

THE LDS JESUS

THE BIBLICAL JESUS

Is one god among many gods.

Joseph Smith “I will preach on the plurality of Gods...I have always declared God to be a distinct personage, Jesus Christ a separate and distinct personage from God the Father, and that the Holy Ghost was a distinct personage of Spirit: and that these three constitute three distinct personages and three Gods...” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, Joseph Fielding Smith, p. 370)

Bruce McConkie “Three separate personages—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—comprise the Godhead. As each of these persons is a God, it is evident from this standpoint alone, that a plurality of Gods exists. To us...these three are the only Gods we worship. But in addition there is an infinite number of holy personages, drawn from worlds without number, who have passed on to exaltation and are thus gods.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, McConkie, pp. 576-577).

Did not create everything. (organized/created only this earth)

Joseph Smith “The head God called together the Gods and sat in grand council to bring forth the world. The grand counselor sat at the head in yonder heavens, and contemplated the creation of the worlds which were created at that time.”

(*Journal of Discourses*, vol. 6 p. 5)

Joseph Smith “Now, the word create came from the word baurau, which does not mean to create out of nothing; it means to organize—the same as man would organize materials and build a ship. Hence we infer that God had materials to organize the world out of chaos—chaotic matter,” (*Journal of Discourses*, vol. 6 p. 6)

Has not been God eternally. (Jesus was not a full god as a spirit child before coming to Earth.)

Joseph Smith “God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man and sits in yonder heavens...I am going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that God

Is the one and only God.

Isaiah 44:6, 8 *Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of Hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.*

Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have I not told thee from that time, and have declared it? Ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? Yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Deuteronomy 4:35 *Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightiest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him. ***

Created everything that was and has been created.

John 1:3 *All things were made by him (Jesus); and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

Colossians 1:16-17 *For by him (Jesus) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in the earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*

Isaiah 44:24 *Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.*

Has been God eternally.

Deuteronomy 33:27 *“The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.*

1 | **LORD in all capital letters is translated from the word Jehovah in the Old Testament Hebrew. Jehovah is the pre-mortal Jesus in Mormonism. **Bruce McConkie** “Christ is Jehovah; they are one and the same person.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, p.392)

was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, and take away the veil, so you can see...It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the Character of God...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.” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Joseph Fielding Smith, pp. 345-346*).

“The Savior did not have a fullness at first, but after he received his body and the resurrection all power was given to him both in heaven and on earth. Although he was a God, even the Son of God, with power and authority to create this earth and other earths, yet there were some things lacking which he did not receive until after his resurrection. In other words he had not received the fullness until he got a resurrected body, and the same is true with those who through faithfulness become the sons of God. Our bodies are essential to the fullness and continuation of the seeds forever” (*Doctrines of Salvation, Joseph Fielding Smith, p. 33*).

Is a man that has been exalted to the office of a God. (Jesus has an exalted human father)

Joseph Smith “God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man and sits in yonder heavens...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 you can see...It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the Character of God...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.” (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Joseph Fielding Smith, pp. 345-346*).

Psalm 90:1-2 “*LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.*

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.”**

John 14:8-10 “*Phillip said, ‘Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.’ Jesus answered: ‘Don’t you know me, Phillip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing the work.’*”

Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.*”

Is the eternal God who became a man.

Matthew 1:23 “*Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*”

1 Timothy 3:16 “*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*”

John 1:1, 14 “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*”

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Is dependent upon an infinite series of gods that came before. (His office of god is granted to him by other gods.)

Joseph Smith “We ask, then, where is the prototype? Or where is the saved being? We conclude as to the answer of this question there will be no dispute among those who believe the bible, that it is Christ: all will agree in this that he is the prototype or standard of salvation, or in other words, that he is a saved being. And if we should continue our interrogation, and ask how it is that he is saved, the answer would be, because his is a just and holy being; and if he were anything different from what he is he would not be saved; for his salvation depends on his being precisely what he is and nothing else; for if it were possible for him to change in the least degree, so sure would he fail of salvation and lose all dominion, power, authority and glory,” (*Lectures on Faith 7*, pp. 66-67)

Is not the Most High God. (He is only the most high in this world.)

Joseph Smith “What did Jesus do? Why; I do the things I saw my Father do when worlds come rolling into existence. My Father worked out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and I must do the same [that is Christ must do the same]; and when I get my kingdom, I shall present it to my Father, so that he may obtain kingdom upon kingdom, and it will exalt him in glory. He will then take a higher exaltation, and I [Christ] will take his place, and thereby become exalted myself. So that Jesus treads in the tracks of his Father, and inherits what God did before; and God is thus glorified and exalted in the salvation and exaltation of all his children.” (*Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, **Joseph Fielding Smith**, p. 7)

Is not the Almighty God. (Not omnipotent, not as powerful as the gods above him in progression.)

Joseph Smith “What did Jesus do? Why; I do the

Is completely sovereign.

Isaiah 40:13-14 “*Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counselor, hath taught him? With whom took he counsel and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgement, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?*”

Isaiah 46:9-10 “*Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient time the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.*”

Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.*”

Is the Most High God.

Psalms 78:56 “*Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:*”

Psalms 92:1 “*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:*”

Psalms 103:19-22 “*The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul.*”

Is the Almighty God.

Genesis 17:1 “*And when Abram was ninety years*

things I saw my Father do when worlds come rolling into existence. My Father worked out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and I must do the same [that is Christ must do the same]; and when I get my kingdom, I shall present it to my Father, so that he may obtain kingdom upon kingdom, and it will exalt him in glory. He will then take a higher exaltation, and I [Christ] will take his place, and thereby become exalted myself. So that Jesus treads in the tracks of his Father, and inherits what God did before; and God is thus glorified and exalted in the salvation and exaltation of all his children.” (*Doctrines of Salvation, vol. 1, Joseph Fielding Smith, p. 7*)

Brigham Young “How many Gods there are, I do not know. But there never was a time when there were not Gods and worlds, and when men were not passing through the same ordeals that we are now passing through.” (*Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p.333*)

Cannot be everywhere present. (Not omnipresent, is limited by his physical body.)

Joseph F. Smith “I do not believe in the doctrine held by some that God is only a Spirit and that he is of such a nature that he fills the immensity of space, and is everywhere present in person, or without person, for I cannot conceive it possible that God could be a person, if he filled the immensity of space and was everywhere present at the same time. It is unreasonable, a physical, a theological inconsistency, to imagine that even God the eternal Father would be in two places, as an individual, at the same moment. It is impossible.” (*Gospel Doctrine, pp. 55-56*).

Joseph Fielding Smith “The Holy Ghost is the third member of the Godhead. He is a spirit, in the form of a man. The Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit, and has a spirit body only. As a spirit personage the Holy Ghost has size and dimensions. He does not fill the immensity of space, and cannot be everywhere present in person at the same time” (*Doctrines of Salvation, vol. 1, p. 38*)

old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Isaiah 44:24 “*Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;*”

Isaiah 43:10-11 “*Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.*

I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior.”***

Jeremiah 31:17 “*Ah LORD God! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:*”

Fills the Heavens and the Earth.

Jeremiah 23:23-24 “*Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?*

Can any hid himself in secret that I shall not see him? Saith the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? Saith the LORD.

Psalms 139:7-8 “*Whither shall I go to from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.*

Matthew 18:20 “*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*”