

1: Salvation Through Jesus Christ & Answering What is Salvation?

the feast when the Magi visited Jesus and that celebrates the mystery of Christ's manifestation as Savior of all the world.

That is the truth, and is fundamental. Upon that our faith is built. It is my duty to. I travel up and down in this country as one of His special witnesses. On July 18, , he sent a letter to his sons Douglas and Milton, who were serving as full-time missionaries. He loved me with a perfect love, as he has done for all men, especially those who serve him, and I must love him with all the love I can, even if it is imperfect, which it should not be. I did not live in the days of our Savior; he has not come to me in person. I have not beheld him. His Father and he have not felt it necessary to grant me such a great blessing as this. But it is not necessary. I have felt his presence. I know that the Holy Spirit has enlightened my mind and revealed him unto me, so that I do love my Redeemer, I hope, and feel it is true, better than everything else in this life. I would not have it otherwise. I want to be true to him. I know he died for me, for you and all mankind that we might live again through the resurrection. I know that he died that I might be forgiven my follies, my sins, and be cleansed from them. How wonderful is this love. How can I, knowing this, do anything else but love him, my Redeemer. I want my boys in the mission fields to feel this same way. I want my children and my grandchildren to feel that way, and never stray from the path of truth and righteousness. I hesitated to break the silence, but finally he spoke. Oh, if you could have heard them testify of their love for their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! May I say, as plainly and as forcefully as I can, that we believe in Christ. We accept him without reservation as the Son of God and the Savior of the world. We believe with perfect surety that Christ came to ransom men from the temporal and spiritual death brought into the world by the fall of Adam and that he took upon himself the sins of all men on condition of repentance. Our Savior did not have a mortal Father and therefore death was subject to him. He had power to lay down his life and to take it again [see John It is through the atonement of Jesus Christ that we receive eternal life, through the resurrection of the dead and obedience to the principles of the gospel. We know that He has risen from the dead, that He has ascended on high, taking captivity captive [see Psalm Latter-day Saints are not left in doubt regarding these things. We accept him as the Only Begotten of the Father in the flesh, the only one who has dwelt in the flesh who had a Father who was immortal. Because of his birthright and the conditions surrounding his coming to the earth, he became the Redeemer of men; and through the shedding of his blood we are privileged to return into the presence of our Father, on conditions of our repentance and acceptance of the great plan of redemption of which he is the author. Our Father in heaven is the Father of Jesus Christ, both in the spirit and in the flesh. Our Savior is the Firstborn in the spirit, the Only Begotten in the flesh. The simple truth is that he is the Son of God by birth, both in the spirit and in the flesh. He is the Father because of the work that he has performed. In the wonderful instruction given by King Benjamin we find this: Because of his divine authority and sacrifice on the cross, we become spiritually begotten sons and daughters, and he is our Father. Each week at the sacrament service, as we are commanded to do, we take upon us his name always to remember him and that is what the Nephites covenanted to do. We accept Jesus as the Redeemer of the world. We know that He revealed Himself in this dispensation. We are not dependent upon the testimonies of ancient worthies, who lived in His day and conversed with Him in His ministry, and to whom He appeared after His resurrection. We have witnesses who have lived in our own day, who have seen Him, who knew that He lives and have testified to us and to the world of this fact. We know their testimonies are true. Joseph Smith was not left alone to bear witness in this dispensation of the mission of Jesus Christ, for the Lord raised up other witnesses who, with the Prophet Joseph Smith, saw the Redeemer, received instruction from Him and beheld Him in the heavens sitting on the right hand side of the Father surrounded by holy angels. They have given us their testimony which shall stand against the world to condemn all those who heed it not. But neither are we dependent as members of the Church upon the testimonies of Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Sidney Rigdon or any others now dead, who in this dispensation received wonderful revelations and visions from the Lord by which they knew that Jesus lives and is the Redeemer of the world. We have an individual testimony given through the Spirit of the Lord to all who have lived in accordance with the Gospel. If we have been in harmony with the truth after having been

