
IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by dailyherald - 2007/12/06 00:56

The hottest topic around here this morning is not the war in Iraq or health care or Marie Osmond. It is presidential candidate Mitt Romney's Mormon religion. Romney will deliver a major speech in Houston at 8:30 a.m. MDT in which he will address the issue.

It's going to be interesting.

Read more...

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by DanielHaszard - 2007/12/06 01:27

Mormons are mainstream and 'normal'.

Who are Jehovah's Witnesses?

Up close and personal Jehovah's Witnesses can be wolves in sheep's clothing.

The central core dogma of the Watchtower is Jesus second coming (invisibly) in 1914 and is a lie. Jehovah's Witnesses are a spin-off of the man made Millerite movement of 1840.

A destructive cult of false teachings, that frequently result in spiritual and psychological abuse, as well as needless deaths (bogus blood transfusion ban).

Yes, you can 'check out anytime you want but you can never leave', because they can and will hold your family hostage.

The Watchtower is a truly Orwellian world.

Danny Haszard Jehovah's Witness X 33 years and 3rd generation <http://www.freeminds.org>

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by The Keeper - 2007/12/06 02:26

An even better question is would The Daily Herald write a "go along to get along", sugar coated article such as this, if the LDS Church was a "cult"?

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by The Keeper - 2007/12/06 03:05

DanielHaszard wrote:

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Although The Daily Herald attempts to spin "cults" as a religious issue, there is well-documented evidence of cultic control among groups of political, business and therapeutic persuasion.

Doctrinal and spiritual issues are often less a concern of new converts to cult groups than their felt personal needs, such as the need for friendship, a mission in life, and personal fulfillment.

7 ELEMENTS OF A CULTIC GROUP

- 1) A centralized form of leadership that rules with unquestioned authority
- 2) A body of convictions, beliefs, and practices set forth boldly as "the truth"
- 3) A compelling presentation of the group vision to prospects that is inviting and challenging
- 4) A series of manipulative socializing sessions to instill psychological dependence on the group
- 5) A definable process of group dynamics used to unethically control and manipulate members
- 6) A history of abuses of authority by group leaders freely using deception and fear tactics
- 7) A history of psychological and spiritual abuses of group members that destroy lives (Steve Hassan and Dr. Paul Martin, Combating Cult Mind Control)

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by longhorn_nation - 2007/12/06 03:53

For those readers who do not believe that Supreme Allied Forces Commander and United States President Dwight Eisenhower was reared as a Jehovah's Witness, because JW's refuse to vote, serve in the military, do anything patriotic, etc, here is the single best webpage on the internet about Eisenhower and his JW youth:

<http://jwbookstore.bravehost.com/books/eisenhower.html>

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/06 03:56

Cult dynamics explains the cultural history of the U.S. and almost every other country's heritage in the world.

Get real, for heaven's sake.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Hutterite - 2007/12/06 07:09

In your view, mormonism is no cult. In my view, you bet your bippy it is. Everyone else's religion is a cult. Suck it up, and get over it. If Mitt wants to wear his religion out front, and people can't get past that, well he's a non starter for president. Maybe somewhere in there is a lesson about how religion is dividing us all and how it belongs as a personal issue, not a political one.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by leftintheuc - 2007/12/06 07:37

What a bold, gutsy statement for the Herald to make! In the hostile waters of Utah County, to have their beloved paper make such a statement! Who saw that coming? Has Utah County Collective picked themselves off the floor yet, having collapsed in shock at the utter audacity of this piece? I can't wait for the next cutting edge editorial: IN OUR VIEW: Flowers are pretty. Yeah, that's right, I said it: flowers are pretty! What'r ya gonna do about it?

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by poodledoodledude - 2007/12/06 14:17

Hutterite wrote:

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amen. yes, imho mormonism is a cult, not christian.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Pittakos - 2007/12/06 15:26

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Maybe you should look up the definition of cult.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by demcpa - 2007/12/06 22:14

I believe there is a very real danger here that most of you have failed to consider. Bear with me on this.

Mormons believe that God now authoritatively speaks through a man (Gordon B. Hinckley, the current 97 year old head of the LDS church) who they consider to be a modern day "Prophet" of God. Mormons are told that their "Prophet" is actually infallible - at least when he claims to be speaking in his "Prophet" capacity. And that to disobey their "Prophet" is to disobey God.

The leaders of most Christian denominations - other than Roman Catholics and those which are commonly called "cults" - do not claim to possess this kind of God given authority.

That's one reason why Kennedy had to give his "Catholic speech" - to promise that he would not take any orders from the Pope, a man who many Catholics would never consider disobeying. In doing so JFK proved he was not a very good Catholic. Because if he believed that the Pope really spoke from God he would certainly always obey the Pope.

Mitt Romney is well known as a man who will say almost anything to get elected. His flip flops make John Kerry look like a novice. So we have to ask ourselves, "Was Mitt really being honest with us today when he assured us that he will never take any orders from Salt Lake City? Or was he once again just saying what he felt he had to say to get elected?" I'm not sure. Why? Because Mitt is a much stronger Mormon than JFK was a Catholic. Mitt was a very high up in his church, "Stake Leader" I think the term is. Can anyone that deep into the Mormon church honestly say he would ever disobey his "Prophet" in anything? I don't think so.
So, how can we trust Mitt when he says he will never take orders from Salt Lake City?

Of course no one other than Mormons believe their "Prophet" is really a prophet of God. And we all know what great harm has been done in the past by those who have followed the instructions of someone they believed was speaking with God's authority who, of course, really was not doing so. When Jim Jones told his followers to drink the poison Kool-Aid most of them did so willingly. Why? They really believed Jim Jones was God's Prophet and you don't question God's Prophet.

If some very old senile man in Salt Lake City - falsely claiming to be "God's prophet" - tells President Mitt Romney - who believes this guy really is God's prophet - to fire nukes at Russia, Romney, being the good Mormon that he is, just might do it.

With these things in mind, I believe most people now fail to understand the possible very grave danger this country might be in if our president was a "good Mormon."

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Thrykol - 2007/12/07 07:15

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I think our country would be better off with a president who seeks council from an "old senile man" who is trying and succeeding in doing good, than an egotistical rich man trying to turn a buck for himself and his corporations of choice.

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You mean like when Benson was a zombie and "The Brethren" at Temple Square resorted to secretly using a mechanical device to sign his name to documents?

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Dubss - 2007/12/07 08:46

poodledoodledude wrote:

Hutterite wrote:

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amen. yes, imho mormonism is a cult, not christian.

More proof you were wrong Wren.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/07 09:14

Dubss wrote:

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Not at all, old friend. Many Christians I know do not believe that you are cultists. Many do. And many, many LDS talk unknowingly about "Bible Thumpers". ::)

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Dubss - 2007/12/07 09:21

Wren wrote:

Dubss wrote:

poodledoodledude wrote:

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I'd say a majority does.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/07 09:29

You think a majority of LDS talk unknowingly about "Bible Thumpers"? Maybe so.

I think a majority of evangelical Christians do not have the slightest idea what the LDS stand for and are flapping their gums.

The traditional and historical denominations are more liberated when it comes to including the LDS into the Christian community, in my opinion.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by momma - 2007/12/07 13:02

Wren wrote:

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Thank you for your comment Wren. It was thoughtful, respectful and correct.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/07 13:12

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Thank you for your comment Wren. It was thoughtful, respectful and correct.

Your (tips his hat to Dubss) welcome.

I truly believe with yesterday's speech, MR is a serious threat to RG.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by lt.dean - 2007/12/07 13:53

Elder J. Golden Pittakos wrote:

poodledoodledude wrote:

Hutterite wrote:

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Maybe you should look up the definition of cult.

UM yeah, did you read the article?

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by lt.dean - 2007/12/07 13:55

I think you should check facts and look at context. Then you might not get so confused.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by lt.dean - 2007/12/07 13:58

You mean like when Benson was a zombie and "The Brethren" at Temple Square resorted to secretly using a mechanical device to sign his name to documents?

