

1 ARE YOU SAVED?

Mormon friend, can I ask you the most important question of life, and one that your church leadership will never ask? **Are you saved?** Not *will* you be saved some day, but *are* you saved right now, this very moment?

The truth is that even if you think that you are saved, according to Mormon leadership, you **cannot** be presently saved. Most LDS admit this, but some Latter-day Saints go against church teachings, reasoning that they are indeed saved at this very time. Respectfully, however, it doesn't matter what the rank and file Mormon personally believes, as personal opinion does not overrule the teachings of LDS Prophets and Apostles. Therefore, let's review what Apostle Bruce R. McConkie said concerning the three kinds of Mormon soul salvation and see if it is possible for a Latter-day Saint to be presently saved:

1. "Unconditional or General Salvation."

This salvation equals a bodily resurrection from the grave and is obtained by the free gift of grace. Faith in Christ *is not* required, since all people will be resurrected.

2. "Conditional or Individual Salvation."

This salvation places people into one of 3 separate Mormon heavens and is obtained thru faith, grace, and good works.

3. "Eternal Life." LDS eternal life is narrowly defined as becoming a God and living forever as a family unit in the highest Mormon heaven—the Celestial Kingdom. LDS call this a "full salvation," which is available only to devout LDS.¹ Anything short of eternal life is damnation to LDS, since they will not be exalted to Godhood.²

With LDS salvation clearly defined, notice that no Mormon can possess salvation today, since **all three forms of salvation occur post-mortem!** Friend, you must *drop dead first, before you can be saved!* Are you dead yet?

2 CHRISTIANS ARE SAVED NOW

Something is amiss with LDS salvation, for Christians are saved *now*--not just in the afterlife:

...behold, now is the day of salvation.
—2 Cor. 6:2

Friend, Christians must be **presently saved** people:

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. —1 Cor. 1:18

He that believeth on the Son **hath everlasting life**; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the **wrath of God abideth on him**. —Jn. 3:36 (also Jn. 3:16-18, 5:24; 6:47; 1 Cor. 1:18; 2 Tim. 1:9)

As such, only saved people belong to Christ's church:

...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. —Acts 2:47

Because of the imperative to be saved in this lifetime, the Bible teaches a "know so" salvation today:

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.** —1 Jn. 5:13

3 WHAT IS CHRISTIAN SALVATION?

Friend, the reason why LDS leadership never asks people if they're saved is because Mormonism has wrongly defined what salvation is. The Bible says:

That **whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life**. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life**. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world

through him **might be saved**. **He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.** —Jn. 3:15-18

What can we conclude from this scripture?

A. Only One Salvation. Note that "eternal life," "everlasting life," and "saved" are all used synonymously. There is only one kind of Christian soul salvation!

B. From Hell to Heaven. Christian salvation *is not* working to live in one of three LDS Heavens. It is believing in Christ through faith to avoid perishing in Hell, while gaining eternal life with God in Heaven.

C. All Believers Have Eternal Life. Only the most devout LDS receive "eternal life," if their good works are sufficient to earn Godhood status and live forever with their earthly families. In contrast, all Christians receive eternal life, for it is available for "whosoever believeth." This leads to the next point.

D. Salvation Cannot Be Earned. The only salvation by faith alone in Mormonism is the general salvation, meaning a bodily resurrection. But this is clearly wrong, for even unbelievers will be resurrected for an eternity in Hell (Jn. 5:28-29). Most certainly, God's free gift of grace *will not* be applied to unbelievers.

LDS often say that the Book of Mormon does not contradict the Bible, but merely adds to and clarifies it, but this simply isn't factually honest. 2 Nephi 25:23 says that "*it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.*" This salvation formula **is diametrically opposed** to the Bible, which says,

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." —Eph. 2:8-9

The Book of Mormon contradicts a host of Biblical teachings, including the warning that adding *any* works to salvation **cancels** God's gift of atoning grace. (Rom. 11:6; also 4:2-6, 14-16)

¹ Apostle Bruce McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, pp. 237, 669-670

² Ibid, pp. 176-177

Works are an all-or-nothing endeavor. (Jam. 2:10) We cannot merit God's favor for salvation, for ***"all our righteousness are as filthy rags."*** – Is. 64:6

E. Salvation is Not Universal. The Book of Mormon once again contradicts the Bible, offering LDS a false sense of security:

And he also testified unto the people that all mankind should be saved at the last day, and that they need not fear nor tremble, but that they might lift up their heads and rejoice; for the Lord had created all men, and had also redeemed all men; and, in the end, all men should have eternal life. – Alma 1:4

Satan couldn't have written a better lie, for the Bible warns:

...then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. –Lk. 8:12 (also 2 Thess. 2:9-12)

Moreover, the Jesus of the Bible rejected a universal salvation. Hear His sobering reply when asked the question..."are there few that be saved?"

Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.... There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth... –Lk 13:23-28

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. –Matt. 7:13-14 (also Matt. 7:21:23)

Note that Bible damnation isn't getting stuck in a lower LDS heaven; it is punishment in Hell forever. For this reason, the Bible gives the imperative to be saved:

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
–Acts 4:12

Sir/Ma'am, you **must** be saved! The Philippian Jailor knew that salvation wasn't universal when he asked:

...Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
–Acts 16:30

The Apostle Paul and Silas answered:

...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. –Acts 16:31 (also Jn. 3:15-18)

F. Salvation is For Now, Not Later.

Remember our text (Jn. 3:18) which teaches a present-tense salvation, for ***"he that believeth on him [Christ] is not condemned;"***

Conversely, he who is not now saved, is ***"condemned already."*** Does that concern you?

4 **REALIZE THE PERIL YOU ARE IN**
Not only does the Mormon Church fail to implore people to be saved today, but it also neglects to warn unsaved persons that their souls are lost:

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. –Lk. 19:10 (also 2 Cor. 4:3-4)

Since the lost are headed for Hell, the Bible repeatedly invites sinners to be saved now. The Apostle Paul said that ***"I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake..."*** –1 Cor. 9:22c-23a (also Jn. 5:34; Rom. 10:1) Why doesn't the LDS gospel save anyone in this life? Something is dangerously wrong!

Friend, Hell is real. As such, the Bible says to ***"...save with fear, pulling them out of the fire...."*** (Jude 23) Christ has warned you that ***"these things I say, that ye might be saved."*** (Jn. 5:34) Christ warned people to avoid Hell at any cost. (Mk. 9:43-48) Can I say in love, that your greatest need isn't to pursue the Mormon "Plan of Happiness;" but the Christian "Plan of Salvation." Tragically, however, Biblical salvation is a need that the LDS gospel can never deliver!

Sincerely, **Bill Young** (former LDS)

LDS Friend,

Are You Saved?

*Discover Why this Question
is Never Asked in LDS
Churches, and Why every
Latter-day Saint Should Be
Concerned.*



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