Truth [Jesus] Matters
False Gospels

Dr. Lynn Wilder
Former LDS
Former BYU Professor
Now Biblical Christian

www.unveilingmormonism.com
We love LDS people in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

MORMONS

What my friends think I do
What my mom thinks I do
What society thinks I do

What atheists think I do
What I think I do
What I actually do
Another Jesus, Different Spirit, Different Gospel?

2 Corinthians 11:4 (ESV)

For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough...
KNOW THE WORD: Bible Warnings

• Matt 24:24 For false christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect…

• Ephesians 5:11-12 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.
2 Timothy 3:12-17 (NLT)

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.

But you must remain faithful...You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.
What is a False Christ? False Prophet?

Matthew 24:23-26 (ESV)

23 Then if anyone says to you, “Look, here is the Christ!” or “There he is!” do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you beforehand. 26 So, if they say to you, “Look, he is in the desert,” do not go out. If they say, “Look, he is in the inner rooms,” do not believe it.
False Apostles?

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

2 Cor 11:13-15
How to Spot a False Christ

1. Has a human leader with greater authority than the Bible (God’s Word)

Hebrews 1:1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

2. Creates and accepts extra-biblical scripture with authority greater than or equal to the Bible

3. Teaches salvation requires more than just faith, need to do works
False Christs May…

Insist on being called Christian when their teachings do not line up with the Bible

Use feelings instead of reason and Scripture to determine truth

Follow the doctrine of a person instead of or in addition to God’s Word, the Bible
Follow the Doctrine from a Person instead of God’s Word

• Jehovah Witnesses follow the teachings of: Charles T. Russell and J. F. Rutherford

• Christian Scientists follow Mary Eddy Baker

• Unity School of Christianity follow Charles and Myrtle Fillmore

• Mormons follow the teachings of Joseph Smith

• Scientologists follow teachings of L. Ron Hubbard
They May Use the Same Religious Words – Different Meanings

- God
- Jesus
- Holy Ghost
- Salvation
- Eternal Life
- Grace
- Atonement
- Angel
- Heaven, etc.
Is it possible to follow a false christ and believe you have the real Christ?

Romans 10:1-3

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.
False Christs Do Miracles in Jesus Name

I Never Knew You

Matt 7:21

Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, “Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?” 23 And then will I declare to them, “I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.”
Jesus Said False Christs Lead Many Down the Wrong Path

Matthew 24:4-5 (ESV)

4 And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you astray. 5 For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray.
Who is Behind the False Christs?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 (ESV)

13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.
Diseased Tree Cannot Bear Good Fruit

Matthew 7:15-23 (ESV)

15 Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.
The Fruit of LDS Teachings

1. Racism (dark skin is a curse, Book of Mormon)
2. Polygamy (an eternal principle, D&C))
3. Perfectionism (performance-based religion)
4. Prosperity Gospel (live the commandments blessed temporally and spiritually)
5. Replacement Theology (LDS gathering “lost” Jewish 10 tribes)
6. Dead relatives should appear in the temple (necromancy)
If the Foundation is Rotten--Run!

Matt 3:10 and Luke 3:9

Even now the axe is laid at the root of the trees. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1. Angel of Light Brings Another Gospel: Angel Moroni

2 Cor 11:13 “And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.”

Gal 1:8 “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel…”

ECUJ www.unveilingmormonism.com
2. Angel’s Gospel Results in Extra Biblical Scripture: 4 Standard Works

- Book of Mormon
  - Most correct book on the face of the earth

- Pearl of Great Price
  - “Translated” by Joseph Smith from ancient papyri

- Doctrine & Covenants
  - Collection of revelations from Jesus to the Mormon prophets

- Bible
  - Sometimes not translated correctly
All 4 LDS Scriptures (Quad)
3. Is the Bible Reliable or Sometimes “Mistranslated”?

We believe the Bible to be the Word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

*Mormon 8th Article of Faith*
Profuse Evidence

- Manuscript 5,800+ NT Greek; 25,000 other
- Internal Consistency
- Prophecy fulfilled
- Archaeological 30,000 archeological digs OT alone that unearth cities, names of leaders, weapons
- Linguistic
- Botanical (plant) and zoological (animal)
- Geographical (maps)
- Secular historical
- DNA and Changed lives
4. Great Apostasy - Jesus Failed in Israel & the Americas to Establish His Church?

...the Great Apostasy...occurred after the Savior established His Church. After the deaths of the Savior and His Apostles, men corrupted the principles of the gospel and made unauthorized changes in Church organization and priesthood ordinances. Because of this widespread apostasy, the Lord withdrew the authority of the priesthood from the earth. This apostasy lasted until Heavenly Father and His Beloved Son appeared to Joseph Smith in 1820 and initiated the restoration of the fulness of the gospel. (www.lds.org)
What the Jesus Himself Says about the Church (the Body of Christ)

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
5. Do We Need a Living Prophet or Any Mediator Today who Speaks for God?