Yes, and every other physically impaired person is somehow less of a person right? He wasn't a zombie; he was old and physically frail. I have one of those documents and I don't think there was any deception for me.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by demcpa - 2007/12/07 16:26

Great News!

The latest Numbers in Iowa according to a brand new Newsweek poll taken 12/5 and 12/6 (the day and night of Mitt's big speech - guess it didn't help much):

Mike Huckabee 39%

Mitt Romney 17%

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/07 18:48

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Those are probably not overall figures but ones exclusively targeting Christian evangelicals.

Let's see what the overall (and the evangelical) figures are early next week.

Several of the evangelicals I talked to today at the college who have been following this story apparently are willing to take a second look at MR.

The reasoning generally went, "I want Huckabee", but if MH can't win, they would rather look at Mitt than the other GOP candidates.

Iowa is going to be so important.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/07 19:52

L Franck wrote:

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Oy VEY!

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/08 05:11

It is very clear that we are in fair greater danger from the thinking of folks like L Franck than we are from Mitt Romney.

How very confused and convoluted was Franck's argument.

Jaye is right. O-vey!

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/08 07:18

DanielHaszard wrote:

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Danny Haszard Jehovah's Witness X 33 years and 3rd generation <http://www.freeminds.org>

Mormonism is not mainstream or normal, and for anyone to think that is totally ridiculous, mormons might want to think they are but their not even close!!

" This is why Mormonism is considered cult-like. The reasons are that Christians believe that certain doctrines are the "orthodox" beliefs, that they are what makes a church Christian or not. Having the name Jesus Christ in the title of one's church does not make it Christian. Using the KJV of the Bible doesn't even make a church Christian. Many cults use the Bible. The teachings that make a church Christian are:

The deity of Christ, that Jesus is the SAME God as God the Father.

The Trinity

The existence of only ONE true God. The teaching that we can become gods is a teaching of the Mormon church but it is not accepted as orthodox doctrine, nor is it taught in the Bible. God Himself said He does not know of any other God: Isaiah 44:8 Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I 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. If God Himself does not know of any other god, then how can we become gods?

Salvation by grace, through faith, completely apart from any works we may do. The Bible teaches that we are saved by grace through faith, and "that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8 and 9. The Mormon church twists the Word of God, teaching that one will be saved by God "after all we can do." This is not a biblical doctrine, and is one more reason that the Mormon church is considered to be cult-like.

Mormonism does not agree with the Bible on these points and is therefore considered to be a cult by orthodox Christians.

By the word "orthodox" I am not referring to the Eastern Orthodox or Greek Orthodox church, but to the word orthodox meaning accepted as being the standard beliefs of the Christian church.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/08 07:36

Mormonism was brought about by occult methods, and Satan is behind those things also!

Occultic and Masonic Influence in Early Mormonism

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The evidence of Joseph Smith's close connection to occultism and Freemasonry, and how this influenced the origin and development of the LDS Church is not well known outside of scholarly circles. This article summarizes the evidence for Joseph's personal involvement in both Freemasonry and occultism, and their influence on the Mormon religion.

Mormonism's Link to Occultism

Both Joseph Smith and his father were involved in the occult practice known as "money digging." This involved special rituals and ceremonies which were performed for the purpose of obtaining buried treasure thought to be guarded by evil spirits. Accounts of money digging during the late 1700s and early 1800s are documented in Alan Taylor's article "Treasure Seeking in the American Northeast, 1780-1830", published in *American Quarterly*, 38, pp. 6-34. This article specifically mentions Joseph Smith, Sr., and Jr., on pages 10-12, giving examples of their money digging activities. LDS seminary teacher Grant Palmer also documents the Smith family's occult beliefs and practices, as well as those of their close associates, in his book *An Insider's View of Mormon Origins*, (SLC, Signature Books, 2002, pp. 175-195).

Joseph's Involvement in Occultism. Joseph Smith, Jr.'s role in the quest for treasure was especially important since he had a seer stone. Joseph would place this small, special rock in his hat then pull the hat up to his face to block out all light. By doing this he claimed he could see supernaturally, and would help those who were digging by locating the place where the treasure was buried and observing the spirits that were guarding it. Joseph Jr., himself admitted to being a money digger, though he said it was never very profitable for him (*History of the Church*, V. 3, p. 29). He and his father's money digging continued until at least 1826. On March 20th of that year Joseph was arrested, brought before a judge, and charged with being a "glass-looker" and a disorderly person. The laws at that time had what was known as the "Vagrant Act." It defined a disorderly person as one who pretended to have skill in the areas of palmistry, telling fortunes or discovering where lost goods might be found. According to court records Justice Neely determined that Joseph was guilty, though no penalty was administered, quite possibly because this was a first offense (*Inventing Mormonism*, Marquardt and Walters, SLC: Signature Books, 1994, pp. 74-75).

Occultism and the Start of Mormonism. Shortly after this Joseph discontinued money digging but kept his seer stone. It was with the seer stone that he claimed to both find the plates and later produce the Book of Mormon. This was known by early converts but has since been replaced with later accounts of an angelic visitor. This transition was aided by downplaying the fact that Moroni was a dead Indian warrior, and by referring to him as an angel. Former BYU professor and historian D. Michael Quinn writes:

During this period from 1827 to 1830, Joseph Smith abandoned the company of his former money-digging associates, but continued to use for religious purposes the brown seer stone he had previously employed in the treasure quest. His most intensive and productive use of the seer stone was in the translation of the Book of Mormon. But he also dictated several revelations to his associates through the stone (*Early Mormonism and the Magic World View*, D. Michael Quinn, Signature Books, SLC, 1987, p. 143).

This fact is supported by LDS author Richard S. Van Wagoner who found,

This stone, still retained by the First Presidency of the LDS Church, was the vehicle through which the golden plates were discovered and the medium through which their interpretation came (Sidney Rigdon: *A Portrait of Religious Excess*, Signature Books, SLC, 1994, p. 57).

Thus we see that historians have documented a continuity between Joseph's early occultic practices and the origins of Mormonism. This link extends to the development of the LDS Temple ceremony.

Occultic Parallels in the LDS Temple Ceremony. Historian D. Michael Quinn has done extensive research on rites and ancient mysteries related to occultism. He states,

By drawing only on authorized descriptions of the endowment by LDS leaders, I believe it is possible to see within historical context how the Mormon endowment reflected the ancient and occult mysteries far closer than Freemasonry (Early Mormonism and the Magic World View, p. 186).

Quinn then outlines the following ten essential characteristics common to both occult rituals and the Mormon Temple ceremonies:

- * They are revealed by God from the beginning, but distorted through apostasy.
- * They place an emphasis on the worthiness of initiates.
- * They include washings and anointings, a new name and garments
- * They emphasize vows of non-disclosure.
- * There are both "lesser" and "greater" rituals.
- * They feature presentation of the ritual through drama.
- * They contain an oath of chastity requiring strict purity and virtue of the participants.
- * They feature prominent use of the sun, moon and stars as key symbols.
- * The purpose of the ritual is to assist mortals to attain to godhood.
- * They employ titles and offices of prophets, priests and kings to those in leadership.

.....

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/08 07:50

Grizz, I have a solution for you.

Don't be a Mormon.

Go fishing and have some fun.

.....

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/08 08:04

Wren wrote:

Grizz, I have a solution for you.

Don't be a Mormon.

Go fishing and have some fun.

I,m not a Mormon anymore, I was for 48 years of my life, I sent my exit letter in and I have had confirmation that I am no longer on their book's...lol..(RIGHT)!

But if Jesus call's them wolves, but not just wolves, but "ravenous" wolves, and Peter confirms it in acts, and when God repeats himself, we had better pay close attention, so then don't you think we should point out the wolves? If not then I don't Know what to tell you!

Matt.7

15 Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheeps clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Acts 20

29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/08 08:40

OK, you have "pointed" them out.