baptized for the remission of our sins, and confirmed by the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord has revealed unto us individually that these things are true. We are not dependent upon the testimony of anyone else for this knowledge for we know through the Spirit that Jesus is the Christ, the Redeemer of the world. That is a truth that cannot be changed. Men may attack it; they may ridicule it; they may declare that he is not the Redeemer of the world, that his mission was not true, or that its purpose, through the shedding of his blood, was not to grant unto all men the remission of sins on condition of their repentance. They may refuse to believe in the resurrection from the dead, or even that Christ himself came forth, as the Scriptures declare, after he had been put to death by his enemies; nevertheless the truth remains. He did die for the sins of the world, he did bring to pass redemption from death, he did grant unto men the opportunity of repentance, and remission of sins through their belief and acceptance of the principles of the gospel, and of his mission. These truths are fundamental, they shall endure; they cannot be destroyed no matter what men may say or think. The greatest example ever set for men was that of the Son of God himself. His life was perfect. I shall give you an illustration from his life. He taught the people how to pray and then said: And as I have prayed among you even so shall ye pray in my church, among my people who do repent and are baptized in my name. Behold I am the light; I have set an example for you. Behold I am the light which ye shall hold up—that which ye have seen me do. We must be baptized as he was baptized. We must worship the Father as he did. We must do the will of the Father as he did. We must seek to do good and work righteousness as he did. He is our Exemplar, the great Prototype of salvation. You can feel the joy of his presence and have his inspiration to guide you each day of your lives if you will seek it and live worthy of it. To certain Nephite disciples who had followed him with full purpose of heart he said: This is my desire. I hope it is yours. In what ways can this truth influence our personal lives? In what ways can it influence our homes? In what ways do the teachings in section 2 help you understand your relationship to the Savior? What does it mean to you to take the name of Christ upon yourself? President Smith warned that some people will attack and ridicule truths about Jesus Christ and His Atonement see section 3. How can we fortify our testimonies so we can withstand such challenges? How can parents help children fortify their testimonies? What are some specific ways we can pattern our lives after the life of Jesus Christ? When we follow His example, how might we influence the lives of others? Related Scriptures John Personal correspondence, quoted in Doctrines of Salvation, ed. In Conference Report, Apr. Personal correspondence, quoted in Doctrines of Salvation, 1: His Origin and Destiny , In Conference Report, Oct.

2: Chapter 2: Our Savior, Jesus Christ

Learn jesus christ source our salvation chapter 3 with free interactive flashcards. Choose from different sets of jesus christ source our salvation chapter 3 flashcards on Quizlet.

Michael Bradley As you will see in the very powerful verses I will be listing in this article “ Jesus Christ, and His sacrificial death on the cross, is the central and most important fundamental, basic tenet of the Christian faith. The Bible specifically says, without any other possible interpretation, that there is only one God, one faith, one baptism, and one way to God the Father ” and that is only through His Son Jesus Christ and His sacrificial death on the cross. Jesus says that He, and only He, is the way, the truth, and the life leading to God the Father and that no one comes to the Father except through Him! Many people, including some Christians, believe that God the Father honors all other religions as long as people try to live a good and godly life and try to stay out of trouble. However, as you will see in the Scripture verses I will list below, this is not the way God the Father has everything set up. God will not honor any other religion, and He makes it very clear that it is only through His Son Jesus and His sacrificial death on the cross that will give people eternal salvation and thus eternal life with Him in heaven. The Bible says that we are appointed for the defense of the gospel. It is our job, when called upon, to defend God and Jesus on the basics of our salvation. Here are two verses specifically telling us this: These verses are the basic ammunition that you will need when witnessing to anyone. Here they are, along with all of the Scripture verses to back them up. God the Father will not honor any other name, religion or faith! Please note the extreme power and authority on the first four verses listed below. These first four verses specifically tell us, without any other possible interpretation, that Jesus Christ is the only way to be able to receive eternal salvation with God the Father. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and find pasture “ I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. He who has the Son has life; He who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I do not think God the Father could have made things any more clear than by the way He has worded all of the above Scripture verses! Jesus Himself said in the New Testament that He did not come to bring peace “ but division! What He means by this is that He is drawing a major battle line in the sand. You either believe in Him and everything that He stands for “ or you do not. There are no middle or neutral grounds on this issue. If you choose not to believe in Jesus Christ and His message of eternal salvation through His death on the cross, then you will die in your sins and go straight to hell when you die “ no if, and, or buts about it! The life that we are living down here on this earth is serious business! The choices that we make in this life will determine our ultimate fate in the afterlife. Choose Jesus Christ and the blood that He has personally shed for you on the cross “ and you will then become saved and born again “ and you will then enter into the most incredible place imaginable when you die “ heaven itself! Choose anyone or anything else, and you will cross over into the most horrible place imaginable when you die “ hell itself, and then eventually into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone after the Millennium has taken place, where the Bible says that the smoke of your torment will ascend forever and ever! God Desires All Men to be Saved God has given each man and each woman a free will to make their own choices in this life. The next 3 verses will show us that God does not want anyone to perish. Here are three very powerful verses showing that God wants all men and all women to be saved through the Blood of His Son Jesus. He is not making any exceptions either by race, color, creed, or gender. The Bible also tells us that God the Father is no respecter of persons, which means He loves each man and each woman equally and unconditionally. We Are Saved by Grace Through Faith “ Not Works The gift of eternal salvation is a free gift given by God to all those who will believe on Jesus and what His death on the cross really means for all of us. These next 3 verses will specifically tell us that good works will not get us

