

The Mormon Church and the Restoration **By Elder Gary Metzger**

Is the Mormon Church the same as what was restored in 1830?
(All the following characteristics are from Church sources from each church.)

The Mormon Church

- 1) Men can become Gods.
- God is in a state of progression.
- 2) Poligamy is still in the law of the church.
- Those that do not abide it are damned.
(Utah Doctrine and Covenants 132:3-4)
- 3) Marriage can be eternal if it is sealed in a Mormon temple.
- With your sealed wife, you have offspring to populate a world you create.
- 4) After the death of Joseph Smith, Brigham Joseph Young was prophet, without being ordained one.
- Neither was Brigham appointed by Joseph Smith to be prophet.
- 5) Men are called to the priesthood, and ordained as they reach a certain age, revelation is not overtly evident.
- There is an order of offices called to: deacon, teacher, priest, elder, etc.
- 6) The tithe is 10% of your gross earnings.
- The very poor are required to pay tithing.
- 7) Activities such as dances are held.

Prior teachings held by prominent Mormons in the past in Utah.

- 8) There are some sins so terrible that the guilty one has to shed his own blood to be pardoned.
- The blood of Jesus is no longer sufficient.
(Practiced in Utah for a time.)
- 9) Jesus Christ was not conceived by the Holy Ghost.
- He was the literal son in the flesh of a Celestial Father and Mother.
- 10) Jesus was married and had offspring.

The Restoration

- There is only one God.
- God is unchanging.
- Poligamy was never officially taught.
- Those who do practice it are condemned.
- Marriage is only for this earth, until death.
- There is no marriage or giving in marriage in Heaven. We are as the angels of God.
- After the death of Joseph Smith, his son Smith III became prophet, and ordained such.
- Joseph Smith, Jr. designated his son to be his successor 4 times publicly.
- Men are called to the priesthood according to revelation to one in authority, according to Their gifts, not their age.
- There is no order. You can be called to any of the offices, It is not a ladder.
- The tithe is 10% of your increase, after needs.
- The very poor give sacrificially as they can.
- Participation in dances is not encouraged.

Which teachings are in agreement with the Bible?

The Church of Jesus Christ – Branches of the Restoration