Go fishing, watch a video, be nice to your spouse (go buy her something).

Enjoy your day.

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Aldebaran - 2007/12/08 12:51

The following link should clear this up:

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Pittakos - 2007/12/08 12:58

Wren wrote:

Grizz, I have a solution for you.

Don't be a Mormon.

Go fishing and have some fun.

Good call, Wren!

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/08 13:08

Aldebaran wrote:

The following link should clear this up:

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

"b. What clothes, colors, hairstyles the person wears
There is heavy emphasis on "modest clothing", especially enforced on the youth."

So if you think that people shouldn't dress like trash, you're a cult?

"c. What food the person eats, drinks, adopts, and rejects
No alcohol, tobacco, coffee, or tea."

So if you think that it is best people not develop liver problems, cancer, or attention/sleep disorders, you're a cult?

"4. Need to report thoughts, feelings and activities to superiors
All "major sins" must be confessed to the Bishop (lay-clergy ward leader)."

Look out Catholics, you're in a cult!

"a. Books, articles, newspapers, magazines, TV, radio
The command to not watch R-rated movies is followed by most of the members most of the time, with a few exceptions for movies with redeeming moral qualities, such as Saving Private Ryan, Schindler's List, and more recently, The Passion of the Christ."

So not filling your brain with smut makes you a cultist?

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Death_and_Taxes - 2007/12/08 14:29

tinkling symbols and sounding brass,

Grizz you attack a religion based on your understanding of the bible. yet you fail to acknowledge any of the fruits of the labors of its people including Joseph smith.

James outlines what true religion is - "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Regardless of whether mormons are classified as a cult or not, the true followers of Christ (be they mormon or not) will be seen by God through their works

Christ outlines this clearly-

Matt 7: 16-20

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. 8)

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/08 15:22

Wren wrote:

Grizz, I have a solution for you.

Don't be a Mormon.

Go fishing and have some fun.

Thank you Wren...and A-FLIPPETY-MEN on THAT!! ;D

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/08 15:27

Grizz wrote:

Wren wrote:

Grizz, I have a solution for you.

Don't be a Mormon.

Go fishing and have some fun.

I,m not a Mormon anymore, I was for 48 years of my life, I sent my exit letter in and I have had confirmation that I am no longer on their book's...lol..(RIGHT)!

But if Jesus call's them wolves, but not just wolves, but "ravenous" wolves, and Peter confirms it in acts, and when God repeats himself, we had better pay close attention, so then don't you think we should point out the wolves? If not then I don't Know what to tell you!

Matt.7

15 Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheeps clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Acts 20

29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

.

Really? Jesus called Mormons wolves?

As far as I know...Mormons didn't exist at the time. What Jesus was probably referring to, IMPO...of course... was undoubtedly the fact that with His death...people would start changing doctrines He taught in order to better suit their own purposes.

These changes in doctrine began shortly after His disciples set up Churches in various areas, and left the converts to their own devices.

It is not up to you to point out who YOU consider to be wolves Grizz. It IS up to you to concern yourself with your OWN progress in life...and your OWN adherence to His teachings.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/08 15:28

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

The following link should clear this up:

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

"b. What clothes, colors, hairstyles the person wears
There is heavy emphasis on "modest clothing", especially enforced on the youth."

So if you think that people shouldn't dress like trash, you're a cult?

"c. What food the person eats, drinks, adopts, and rejects
No alcohol, tobacco, coffee, or tea."

So if you think that it is best people not develop liver problems, cancer, or attention/sleep disorders, you're a cult?

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All "major sins" must be confessed to the Bishop (lay-clergy ward leader)."

Look out Catholics, you're in a cult!

"a. Books, articles, newspapers, magazines, TV, radio
The command to not watch R-rated movies is followed by most of the members most of the time, with a few exceptions for movies with redeeming moral qualities, such as Saving Private Ryan, Schindler's List, and more recently, The Passion of the Christ."

So not filling your brain with smut makes you a cultist?

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Thank you P.V., wise words of advice for ALL to heed.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/08 17:22

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. Cool

Those are the Sheep's clothing, Mormons point to how good they are, and say look at what we do around the world, But what they are pointing to are the outer garments(SHEEPS CLOTHING). But when you uncover the sheeps clothing you find Joseph Smith's evil Doctrine of God, and that is what will destroy peoples souls!

.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/08 18:43

Grizz wrote:

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. Cool

Those are the Sheep's clothing, Mormons point to how good they are, and say look at what we do around the world, But what they are pointing to are the outer garments(SHEEPS CLOTHING). But when you uncover the sheeps clothing you find Joseph Smith's evil Doctrine of God, and that is what will destroy peoples souls!

.

B.S.

The Lord said that a man might be known by his words and his actions...much as a good tree is known by it's good fruits...and a corrupt tree is known by it's corrupt fruits.

"Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

When John informed Jesus that he and the other disciples had seen a man casting out devils in His name, and the man was not one of the followers of Christ, and they had forbidden him to continue...what did Jesus say?

"Forbid Him NOT; for there is no man which shall do a miracle in My name, that can lightly speak evil of me.

For he that is not against us...is with us on our part.

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in My name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

You worry too much about what the LDS people believe...and far too little about following the admonitions of your Savior.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by rolandkayser - 2007/12/08 18:43

A cult is any religion that does not have political power. First century Christianity was a cult. By the fifth century, Christians had achieved political power and were no longer a cult. Nineteenth century Mormons were a cult, today, at least in the west, they have political power and are no longer considered a cult. Hindus might be considered a cult in the U.S., but certainly not in India.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Aldebaran - 2007/12/08 23:15

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Your are setting up a straw man with your critique of the analysis. If you had read the entire article (which I assume you did), then you know that not any one thing on that list classifies a group as a cult.

Cults exhort a high degree of control over it's members Physical Behavior, access to Information (which may be critical or contrary to the organization), Thoughts & Emotions.

Reading that analysis you will see that the Mormon church DOES INDEED exhibit many cult-like qualities, and thus a good arguement could be made that the LDS church is a cult.

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>
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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by demcpa - 2007/12/08 23:48

Romney says that his candidacy for the presidency is a test of our religious tolerance ...

Would he vote for a Witch or a Satan worshipper to prove his "religious tolerance."

If he would not, why does he criticize those who refuse to consider voting for him because of his religion? Many see Mormonism as not much different from the two "religions" mentioned above.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 06:01

Jaye wrote:

Grizz wrote:

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. Cool

Those are the Sheep's clothing, Mormons point to how good they are, and say look at what we do around the world, But what they are pointing to are the outer garments(SHEEPS CLOTHING). But when you uncover the sheeps clothing you find Joseph Smith's evil Doctrine of God, and that is what will destroy peoples souls!

B.S.

The Lord said that a man might be known by his words and his actions...much as a good tree is known by it's good fruits...and a corrupt tree is known by it's corrupt fruits.

"Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

When John informed Jesus that he and the other disciples had seen a man casting out devils in His name, and the man was not one of the followers of Christ, and they had forbidden him to continue...what did Jesus say?

"Forbid Him NOT; for there is no man which shall do a miracle in My name, that can lightly speak evil of me.

For he that is not against us...is with us on our part.

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in My name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

You worry too much about what the LDS people believe...and far too little about following the admonitions of your Savior.

What the Bible says about Jesus vs. what Mormonism says about Jesus:

The Bible

He is the virgin-born Son of God, conceived by the Holy Ghost (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35).

Mormonism

Jesus "was born in the same personal, real and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father" (Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, pp. 547, 742).

"When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten Him in His own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family (Adam)" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. I, p. 50).

Christ had a "unique status in the flesh as the offspring of a mortal mother and of an immortal or resurrected and glorified Father (Adam)" (James Talmage, Articles of Faith, p. 473).

The Bible

Satan is a created - and fallen - angel (Isaiah 14:12).

Mormonism

"Lucifer - this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind" (Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy, The Gospel Through the Ages, p. 15).

The Bible

Jesus did not marry.