into heaven. Works are needed after salvation. After you get saved, God has a plan and a purpose for your life, and this is where you will go to work for God into whatever your calling is going to be in Him. But to initially receive the gift of eternal salvation from God the Father is simply done by having faith and belief in Jesus Christ and what He personally did for you with His death on the cross. Here are the verses: The Bible says that there are none that are righteous before the eyes of God the Father. As a result, none of our fleshly works, no matter how good we think they may be, will ever be good enough to get us into heaven or back into the good graces of our Lord and Savior. The righteousness of Jesus has now been imputed to us. This means that we are now free to approach the throne of God for intimate prayer and communication, and when we die, we will all go straight to heaven. Even though we will continue to commit sin from time to time, God will always forgive us as long as we properly confess each sin when it does happen. We will never become totally sinless or perfect. No one will ever become the fourth person of the Holy Trinity. Humans and angels are not! The Bible says that all men have sinned and will continue to sin, and thus will fall way short of the glory of our God. That is why Jesus had to come and die for all of our sins – which will include all of the past sins that we have ever committed, all of the present sins we are now committing, and all of the future sins that we will ever commit. As a result of Jesus dying on the cross for all of our sins, God the Father now sees all of us as righteous and justified before His very eyes – now and for all of eternity, even though we are all still sinners! Talk about an incredible pardon! Here are two very powerful verses showing us that we have now all been made perfectly righteous and perfectly justified before God the Father as a result of Jesus dying on the cross for all of our sins. Much more than, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Righteousness and Redemption – what more could we ask for! Admit that we are sinners, be willing to confess our sins before God, and be willing to repent and turn from those sins. Be willing to accept the fact that Jesus Christ came to our earth in the flesh to die on the cross for all of our sins, that He rose from the dead on the third day, and then be willing to formally accept Him as your personal Lord and Savior. This acceptance of Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior must be confessed out loud before God the Father. It does not have to be done in a church. This can happen to anyone at anytime at any place. Here are three specific verses showing all of the above points. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation. This means just saying a good, basic, salvation prayer out loud direct to God the Father from your heart. Below is a good, basic, salvation prayer to give to someone who wants to get saved by accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Either title will work. Basic Salvation Prayer Say the following prayer out loud, believe it from your heart, and you will be saved. Dear Father, I now believe that Jesus Christ is Your only begotten Son, that He came down to our earth in the flesh and died on the cross to take away all of my sins and the sins of this world. I believe that Jesus Christ then rose from the dead on the third day to give all of us eternal life. Lord Jesus, I now confess to You all of the wrong and sinful things I have ever done in my life. I ask that You please forgive Me and wash away all of my sins by the blood that You have personally shed for me on the cross. I am now ready to accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I now ask that You come into my life and live with Me for all of eternity. Father, Jesus – I now believe that I am truly saved and born again. Become a Fisherman for God All of the above are what I call the basics to understanding what eternal salvation through Jesus Christ is really all about. I will be doing other articles on what it really means to be born again, as this comes off the story of Adam and Eve. To lead someone into eternal salvation through Jesus Christ is really a work of the Holy Spirit. I will show you how God the Father will set people up, and why every Christian needs to be open and sensitive to letting God, through the Holy Spirit, direct you as to who you should witness to and exactly how to go about it. Now that you are saved, God wants you to become a fisherman for Him. All of the above Scripture verses will give you major, live, ammunition to use when trying to get someone saved. The Holy Spirit will really move on someone if you stay with His leadings as to when to witness to that someone and exactly how to go about it. According to the Bible, the greatest thing we can accomplish in this life is to get another person saved and brought home to the Lord – because with the gift of eternal salvation comes the gift of eternal life – which means that when we die, we will be able to enter into heaven to be with God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, all of Their angels, and all of our saved loved ones who have passed away and are now living in heaven. To bring a