Temple Recommend Question

2. Do you sustain the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as the prophet, seer, and revelator; and do you recognize him as the only person on the earth authorized to exercise all priesthood keys?
No Big P Prophets Today

- Hebrews 1:1-2 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son…

- Luke 16:16 The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached…
One Mediator - Jesus

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus

1 Timothy 2:5
6. Does it Matter Who God is? 
Nature of God (the Godhead)

3 separate gods, not one Triune God

Not c0-eternal

Not co-equal
Nature of LDS God the Father

- LDS teach God has a body of flesh and bone as tangible as man (D&C 130:22)

- Started out as a spirit child who became a man who earned his godhood

- Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate gods

- LDS deny the Trinity

- He is married to “Heavenly Mother”
Nature of LDS Jesus

- Spirit child of Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother – not a god yet (Book of Abraham 3:23-28)
- Spirit brother of Lucifer and you and me (see above)
- How was Jesus conceived?
- Atoned in the Garden of Gethsemane (Prophet Joseph Fielding Smith)
- Partial Atonement did not cover all sins (D&C 42:18-19, 25-26)
- Cross not revered (Prophet Hinckley - symbol of dying Jesus)
- Teaches salvation by works - then grace (2 Nephi 25:23)
- Worked his way to godhood (D&C 132)
7. Do They Teach a Different Way to Eternal Life than the Bible Teaches? Eternal Life Requires Works?
LDS Eternal Life

We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the [LDS] Gospel.

Third Article of Faith

For we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.

2 Nephi 25:23 Book of Mormon
Some of the Laws

- Word of Wisdom (health code)
- Tithe
- Sabbath Day holy by attending your meetings
- Fast monthly
- Obey the Prophet
- Keep the Ten Commandments
- Obey the Law of the land
- Fulfill callings
Temple Ordinances Required

Baptism for the Dead
Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost
Confirmed a member - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Priesthood – men only (Aaronic and the Melchizidek)
Washings and anointings - garment of the Holy Priesthood
New name
Endowment
Sealings in marriage for all eternity (D&C 132)
[Second anointing of Calling and Election Made Sure]
LDS Definition of Eternal Life

Definition of Eternal Life from *Preach My Gospel* manual used by LDS missionaries. On page 70 it states:

*Eternal Life: To live forever as families in God’s presence*
LDS Need Temple Work for Eternal Life
15 And now, my dearly beloved brethren and sisters, let me assure you that these are principles in relation to the dead and the living that cannot be lightly passed over, as pertaining to our salvation. For their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation, as Paul says concerning the fathers—that they without us cannot be made perfect—neither can we without our dead be made perfect.
16 And now, in relation to the baptism for the dead, I will give you another quotation of Paul, 1 Corinthians 15:29: Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?
1 Corinthians 15:12-30

12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

…16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.
29 Else what shall THEY do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

WHAT ELSE SHALL “THEY DO,” NOT “WE. PAUL AND THE CHRISTIANS WERE NOT PRACTICING “BAPTISM FOR THE DEAD.”
LDS Grace Requires Works

Divine grace is needed by every soul... However, grace cannot suffice without total effort on the part of the recipient. Hence the explanation, “It is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do” (2 Ne. 25:23).
Dead Works
8. John 6 – What is the Work of God (and us)?

28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.
Great Commission

Mark 16:15 And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”

Jude 1:3 ...I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.
The Bible Says
Temple Ordinances Should NOT be Secret

Matt 10:27 “What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.”

John 18:20 “I have spoken openly to the world…I said nothing in secret.”
Acts 17:24

...God does not live in temples made by human hands
Matt 12:6
One Greater than the Temple is Here
Bible Says Eternal Life is a Free Gift

Romans 6:23 ESV
For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 17:3 ESV
And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!
8. Did the Atonement Happen in the Garden or on the Cross?
John 18:11

11 So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

*When Jesus was arrested in the garden, He had not yet drunk the cup.
9. The Cross

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Gal. 6:14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...
10. The Antidote to a False Gospel is The Word of God!!

2 Timothy 3:12-17 (NLT)

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.

But you must remain faithful...You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.
Hear His Word, Believe in the Real Jesus and HAVE Eternal Life. Period.

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:24
7 Reasons We Left Mormonism
www.missionary911.com
Manual and DVD
Unveiling Grace: The Story of How We Found Our Way Out of the Mormon Church

One of the Top Ten 10 Testimonies of 2014
Christianity Today

Featured on the 700 Club and

Janet Parshall’s
In the Market

ECUJ www.unveilingmormonism.com
Leaving Mormonism: Why Four Scholars Changed their Minds
Sharing the Good News with Mormons (2017)