Mormonism

"Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana - We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into relation whereby he could see his seed" (Orson Hyde, apostle, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 2, p. 82).

The Bible

Jesus is the foundation of the true church (Matthew 16:18; Acts 4:11-12; Colossians 1:18).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith: "I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him, but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet" (History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 408-9).

The Bible

Jesus is the judge of all (John 5:22).

Mormonism

"No man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith Every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, Junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p. 289).

The Bible

Jesus is the one who resurrects all (John 5:28-29).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith will receive the keys of the resurrection. "If we ask who will stand at the head of the resurrection in this last dispensation, the answer is - Joseph Smith, Junior, the Prophet of God. He is the man who will be resurrected and receive the keys of the resurrection, and he will seal this authority upon others, and they will hunt up their friends and resurrect them" (Brigham Young, Discourses of Brigham Young, p. 116).

The Bible

Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the Creator, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and Holy Spirit (John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-13).

Mormonism

A "council of the Gods" created the world. "In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it In all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods" (Joseph Smith, History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 308, 474).

No, the mormon fruit is the sheep's clothing!

Covering the ravenous wolf (Mormon Doctrine)!

.

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/09 06:11

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Your are setting up a straw man with your critique of the analysis. If you had read the entire article (which I assume you did), then you know that not any one thing on that list classifies a group as a cult.

Cults exhort a high degree of control over it's members Physical Behavior, access to Information (which may be critical or contrary to the organization), Thoughts & Emotions.

Reading that analysis you will see that the Mormon church DOES INDEED exhibit many cult-like qualities, and thus a good arguement could be made that the LDS church is a cult.

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

Reading the analysis would lead me to believe that all organised religions are a cult, if those are the defining factors. Are you prepared to say that?

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/09 06:48

Family organizations have cultic features if one believes the principle of the article.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/09 06:50

Wren wrote:

Family organizations have cultic features if one believes the principle of the article.

A very good point, Wren. I should have picked that up as well.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 07:05

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Your are setting up a straw man with your critique of the analysis. If you had read the entire article (which I assume you did), then you know that not any one thing on that list classifies a group as a cult.

Cults exhort a high degree of control over it's members Physical Behavior, access to Information (which may be critical or contrary to the organization), Thoughts & Emotions.

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<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

Reading the analysis would lead me to believe that all organised religions are a cult, if those are the defining factors. Are you prepared to say that?

With a more Biblical perspective, in 1938 Jan Van Baalens' "The Chaos of Cults" critiqued Theosophy, Mormonism, Christian Science, and Jehovah's Witnesses as 'Cults.' Because they were aberrant in their teachings while claiming to be Christian.

There are two categories of cults, non-Christian and Christian cults. The Christian cult claims to have the truth of Christ and salvation but they deny one or more of the core doctrines of the Christian faith. To simplify an identification of a Christian cult it would be noticeable in several categories. Who is Jesus, the way of salvation, what is your final source of authority and how they relate to others. They want to call themselves Christian without adhering to the tenets of the historic "doctrinal" faith. They change the major core teachings to mean something other than they are defined in the Bible and by the history of the church. The cults do not agree with the historic (Biblical) Christian faith.

A THEOLOGICAL DEFINITION OF "CULT" MUST BE BASED ON A STANDARD OF CHRISTIAN ORTHODOXY. USING THE BIBLE'S TEACHING AS A FOCAL POINT. A CULT IS ANY RELIGIOUS GROUP THAT CLAIMS TO BE CHRISTIAN (OR MAY NOT BE) IS DISTINCT AND HAS DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES THAT CONTRADICT THOSE OF THE SCRIPTURES AS INTERPRETED BY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY. THOSE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN UPHOLD IN HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY .

ORTHODOXY IS REPRESENTED FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH, AND IS EXPRESSED IN STATEMENTS SUCH AS THE APOSTLES CREED WHICH ARE DENIED . THEY WILL DENY THE BIBLE AS THE COMPLETE BOOK OF REVELATION AND OUR GUIDE TO KNOWING GOD. THEY WILL DISTORT THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE SCRIPTURES AS CHRIST BEING THE SAVIOR ALONE. THEY WILL DENY HIS DEITY AND DISTORT HIS NATURE. THEY FORM THEIR GROUP AROUND A SINGLE PERSONS INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE, OR CHRIST USUALLY BY A NEW REVELATION. THEY REMOVE THEMSELVES FROM THE LARGER BODY AND OPERATE AUTONOMOUSLY. A CULT IS ORGANIZED HERESY. THEY WILL DISTORT ONE OR MORE OF THE FUNDAMENTALS.

" a group of people gathered about a specific persons interpretation of the bible... from a theological view point, the cults contain not only a few major deviations from historic Christianity. They paradoxically, they continue to insist that they are entitled to be classified as Christians."

a group religious in nature which surrounds a leader, or a group which either denies or misinterprets essential biblical doctrines.

.....

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Death_and_Taxes - 2007/12/09 08:33

Grizz wrote:

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. Cool

Those are the Sheep's clothing, Mormons point to how good they are, and say look at what we do around the world, But what they are pointing to are the outer garments(SHEEPS CLOTHING). But when you uncover the sheeps clothing you find Joseph Smith's evil Doctrine of God, and that is what will destroy peoples souls!

Oh no the conspiracy theory of an alter ego personality hidden under every Mormon's underwear! ahhhhhh!

Get real!

Read Matt 7:16-20 again. maybe when you read the bible you should see it through the eyes of Christ who said to love your neighbor as yourself. if Mormons are "wolves in sheep's clothing" than I am sure God will be the judge of that. I guess that will require a bit more faith on your part.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Death_and_Taxes - 2007/12/09 08:43

Grizz wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

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BODY AND OPERATE AUTONOMOUSLY. A CULT IS ORGANIZED HERESY. THEY WILL DISTORT ONE OR MORE OF THE FUNDAMENTALS.

" a group of people gathered about a specific persons interpretation of the bible... from a theological view point, the cults contain not only a few major deviations from historic Christianity. They paradoxically, they continue to insist that they are entitled to be classified as Christians."

a group religious in nature which surrounds a leader, or a group which either denies or misinterprets essential biblical doctrines.

Point out one doctrine that you believe in that is found in the bible that is different than Mormonism and I will show you how you have altered the teachings. second traditional orthodox Christianity cannot even claim authority was given to them by Christ to create their own church's or to interpret the bible Amos 3:7 says that God will do nothing but reveal his secrets unto his servants the prophets. third the only church besides Mormonism that can trace authority is the Roman catholic church. Fourth I am sure that if you sat you down in the same room as someone else in orthodox Christianity, that is in a different sect than you are in, you would find disagreements in your interpretations of the bible which would further discredit that silly statement by Jan Van Baalens. by the way who left him in charge of classifying anyone as a cult. did he get is authority from God or men, or maybe it was the devil.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/09 08:57

There is no one orthodoxy, gang, only living unto Christ.

Try it.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Death_and_Taxes - 2007/12/09 09:31

Grizz wrote:

What the Bible says about Jesus vs. what Mormonism says about Jesus:

The Bible

He is the virgin-born Son of God, conceived by the Holy Ghost (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35).

Mormonism

Jesus "was born in the same personal, real and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father" (Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, pp. 547, 742).

"When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten Him in His own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family (Adam)" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. I, p. 50).

Christ had a "unique status in the flesh as the offspring of a mortal mother and of an immortal or resurrected and glorified Father (Adam)" (James Talmage, Articles of Faith, p. 473).

ah yes reviewing statements that were meant for a certain context and then altered by you to fit into a prism. Read Luke 1:31-35 you will find that there is no contradiction.

second I can't believe any of your quotes that you have taken from Brigham Young's journal because first of all they are taken way out of context by you Mormon haters all the time.

third James Talmage's statement doesn't go against Luke 1:31-35

Lastly the idea that she concieved by the holy ghost is misunderstanding of what it says in luke 1:31-35 because the holy ghost is said to come upon her and the power of the highest (meaning God the Father) shall overshadow her. Now if we were to follow what orthodox christianity says about the trinity it wouldn't matter because all three of them are the same.

so big deal.