person into that incredible reality after they die is the greatest thing you can do for another human being! It is the ultimate superman scenario. You are literally saving their eternal life. I do not believe there is any other accomplishment that will bring about as much fulfillment as this one act will do. I will leave you with 16 very good verses from the Bible showing you the extreme importance on God being able to use each and every one of us to get other people saved in this life. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, and exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. I will speak of Your testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed. They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness. God the Father has made it as clear as He possibly could with the way that He has worded all of the above Scripture verses. There is no other way into the Kingdom of God! I rest my case for my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

3: Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation | Curriculum Resources for Catholic Educators

Name _____ Date _____ *Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation Chapter 3 Class work B 1. Matching Please put the letter of the word or phrase that best fits in each space. Iven though the word or the first word in a phrase may begin a sentence, it may not be capitalized.*

Feminine of a derivative of soter as noun; rescue or safety. All, the whole, every kind of. Including all the forms of declension; apparently a primary word; all, any, every, the whole. The, the definite article. Including the feminine he, and the neuter in all their inflections; the definite article; the. From hupo and akouo; to hear under, i. To listen attentively; by implication, to heed or conform to a command or authority. He, she, it, they, them, same. From the particle au; the reflexive pronoun self, used of the third person, and of the other persons. The thought of this verse and the last is closely analogous to Hebrews 2: The transition from the obedience manifested by our Lord to that which must be rendered by all who seek from Him salvation, strikingly recalls Hebrews 5: He presents to all the model of the obedience to be rendered to Him, and through Him to the Father. On the connection of "salvation" with His priesthood, see the Note on Hebrews 7: Pulpit Commentary Verses 9, The word may be used in its general sense of perfected, i. In such sense St. Or the specific sense of priestly consecration may be here, as well as in Hebrews 2: So also Hammond and Whitby. Being thus perfected, or consecrated, he became, for ever afterwards, the Author, not of mere ceremonial cleansing or temporary remission of guilt, but of eternal salvation; potentially to all mankind cf. If it be objected that his high priesthood must have begun before the Resurrection for his death upon the cross to be a true atonement, it may be replied that his one oblation of himself upon the cross at once consummated his consecration and effected the atonement. Doubtless, as a true High Priest on earth, he thus "offered one sacrifice for sins for ever" Hebrews Matthew Henry Commentary 5: This shows that man had sinned. For God would not suffer sinful man to come to him alone. But every one is welcome to God, that comes to him by this High Priest; and as we value acceptance with God, and pardon, we must apply by faith to this our great High Priest Christ Jesus, who can intercede for those that are out of the way of truth, duty, and happiness; one who has tenderness to lead them back from the by-paths of error, sin, and misery. Those only can expect assistance from God, and acceptance with him, and his presence and blessing on them and their services, that are called of God. This is applied to Christ. In the days of his flesh, Christ made himself subject to death: Christ set an example, not only to pray, but to be fervent in prayer. How many dry prayers, how few wetted with tears, do we offer up to God! He was strengthened to support the immense weight of suffering laid upon him. There is no real deliverance from death but to be carried through it. He was raised and exalted, and to him was given the power of saving all sinners to the uttermost, who come unto God through him. Christ has left us an example that we should learn humble obedience to the will of God, by all our afflictions. We need affliction, to teach us submission. His obedience in our nature encourages our attempts to obey, and for us to expect support and comfort under all the temptations and sufferings to which we are exposed. Being made perfect for this great work, he is become the Author of eternal salvation to all that obey him. But are we of that number?

