible study that later printed tracts to advertise what they believe. They use these pamphlets in door-to-door witnessing.	Christianity is based on the revelation of God in His Son, Jesus Christ and in His Word, the Bible.