The Bible

Satan is a created - and fallen - angel (Isaiah 14:12).

Mormonism

"Lucifer - this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind" (Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy, The Gospel Through the Ages, p. 15).

Mormons believe what has been written in Isaiah there is no contradiction at all we just have more information of why he is fallen!!

The Bible

Jesus did not marry.

Mormonism

"Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana - We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into relation whereby he could see his seed" (Orson Hyde, apostle, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 2, p. 82).

First of all the bible doesn't say that Christ did not marry, the bible in fact doesn't say anything about that. so you still got nothing.

The Bible

Jesus is the foundation of the true church (Matthew 16:18; Acts 4:11-12; Colossians 1:18).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith: "I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him, but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet" (History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 408-9).

And was he so wrong in asserting such a statement. It is true that the followers of Christ were either all killed off or they fell away from Christ's true teachings which is very true seeing your ignorance. The LDS church still stands strong today, but beyond that if they didn't fall away then there is only one church out there that still has Christ's authority and that is the Roman Catholic church not some other Podunk church.

The Bible

Jesus is the judge of all (John 5:22).

Mormonism

"No man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith Every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, Junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p. 289).

And if Joe Smith is a true prophet which I believe he is than that would be no different than any other prophet that has lived that will approve of those that have listened and followed what is taught. that statement doesn't take away from that fact that we will be judged of christ it only adds more to our understanding of how judgment day works. Any prophet who has ever been called of christ will be called upon by christ to account for his work and those that listened, I am sure that as in any trial that we see, witnesses will be called.

The Bible

Jesus is the one who resurrects all (John 5:28-29).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith will receive the keys of the resurrection. "If we ask who will stand at the head of the resurrection in this last dispensation, the answer is - Joseph Smith, Junior, the Prophet of God. He is the man who will be resurrected and receive the keys of the resurrection, and he will seal this authority upon others, and they will hunt up their friends and resurrect them" (Brigham Young, Discourses of Brigham Young, p. 116).

First of all don't paraphrase scriptures because there is a lot of meaning that you missed in John 5:28-29. Second, so who is going to resurrect Joe smith? I mean seriously it even specifies in the quote that Joseph will be at the head of this dispensation (maybe you don't know what that word means) it doesn't say the head of the others. It is plainly clear that Christ will head the entire resurrection, and therefore stand at the head of Joseph and all the other prophets who assisted in his work.

The Bible

Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the Creator, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and Holy Spirit (John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-13).

Mormonism

A "council of the Gods" created the world. "In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it. In all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods" (Joseph Smith, History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 308, 474).

And anyone that has Genesis 3 can remember when Adam partook of the fruit this is what God said
Verse 22-23

"And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken."

"BEHOLD THE MAN IS BECOME AS ONE OF US"

I hope you sincerely read the Book of Mormon again with a sincere heart and pray and ask God for the truth instead of kicking against the pricks.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Wren - 2007/12/09 09:49

Why do you TBMs don't believe the literal words of Brigham Young? They are not taken out of context. He preached some time doctrines, did he not?

Now, just because Grizz doesn't like Mormons and Mormonism, doesn't mean than he has taken anything out of context: not on your say so. You have to prove it, give counterfactual evidence then the stupid "you hate us!" nonsense. So grow up, and deal with it.

Now, do I believe that Grizz understand the gosepl of Jesus Christ anymore than the TBMs do. Not by a long shot. But I expect of you groups to stay with the evidence.

I will show the missionaries your post when they come over for dinner in a bit.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Aldebaran - 2007/12/09 13:54

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Your are setting up a straw man with your critique of the analysis. If you had read the entire article (which I assume you did), then you know that not any one thing on that list classifies a group as a cult.

Cults exhort a high degree of control over it's members Physical Behavior, access to Information (which may be critical or contrary to the organization), Thoughts & Emotions.

Reading that analysis you will see that the Mormon church DOES INDEED exhibit many cult-like qualities, and thus a good arguement could be made that the LDS church is a cult.

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

Reading the analysis would lead me to believe that all organised religions are a cult, if those are the defining factors. Are you prepared to say that?

Absolutely not. I would say however that all religious have at least some cult-like properties.

Mormonism compared to most other mainstream religions is much more extreme in it's control of it's members, in fact I would say it's pretty close to Scientology in that regard.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/09 14:11

Aldebaran wrote:

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I would have to give the more extreme in control award to the Witnesses, personally.

I'm not Mormon. I don't even believe in God. I just don't see why someone would want to try to connect a word that is very derogative to something that clearly makes millions of people happy. And is that not what religion should be about, finding happiness and a personal relationship with the god of your choice?

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 14:11

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I will point out the contradictions in your scriptures, and explain them if you can...lol!

One God

Book of Mormon

- * Alma 11:27-39, 44
- * 2 Nephi 31:21
- * Mormon 7:7
- * 3 Nephi 11:27
- * Testimony of Three Witnesses

Plural Gods

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 121:32
- * Section 132:18-20, 37

God is a Spirit

Book of Mormon

- * Alma 18:26-28
- * Alma 22:8-11

God Has a Body

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 130:22

God Dwells in Heart

Book of Mormon

- * Alma 34:36

God Does Not Dwell in Heart

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 130:3

Creation - One God

Book of Mormon

- * 2 Nephi 2:14
- * Jacob 4:9

Pearl of Great Price

Book of Moses

- * Chapter 2

Creation - Plural Gods

Pearl of Great Price

Book of Abraham

- * Chapter 4
- * Chapter 5

God Cannot Lie

Book of Mormon

- * Ether 3:12
- * 2 Nephi 9:34

God Commands Lying

Pearl of Great Price

Book of Abraham

* Chapter 2:22-25

God's Word Unchangeable
Book of Mormon
* Alma 41:8

God's Word Can Change
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 56:4-5

No Pre-Existence of Man
Book of Mormon
* Jacob 4:9
* Alma 18:28, 34-36

Man Pre-Existed
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 93:23, 29-33
Pearl of Great Price
Book of Abraham
* Chapter 3:18, 21-23

Death Seals Man's Fate
Book of Mormon
* Mosiah 2:36-39
* Alma 34:32-35

Chance After Death
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 76:106-112
* Section 88:99

Heathen Saved Without Baptism
Book of Mormon
* Moroni 8:22-23
* 2 Nephi 9:25-26
* Mosiah 15:24-27

Baptism for Dead
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 128:5, 17-18

Heaven or Hell
Book of Mormon
* 2 Nephi 28:22
* 1 Nephi 15:35
* Mosiah 16:11
* Mosiah 27:31
* Alma 41:4-8
* Alma 42:16

Three Kingdoms in Heaven - Most Saved
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 76:43, 70-112

Murder Can Be Forgiven
Book of Mormon
* 3 Nephi 30:2

No Forgiveness For Murder
Doctrine and Covenants
* Section 42:18

Polygamy Condemned

Book of Mormon

- * Jacob 1:15
- * Jacob 2:24
- * Jacob 3:5
- * Mosiah 11:2

Polygamy Commanded

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 132:1, 37-39, 61

Against Paid Ministry

Book of Mormon

- * 2 Nephi 26:31

For Paid Ministry

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 42:71-73
- * Section 43:12-13
- * Section 51:13-14

Corrupt Churches Promise Forgiveness For Money

Book of Mormon

- * Mormon 8:32

Church Members Who Tithe Will Not Burn

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 64:23

Adam in America

Doctrine and Covenants

- * Section 107:53
- * Section 116:1
- * Section 117:8

Adam in Old World

Pearl of Great Price

- * Book of Moses 3:8, 10-15

Your own Scriptures contradict each other, That is why it's not of God and your Sheeps clothing are your Good Works, But the Doctrine Joseph Smith taught is the Wolf!