4: Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation by Michael Pennock on Apple Books

Classroom Resources > Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation. Product Details & Purchase Information Pontius Pilate Judges Jesus; Chapter 5: What Wondrous Love Is.

We look to Him as the only source of our salvation. I was reared in a home by faithful parents who earnestly believed in and testified of Christ, for which I am most grateful. It shaped his priorities, guided his decisions, and helped him through trials. It provided perspective on the purpose of mortality and confidence in the promises and blessings of eternal life. During his apostolic ministry as a special witness of Jesus Christ, President Benson frequently bore testimony of the Savior. We strive to live His teachings, and we look forward to the time that He shall come again on this earth to rule and reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Those names have a particular significance in describing His divine nature. He is close to His servants on this earth. He cares about and loves each of us today. Of that you can be assured. No other single influence has had so great an impact on this earth as the life of Jesus the Christ. We cannot conceive of our lives without His teachings. Without Him we would be lost in a mirage of beliefs and worships born in fear and darkness where the sensual and materialistic hold sway. We are far short of the goal He set for us, but we must never lose sight of it, nor must we forget that our great climb toward the light, toward perfection, would not be possible except for His teaching, His life, His death, and His resurrection. He came with a foreknowledge that He would bear the burden of the sins of us all. He knew he would be lifted up on the cross. He was born to be the Savior and Redeemer of all mankind. He was willing to accomplish His mission because He loves us. No mortal being had the power or capability to redeem all other mortals from their lost and fallen condition, nor could any other voluntarily forfeit his life and thereby bring to pass a universal resurrection for all other mortals. Only Jesus Christ was able and willing to accomplish such a redeeming act of love. Combined in His nature were the human attributes of His mortal mother and the divine attributes and powers of His Eternal Father. As the Son of God, He inherited powers and intelligence which no human ever had before or since. That holy, unselfish act of voluntarily taking on Himself the sins of all other men is the Atonement. How One could bear the sins for all is beyond the comprehension of mortal man. But this I know: He did take on Himself the sins of all and did so out of His infinite love for each of us. In spite of that excruciating ordeal, He took the cup and drank. He suffered the pains of all men so we would not have to suffer. He endured the humiliation and insults of His persecutors without complaint or retaliation. He bore the flogging and then the ignominy of the brutal execution—the cross. It was the greatest single act of love in recorded history. Then followed His death and resurrection. Thus He became our Redeemer—redeeming all of us from physical death, and redeeming those of us from spiritual death who will obey the laws and ordinances of the gospel. Everything He did was prompted by His unselfish, infinite love for us. The greatest events of history are those that affect the greatest number of people for the longest periods. By this standard, no event could be more important to individuals or nations than the resurrection of the Master. The literal resurrection of every soul who has lived and died on earth is a certainty, and surely one should make careful preparation for this event. A glorious resurrection should be the goal of every man and woman, for resurrection will be a reality. Nothing is more absolutely universal than the resurrection. Every living being will be resurrected. The stone was rolled back from the door of the tomb. He is not here, but is risen. Nothing in history equals that dramatic announcement: He is a resurrected Being. He is our Savior, our Lord, the very Son of God. I testify that He will come again as our glorified, resurrected Lord. That day is not far distant. To all who accept Him as Savior and Lord, His literal resurrection means that life does not end at death, for He promised: And so on the third day following His burial, He came forth from the tomb alive and showed Himself to many. He lives with a resurrected body. There is no truth or fact of which I am more assured or more confident than the truth of the literal resurrection of our Lord. A most priceless blessing available to every member of the Church is a testimony of the divinity of Jesus Christ and His church. A testimony is one of the few possessions we may take with us when we leave this life. To have a testimony of Jesus is to possess knowledge through the Holy Ghost of the divine mission of Jesus Christ. A testimony of Jesus is to know that He was the promised

