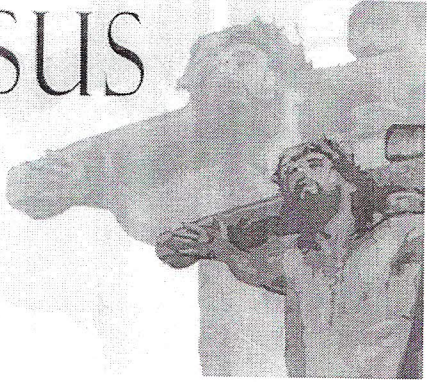


THE SHRINKING

JESUS



Does Mormonism Minimize Christ?

One of the most important tenets of the Christian Faith is the fact that Jesus Died for our Sins. The Mormon Church says they believe this also, but minimize Christ's saving work at every turn.

From the Cross...

The symbol of the cross is nowhere to be found in temple square or Mormonism in general. The LDS church has responded as follows:

"..the symbol of our faith is the lives of our people." (Gordon B Hinkley, Ensign, April 2005)

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the preaching of the Cross is to them that perish foolishness: but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

This is not the Jesus of the Bible:

Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law shall no man be justified.

To Temple Ordinances...

Christ's sacrifice here has nothing to do with salvation according the LDS church:

"The most important things that any member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ever does in this world are 1) to marry the right person, in the right place, by the right authority; and 2) to keep the covenant made in connection with this holy and perfect order of matrimony, thus assuring the obedient persons of an inheritance of exaltation in the celestial kingdom" (Mormon Doctrine, McConkie, p.118)

"The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us, is to seek after our dead.' Because we cannot be saved without them..." (Doctrines of Salvation, vol. 2, Joseph Fielding Smith, p. 149)

The original temple in Jerusalem was where the high priest would sacrifice animals for the sins of man. Marriage ceremonies or baptisms were never performed in the temple. Mormonism has taken the temple and distorted it.

To Gethsemane...

Again attention is being diverted from what happened at the Cross:

"...it was in Gethsemane that Jesus took on Himself the sins of the world, in Gethsemane that His pain was equivalent to the cumulative burden of all men, in Gethsemane that He descended below all things so that all could repent and come to Him." (Ezra Taft Benson, Encyclopedia of Mormonism, 1992 p. 542)

Why is that important? Our works are as filthy rags to a pure and Holy God. (Isaiah 64:6) The blood sacrifices made in the temple of Jerusalem were a shadow of what Christ had to do for us in order to bring us in alignment with God. (Hebrews 10:1) It was not the fear of the lamb before it's sacrifice, but the blood that was shed. There is no work we can do to become right with God....except one. Believe upon Him who He has sent. (John 6:29)

From Good works...

Before Christ died, He said "it is finished". (John 19:30) Mormonism teaches that we must first do good works, that Christ's sacrifice was incomplete:

2 Nephi 25:23 ...for we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.

From His nature...

“As man is, God once was, as God is, man may become.” (Lorenzo Snow, former president of the LDS Church)

We are not to aspire to become Gods. In fact, in getting to know Jesus just from scripture you will find we are told to become like Christ who:

Philippians 2:6 being in the form of God, did not think it robbery to be equal with god.

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.

He was born among animals and died among criminals. He gave up everything and while being crucified said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34)

What was done on the cross could only be done by a man who had no sin. Jesus did the work for us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by Grace we are saved through faith, and that is not of yourselves, it is a gift from God not of works, so that no man should boast.

To His purpose...

Matthew 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain (was torn

in two) from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake and the rocks rent.

When Christ died on the cross, God made a statement about the priesthood and He made it loud and clear. In the Old Testament, the only access the people had to the presence of God was in the Holy of Holies of His temple through the priesthood. When Christ died, God showed once and for all that everyone now had access directly into the presence of God through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. He symbolized this by tearing the veil that separated the Holy of Holies from top to bottom (notice not bottom to top as man would do), opening the way directly into His presence. God has opened the way for each and every believer to have direct access to Him through Jesus Christ.

1 Timothy 2:15 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and man.

The LDS Church has put false prophets and apostles between you and God:

Revelation 21:14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the name of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

There are only 12 apostles of the Lamb, Jesus' apostles, written on the foundation of the New Jerusalem, not the names of the apostles of the LDS church?

Don't let Mormonism lead you astray. There is only one true mediator, and he is Jesus. Believe in Him.

Who Do you Believe?

2 Timothy 1:12 for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to Timothy from a dungeon in Rome. In it, He doesn't say, "I know WHAT I believe". He says, "I know WHOM I believe." That's the key. What gets you through the dark, damp, dungeons of life? Not what you believe. It's who you believe.

2 Corinthians 11:3-4 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Do not be deceived by another Jesus, the insufficient, shrinking Jesus of Mormonism.

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