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=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/09 14:25

Ok Grizz, I know you are probably a troll of some type, and I shouldn't respond, but you ARE aware that the bible is also full of contradictions and inconsistencies, right?

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by theTruth - 2007/12/09 14:40

Perfect Violation wrote:

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In relation to cults though, the bible is accepted by Billions, where the lds faith and scriptures only millions, a sort of inherent part of cults is they are a much smaller populous than the main stream hence bible and its religions are mainstream, lds (and others) are cults. This is simple the thinking of some in our country.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 14:45

Perfect Violation wrote:

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Nope! God does not contradict himself...I suggest you study up on that, and not Just let somebody tell you it contradicts itself!

http://www.inplainsite.org/html/alleged_bible_contradictions.html

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/09 14:54

theTruth wrote:

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So at some point, the masses would not have believed in the bible. Doesn't that mean that Christianity started as a cult?

Again, I'm not trying to defend one religion or another. It is only my wish that we learn to be tolerant of eachother, and accept that people can have different beliefs and lifestyles and still celebrate the things that make them similar.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 14:58

Death_and_Taxes wrote:

Grizz wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

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Reading that analysis you will see that the Mormon church DOES INDEED exhibit many cult-like qualities, and thus a good argument could be made that the LDS church is a cult.

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Reading the analysis would lead me to believe that all organised religions are a cult, if those are the defining factors. Are you prepared to say that?

With a more Biblical perspective, in 1938 Jan Van Baalens' "The Chaos of Cults" critiqued Theosophy, Mormonism, Christian Science, and Jehovah's Witnesses as 'Cults.' Because they were aberrant in their teachings while claiming to be Christian.

There are two categories of cults, non-Christian and Christian cults. The Christian cult claims to have the truth of Christ and salvation but they deny one or more of the core doctrines of the Christian faith. To simplify an identification of a Christian cult it would be noticeable in several categories. Who is Jesus, the way of salvation, what is your final source of authority and how they relate to others. They want to call themselves Christian without adhering to the tenets of the historic "doctrinal" faith. They change the major core teachings to mean something other than they are defined in the Bible and by the history of the church. The cults do not agree with the historic (Biblical) Christian faith.

A THEOLOGICAL DEFINITION OF "CULT" MUST BE BASED ON A STANDARD OF CHRISTIAN ORTHODOXY. USING THE BIBLE'S TEACHING AS A FOCAL POINT. A CULT IS ANY RELIGIOUS GROUP THAT CLAIMS TO BE CHRISTIAN (OR MAY NOT BE) IS DISTINCT AND HAS DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES THAT CONTRADICT THOSE OF THE SCRIPTURES AS INTERPRETED BY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY. THOSE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN UPHOLD IN HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY .

ORTHODOXY IS REPRESENTED FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH, AND IS EXPRESSED IN STATEMENTS SUCH AS THE APOSTLES CREED WHICH ARE DENIED . THEY WILL DENY THE BIBLE AS THE COMPLETE BOOK OF REVELATION AND OUR GUIDE TO KNOWING GOD. THEY WILL DISTORT THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE SCRIPTURES AS CHRIST BEING THE SAVIOR ALONE. THEY WILL DENY HIS DEITY AND DISTORT HIS NATURE. THEY FORM THEIR GROUP AROUND A SINGLE PERSONS INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE, OR CHRIST USUALLY BY A NEW REVELATION. THEY REMOVE THEMSELVES FROM THE LARGER BODY AND OPERATE AUTONOMOUSLY. A CULT IS ORGANIZED HERESY. THEY WILL DISTORT ONE OR MORE OF THE FUNDAMENTALS.

" a group of people gathered about a specific persons interpretation of the bible... from a theological view point, the cults contain not only a few major deviations from historic Christianity. They paradoxically, they continue to insist that they are entitled to be classified as Christians."

a group religious in nature which surrounds a leader, or a group which either denies or misinterprets essential biblical doctrines.

Point out one doctrine that you believe in that is found in the bible that is different than Mormonism and I will show you

how you have altered the teachings. second traditional orthodox Christianity cannot even claim authority was given to them by Christ to create their own church's or to interpret the bible Amos 3:7 says that God will do nothing but reveal his secrets unto his servants the prophets. third the only church besides Mormonism that can trace authority is the Roman catholic church. Fourth I am sure that if you sat you down in the same room as someone else in orthodox Christianity, that is in a different sect than you are in, you would find disagreements in your interpretations of the bible which would further discredit that silly statement by Jan Van Baalens. by the way who left him in charge of classifying anyone as a cult. did he get is authority from God or men, or maybe it was the devil.

There can be disagreements on certain doctrines between christian denominations, but not on the core doctrines of saving faith, or in other word's the Gospel(GOOD NEWS)!

"Central doctrines" of the Christian faith are those doctrines that make the Christian faith Christian and not something else.

1. The meaning of the expression "Christian faith" is not like a wax nose, which can be twisted to mean whatever the speaker wants it to mean.

2. The Christian faith is a definite system of beliefs with definite content (Jude 3)

3. Certain Christian doctrines constitute the core of the faith. Central doctrines include the Trinity, the deity of Christ, the bodily resurrection, the atoning work of Christ on the cross, and salvation by grace through faith. These doctrines so comprise the essence of the Christian faith that to remove any of them is to make the belief system non-Christian.

4. Scripture teaches that the beliefs mentioned above are of central importance (e.g., Matt. 28:19; John 8:24; 1 Cor. 15; Eph. 2:8-10).

5. Because these central doctrines define the character of Christianity, one cannot be saved and deny these.

6. Central doctrines should not be confused with peripheral issues, about which Christians may legitimately disagree.

Peripheral (i.e. non-essential) doctrines include such issues as the timing of the tribulation, the method of baptism, or the structure of church government. For example, one can be wrong about the identity of "the spirits in prison" (1 Peter 3:19) or about the timing of the rapture and still go to heaven, but one cannot deny salvation by grace or the deity of Christ (John 8:24) and be saved.

7. All Christian denominations " whether Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, or Protestant " agree on the essential core. The relatively minor disagreements between genuinely Christian denominations, then, cannot be used to argue that there is no objectively recognized core of fundamental doctrine which constitutes the Christian faith.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Grizz - 2007/12/09 15:18

Question: "What is the church?"

Answer: Many people today understand the church as a building. This is not the Biblical understanding of the church. The word church comes from the Greek word "Ecclesia" which is defined as "an assembly, or called out ones. The root meaning of church is not that of a building, but of people. It is ironic that when you ask people what church they attend they usually say Baptist, Methodist, or another denomination. Many times they are referring to a denomination or a building. Read Romans 16:5: "also greet the church that is in their house..." Paul refers to the church in their house, not a church building, but a body of believers.

The church is the Body of Christ. Ephesians 1:22-23 says, "And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." The Body of Christ is made up of all believers from the time of Pentecost until the Rapture. The Body of Christ is comprised of two aspects:

(1) The universal church is the church that consists of all those who have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:13 says, "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many." We see that anyone

who believes is part of the body of Christ. The true church of God is not any particular church building or denomination. The universal church of God is all those who have received salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

(2) The local church is described in Galatians 1:1-2, "Paul, an apostle and all the brethren who are with me, to the churches of Galatia." Here we see that in the province of Galatia there were many churches - what we call a local church. A Baptist church, Lutheran church, Catholic church, etc. is not THE church, as in the universal church " but rather is a local church. The universal church is comprised of those who have trusted in Christ for salvation. These members of the universal church should seek fellowship and edification in a local church.

In summary, the church is not a building, or a denomination. According to the Bible, the church is the Body of Christ - all those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:13). There are members of the universal church (the Body of Christ) in local churches.

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by m1026j - 2007/12/09 23:11

I think the mark of one who is truly spiritual, and confident that they know the truth regarding their spirituality has no cause for defensiveness, name-calling, or any kind of action yielded to such unspiritual emotion. But rather, looking intently at the conversation from all angles, one ought to seek the truth, as truth will always prove itself to be true.