Messiah and that while He sojourned among men He accomplished many mighty miracles. A testimony of Jesus is to know that the laws which He prescribed as His doctrine are true and then to abide by these laws and ordinances. To possess a testimony of Jesus is to know that He voluntarily took upon Himself the sins of all mankind in the Garden of Gethsemane, which caused Him to suffer in both body and spirit and to bleed from every pore. All this He did so that we would not have to suffer if we would repent. To possess a testimony of Jesus is to know that He came forth triumphantly from the grave with a physical, resurrected body. And because He lives, so shall all mankind. To possess a testimony of Jesus is to know that God the Father and Jesus Christ did indeed appear to the Prophet Joseph Smith to establish a new dispensation of His gospel so that salvation may be preached to all nations before He comes. Having such a testimony is vital. But of even greater importance is being valiant in our testimony. A testimony of Jesus means that we accept the divine mission of Jesus Christ, embrace His gospel, and do His works. It also means we accept the prophetic mission of Joseph Smith and his successors and follow their counsel. Speaking of those who will eventually receive the blessings of the celestial kingdom, the Lord said to Joseph Smith: The fundamental principle of our religion is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Why is it expedient that we center our confidence, our hope, and our trust in one solitary figure? Why is faith in Him so necessary to peace of mind in this life and hope in the world to come? Our answers to these questions determine whether we face the future with courage, hope, and optimism or with apprehension, anxiety, and pessimism. My message and testimony is this: Only Jesus Christ is uniquely qualified to provide that hope, that confidence, and that strength we need to overcome the world and rise above our human failings. To do so, we must place our faith in Him and live by His laws and teachings. It is more than professing belief. Faith in Jesus Christ consists of complete reliance on Him. As God, He has infinite power, intelligence, and love. There is no human problem beyond His capacity to solve. Faith in Him means believing that even though we do not understand all things, He does. Faith in Him means trusting that He has all power over all men and all nations. There is no evil which He cannot arrest. All things are in His hands. This earth is His rightful dominion. Yet He permits evil so that we can make choices between good and evil. His gospel is the perfect prescription for all human problems and social ills. But His gospel is only effective as it is applied in our lives. Unless we do His teachings, we do not demonstrate faith in Him. Think what a different world this would be if all mankind would do as He said: In short, we are to learn the will of the Lord and do it. We are to follow the model of Jesus Christ and be like Him. The essential question of life should be the same one posed by Paul: The greatest yardstick of success is to see how closely we can walk each moment in His steps. Christ both lived and died for us. Through His atonement and by walking in His steps, we can gain the greatest gift of all—eternal life, which is that kind of life of the great Eternal One—our Father in Heaven. That [person] is greatest and most blessed and joyful whose life most closely approaches the pattern of the Christ. This has nothing to do with earthly wealth, power, or prestige. The only true test of greatness, blessedness, joyfulness is how close a life can come to being like the Master, Jesus Christ. He is the right way, the full truth, and the abundant life. The answer to that question comes only through the Light of Christ and the Holy Ghost. Fortunate are those who so live that their being is filled with both.

5: Jesus Christ-Our Salvation Crossword

Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation. Crossword Puzzle (Large), Chapter 3 (Large).