One thing that people I know on both sides of this argument say (if I may be so bold as to speak for them) is that there is such a thing as truth. Not wishy-washy "what's truth to me may not be truth to you", but honest- to-goodness absolute truth.

We could all have such a debate regarding gravity or any of the laws of physics, but the fact remains, the truth of these absolute truths will prove true.

Anyone with overwhelming emotion that gravity does not exist because this is what they have always been told will defeat the search for truth long before it has begun, unless they can approach it with some separation from their emotion and really seek.

So begs the question: what is the truth?

Now, please understand that I don't mean to trivialize the search for spiritual truth and I know that my analogy is simplistic given the means for testing ideas, but my question is: Have you investigated the passages, the ideas put forth?

Is your own idea or belief predicated upon what another has taught you, your own world view, your belief about certain scriptures.... Have you investigated for yourself these beliefs- not only from the proofs alleged by those who have already formed an opinion, but also from other sources?

Does true spirituality deserve anything less?

Are you prepared to come to grips with and adjust your belief system according to what you find?

Do you truly believe that the end of your life will come and you will be able to say, "Well, I was taught....."?

So, I ask again:
What is the truth?

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Aldebaran - 2007/12/10 01:12

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm not Mormon. I don't even believe in God. I just don't see why someone would want to try to connect a word that is

very derogative to something that clearly makes millions of people happy. And is that not what religion should be about, finding happiness and a personal relationship with the god of your choice?

Your statement "I just don't see why someone would want to try to connect a word that is very derogative to something that clearly makes millions of people happy" intrigues me. I heard Tom Cruise on TV say that exact same thing in response to a critic of Scientology. The damage Scientology has done to it's member's & their families are legendary, go ahead & google it.

Your statement implies that in spite of the church's cult-like properties it makes people happy and causes no problems.

I know many, personally, who's families have been destroyed. Scientology & the Jehova's Witnesses have an official "disconnect" policy (a policy which instructs members to cut off contact with anyone who speaks ill of their church).

The church does not have such a policy, but it might as well. For example, the church teaches that you can't get to the Celestial Kingdom without being sealed to a worthy spouse. What happens if one partner in a marriage chooses to no longer be Mormon?

The believing spouse's eternal salvation is directly affected, the "eternal family" is now threatened. Can you imagine the sort of phobia-response illicited in a true believer facing that? I personally wonder how many marriages have been destroyed by missionary activity -- where one spouse is converted and the other isn't. Suddenly the non-believing spouse is inadequate & insufficient.

There are many more instances, all the direct result of a cult-like control of member's behavior, information, thoughts, emotions, that can cause serious problems such as these.

In light of recent studies showing Utah to have the highest per-capita rate of depression, a good case could be made it is in large part the result of the Church's overwhelming demands & impossible standards. The social pressure is intense, especially in Utah.

I agree, religion is supposed to make people happy, improve their lives, bring peace & tranquility. Each individual needs to assess if their religion, when it's all added up, gives them that net-benefit. The problem with cult-control is it strips the individual of that freedom, it's a mental trap with the illusion of free-will & choice.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/10 06:33

Aldebaran wrote:

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sigh Why is Tom Cruise always stealing my lines? heh. Anyway, I will look in to the scientology thing.

I understand your opinion on the alleged cult control. I do. But I have always seen LDS families as generally happy ones, save for the few teens I met along the way who didn't want to be LDS but were. I am certainly no expert on the religion, but happiness and togetherness is what I see. That's what I would not want to degrade.

Any religion can be called a cult IMO. Some dudes wrote a book, called it a bible, claimed it to be holy, and now billions of people follow its words. Cultish? Yes. But as silly as their actions seem to me, I would never want to take away the feeling they get from said actions.

Tolerance, it really isn't that hard. :)

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Just Reading - 2007/12/10 08:03

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

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The believing spouse's eternal salvation is directly affected, the "eternal family" is now threatened. Can you imagine the sort of phobia-response illicited in a true believer facing that? I personally wonder how many marriages have been destroyed by missionary activity -- where one spouse is converted and the other isn't. Suddenly the non-believing spouse is inadequate & insufficient.

There are many more instances, all the direct result of a cult-like control of member's behavior, information, thoughts, emotions, that can cause serious problems such as these.

In light of recent studies showing Utah to have the highest per-capita rate of depression, a good case could be made it is in large part the result of the Church's overwhelming demands & impossible standards. The social pressure is intense, especially in Utah.

I agree, religion is supposed to make people happy, improve their lives, bring peace & tranquility. Each individual needs to assess if their religion, when it's all added up, gives them that net-benefit. The problem with cult-control is it strips the individual of that freedom, it's a mental trap with the illusion of free-will & choice.

sigh Why is Tom Cruise always stealing my lines? heh. Anyway, I will look in to the scientology thing.

I understand your opinion on the alleged cult control. I do. But I have always seen LDS families as generally happy ones, save for the few teens I met along the way who didn't want to be LDS but were. I am certainly no expert on the religion, but happiness and togetherness is what I see. That's what I would not want to degrade.

Any religion can be called a cult IMO. Some dudes wrote a book, called it a bible, claimed it to be holy, and now billions of people follow its words. Cultish? Yes. But as silly as their actions seem to me, I would never want to take away the feeling they get from said actions.

Tolerance, it really isn't that hard. :)

"No" but it seems reality is!!!!

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by m1026j - 2007/12/11 08:53

True happiness comes through relationship, intimacy, with the person of Jesus Christ, not any religion or place called a "church". Not even family can bring true happiness, as people are bound to fail other people *gasp* at any given time.

True peace comes when one realizes that God cares so much for them that he bit his lip and sent his baby boy to suffer agonizing pain (though, willingly he suffered) because he knew that it was only way people could know true forgiveness of sin and rest.

True joy is in the knowledge that Romans 8:1 describes unconditional acceptance and love for those found in Christ Jesus, and John 15:15 says that they are his friends.

True love is the found in deep gratitude that I can love Christ because he first loved me (1 John 4:19), filthy as I was in my sin he loved me, and he loved me even before I cared about who he was (Romans 5:8). It is in the words of Psalm 139 (my favorite) that tells me I was known intimately, and loved before the foundations of the earth, that God wants me to walk in a beautiful plan for my life, and that his thoughts toward me are so numerous that they outnumber the grains of sand on the beach.

True wisdom and understanding comes in knowing that God IS good and kind (Ephesians 2:4-5) and trustworthy with my heart.

True security is knowing that those found in Christ will never have that position, happiness, love, peace, and joy threatened (2 Corinthians 1:22) no matter what happens in their ever-changing life. :)

Ah, yes, true happiness is in Christ Jesus and him alone.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Pittakos - 2007/12/11 12:10

Darn right, Mormonism is a Cult!

Webster's Dictionary:

Main Entry:

cult

Pronunciation:

?k?lt

Function:

noun

Usage:

often attributive

Etymology:

French & Latin; French culte, from Latin cultus care, adoration, from colere to cultivate " more at wheel

Date:

1617

1: formal religious veneration : worship

2: a system of religious beliefs and ritual; also : its body of adherents

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/11 13:11

Grizz wrote:

Jaye wrote:

Grizz wrote:

And who can deny that the fruits the Joe Smith brought forth was good? Look at the good that the LDS church has done for the world can you deny that? Grow up grizz and all you haters. Cool

Those are the Sheep's clothing, Mormons point to how good they are, and say look at what we do around the world, But what they are pointing to are the outer garments(SHEEPS CLOTHING). But when you uncover the sheeps clothing you find Joseph Smith's evil Doctrine of God, and that is what will destroy peoples souls!

B.S.

The Lord said that a man might be known by his words and his actions...much as a good tree is known by it's good fruits...and a corrupt tree is known by it's corrupt fruits.

"Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

When John informed Jesus that he and the other disciples had seen a man casting out devils in His name, and the man was not one of the followers of Christ, and they had forbidden him to continue...what did Jesus say?

"Forbid Him NOT; for there is no man which shall do a miracle in My name, that can lightly speak evil of me.

For he that is not against us...is with us on our part.

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in My name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

You worry too much about what the LDS people believe...and far too little about following the admonitions of your Savior.

,

What the Bible says about Jesus vs. what Mormonism says about Jesus:

The Bible

He is the virgin-born Son of God, conceived by the Holy Ghost (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35).

Mormonism

Jesus "was born in the same personal, real and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father" (Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, pp. 547, 742).

"When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten Him in His own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family (Adam)" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. I, p. 50).

Christ had a "unique status in the flesh as the offspring of a mortal mother and of an immortal or resurrected and glorified Father (Adam)" (James Talmage, Articles of Faith, p. 473).

The Bible

Satan is a created - and fallen - angel (Isaiah 14:12).

Mormonism

"Lucifer - this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind" (Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy, The Gospel Through the Ages, p. 15).

The Bible

Jesus did not marry.

Mormonism

"Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana - We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into relation whereby he could see his seed" (Orson Hyde, apostle, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 2, p. 82).

The Bible

Jesus is the foundation of the true church (Matthew 16:18; Acts 4:11-12; Colossians 1:18).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith: "I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him, but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet" (History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 408-9).

The Bible

Jesus is the judge of all (John 5:22).

Mormonism

"No man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith Every man and woman must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, Junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are" (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, p. 289).

The Bible

Jesus is the one who resurrects all (John 5:28-29).

Mormonism

Joseph Smith will receive the keys of the resurrection. "If we ask who will stand at the head of the resurrection in this last dispensation, the answer is - Joseph Smith, Junior, the Prophet of God. He is the man who will be resurrected and receive the keys of the resurrection, and he will seal this authority upon others, and they will hunt up their friends and resurrect them" (Brigham Young, Discourses of Brigham Young, p. 116).

The Bible

Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the Creator, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and Holy Spirit (John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-13).

Mormonism

A "council of the Gods" created the world. "In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it In all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods" (Joseph Smith, History of the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 308, 474).

No, the mormon fruit is the sheep's clothing!

Covering the ravenous wolf (Mormon Doctrine)

B.S., B.S., and of course...B.S.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/11 13:13

Wren wrote:

There is no one orthodoxy, gang, only living unto Christ.

Try it.

Thank you Wren...I concur.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/11 13:15

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm sorry, but this Mormon=Cult thing is just plain stupid. People need to stop being so ignorant, and start learning to be accepting of other beliefs.

Your are setting up a straw man with your critique of the analysis. If you had read the entire article (which I assume you did), then you know that not any one thing on that list classifies a group as a cult.

Cults exhort a high degree of control over it's members Physical Behavior, access to Information (which may be critical or contrary to the organization), Thoughts & Emotions.

Reading that analysis you will see that the Mormon church DOES INDEED exhibit many cult-like qualities, and thus a good arguement could be made that the LDS church is a cult.

<http://www.rationalrevelation.com/library/bite.html>

Reading the analysis would lead me to believe that all organised religions are a cult, if those are the defining factors. Are you prepared to say that?

Absolutely not. I would say however that all religious have at least some cult-like properties.

Mormonism compared to most other mainstream religions is much more extreme in it's control of it's members, in fact I would say it's pretty close to Scientology in that regard.

B.S., B.S., and of course...B.S.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/11 13:17

theTruth wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

Ok Grizz, I know you are probably a troll of some type, and I shouldn't respond, but you ARE aware that the bible is also full of contradictions and inconsistencies, right?

In relation to cults though, the bible is accepted by Billions, where the lds faith and scriptures only millions, a sort of inherent part of cults is they are a much smaller populous than the main stream hence bible and its religions are mainstream, lds (and others) are cults. This is simple the thinking of some in our country.

In other words...the beliefs of the majority rules where correctness is concerned.

Correct-a-MUNDO!

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by JLD - 2007/12/11 13:24

L Franck wrote:

I believe there is a very real danger here that most of you have failed to consider. Bear with me on this.

Mormons believe that God now authoritatively speaks through a man (Gordon B. Hinckley, the current 97 year old head of the LDS church) who they consider to be a modern day "Prophet" of God. Mormons are told that their "Prophet" is actually infallible - at least when he claims to be speaking in his "Prophet" capacity. And that to disobey their "Prophet" is to disobey God.

The leaders of most Christian denominations - other than Roman Catholics and those which are commonly called "cults" - do not claim to possess this kind of God given authority.

That's one reason why Kennedy had to give his "Catholic speech" - to promise that he would not take any orders from the Pope, a man who many Catholics would never consider disobeying. In doing so JFK proved he was not a very good Catholic. Because if he believed that the Pope really spoke from God he would certainly always obey the Pope.

Mitt Romney is well known as a man who will say almost anything to get elected. His flip flops make John Kerry look like a novice. So we have to ask ourselves, "Was Mitt really being honest with us today when he assured us that he will never take any orders from Salt Lake City? Or was he once again just saying what he felt he had to say to get elected?" I'm not sure. Why? Because Mitt is a much stronger Mormon than JFK was a Catholic. Mitt was a very high up in his church, "Stake Leader" I think the term is. Can anyone that deep into the Mormon church honestly say he would ever disobey his "Prophet" in anything? I don't think so.

So, how can we trust Mitt when he says he will never take orders from Salt Lake City?

Of course no one other than Mormons believe their "Prophet" is really a prophet of God. And we all know what great harm has been done in the past by those who have followed the instructions of someone they believed was speaking with God's authority who, of course, really was not doing so. When Jim Jones told his followers to drink the poison Kool-Aid most of them did so willingly. Why? They really believed Jim Jones was God's Prophet and you don't question God's Prophet.

If some very old senile man in Salt Lake City - falsely claiming to be "God's prophet" - tells President Mitt Romney - who believes this guy really is God's prophet - to fire nukes at Russia, Romney, being the good Mormon that he is, just might do it.

With these things in mind, I believe most people now fail to understand the possible very grave danger this country might

be in if our president was a "good Mormon."

::)

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by JLD - 2007/12/11 13:52

Jaye wrote:

Grizz wrote:

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Nice post, thank you Jaye.

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Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Jaye - 2007/12/11 13:56

You're welcome JLD...and thanks right back at'cha for the compliment.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by JLD - 2007/12/11 14:35

Perfect Violation wrote:

Aldebaran wrote:

Perfect Violation wrote:

I'm not Mormon. I don't even believe in God. I just don't see why someone would want to try to connect a word that is very derogative to something that clearly makes millions of people happy. And is that not what religion should be about, finding happiness and a personal relationship with the god of your choice?

Your statement "I just don't see why someone would want to try to connect a word that is very derogative to something that clearly makes millions of people happy" intrigues me. I heard Tom Cruise on TV say that exact same thing in response to a critic of Scientology. The damage Scientology has done to it's member's & their families are legendary, go ahead & google it.

Your statement implies that in spite of the church's cult-like properties it makes people happy and causes no problems.

I know many, personally, who's families have been destroyed. Scientology & the Jehova's Witnesses have an official "disconnect" policy (a policy which instructs members to cut off contact with anyone who speaks ill of their church).

The church does not have such a policy, but it might as well. For example, the church teaches that you can't get to the Celestial Kingdom without being sealed to a worthy spouse. What happens if one partner in a marriage chooses to no longer be Mormon?

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Tolerance, it really isn't that hard. :)

Thank you.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by Perfect Violation - 2007/12/11 14:38

JLD wrote:

Thank you.

No problem. It is my belief that the members of all the many religions can get along if they just accept that it is okay to be different.

=====

Re: IN OUR VIEW: Mormonism is no cult

Posted by JLD - 2007/12/11 14:39

Perfect Violation wrote:

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No problem. It is my belief that the members of all the many religions can get along if they just accept that it is okay to be different.

Agreed.

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