No other single influence has had so great an impact on this earth as the life of Jesus the Christ. We cannot conceive of our lives without His teachings. Without Him we would be lost in a mirage of beliefs and worships born in fear and darkness where the sensual and materialistic hold sway. We are far short of the goal He set for us, but we must never lose sight of it, nor must we forget that our great climb toward the light, toward perfection, would not be possible except for His teaching, His life, His death, and His resurrection. These are nice words. They sound good, especially to someone who wants Mormonism to be true. But what the manual fails to show is that Jesus is, according to Mormonism, the first-born son of God the Father in the First Estate, called the preexistence. This view is completely contrary to what is taught in the Bible. One of the more offensive attributes designated to the Jesus of Mormonism is the claim that He is the spirit-brother of Lucifer. Hunter wrote, The appointment of Jesus to be the Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God. He was called Lucifer, son of the morning. Haughty, ambitious, and covetous of power and glory, this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind. The Gospel through the Ages, Mormon educator Jess L. On first hearing, the doctrine that Lucifer and our Lord, Jesus Christ, are brothers may seem surprising to some, especially to those unacquainted with latter-day revelations. But both the scriptures and the prophets affirm that Jesus Christ and Lucifer are indeed offspring of our Heavenly Father and, therefore, spirit brothers. Both Jesus and Lucifer were strong leaders with great knowledge and influence. Answers to Difficult Gospel Questions, "Verses 16"17 show that Christ created all things and that He is before all things, holding them together. Just as a person can look into the mirror to see a reflection, so too is Jesus the exact image of God. BYU professor Charles R. The Development of Mormon Theology, Lest there be confusion over the term firstborn, it should be pointed out that the Greek word used is not protoktistos meaning first created but rather protokos meaning firstborn. Besides, Jesus and Satan are as opposite as light and darkness. Satan merely tries to imitate an angel of light in order to fool as many people as possible 2 Cor. But Lucifer would have denied us our free agency, the freedom to make decisions. We cannot remember that his plan was not accepted by us because, without choice, there would not have been a purpose for coming to this mortal probation. We would not have had opposition or repentance. We would not have learned obedience. Ensign, May , p. Thus, In this great rebellion, Satan and all the spirits who followed him were sent away from the presence of God and cast down from heaven. They were denied the right to receive mortal bodies. Because we are here on earth and have mortal bodies, we know that we chose to follow Jesus Christ and our Heavenly Father. Such a view of Jesus has never been held by the historic Christian church. To have any measure of appreciation and gratitude for what [Jesus Christ] accomplished in our behalf, we must remember these vital truths: He came with a foreknowledge that He would bear the burden of the sins of us all. He knew he would be lifted up on the cross. He was born to be the Savior and Redeemer of all mankind. He was willing to accomplish His mission because He loves us. No mortal being had the power or capability to redeem all other mortals from their lost and fallen condition, nor could any other voluntarily forfeit his life and thereby bring to pass a universal resurrection for all other mortals. Only Jesus Christ was able and willing to accomplish such a redeeming act of love. Jesus Christ "came to this earth at a fore-appointed time through a royal birthright that preserved His godhood. Combined in His nature were the human attributes of His mortal mother and the divine attributes and powers of His Eternal Father. As the Son of God, He inherited powers and intelligence which no human ever had before or since. Again, without critical analysis, this teaching also seems to be in line with basic Christian theology. Mormon leaders have insisted in a belief of the virgin birth, yet they give a description far removed from that held by Christians throughout the centuries. The teacher might wish to point out that many people in the Christian world want to believe in Jesus, but only as a great human being, only as a great man. They feel uncomfortable about the concept of the miraculous, virgin birth. Yet if this is denied, all of the Atonement must be rejected as well. Now, we are told in scriptures that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God in the flesh. Well, now for the benefit of the older ones, how are

children begotten? I answer just as Jesus Christ was begotten of his father. Jesus is the only person who had our Heavenly Father as the father of his body. The manual included a diagram on page see left that was made for children of LDS parents to better understand what Smith was saying. Yet the concept is clearly understood. Consider other quotes by LDS leaders: McConkie, *The Mortal Messiah 1*: It comes in direct contradiction of Matthew 1: Modern prophets have testified: Brackets and ellipses in original. Since Mormonism teaches that Mary did not have sexual relations with a mortal man but instead was impregnated by an immortal man Elohim, many Latter-day Saints have no qualms about using this phrase. Harrell describes the difficulties with this position when he writes: When one considers how Mormonism teaches that every human born on earth is a literal spiritual child of God, the above quotes become even more disconcerting. Indeed, the Mormon version of the Virgin Birth is a very blasphemous concept when its meaning is grasped. After all, this is what it is saying: If LDS leaders are telling the truth, then we have no other recourse than to assume that the Jesus of Mormonism was created through an incestuous relationship. A Christian who grasps this intended meaning will shudder at the thought of such a teaching. Here are a few other quotes to provide to show that Benson was not alone in his assessment of Jesus qualifying to become the Savior: Hunter, *The Gospel Through the Ages*, p. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, p. It records the visit of the resurrected Lord to the people of ancient America. Just like the quotes regarding the Virgin Birth, these ought to be considered quite blasphemous to anyone who takes the Bible seriously. If you are LDS, please understand why. Jesus and Lucifer are not spirit brothers. Nor are we spirit brothers and sisters of Jesus. The differences are admitted by LDS leaders. For example fifteenth president Gordon B. The traditional Christ of whom they speak is not the Christ of whom I speak. They say we do not believe in the traditional Christ of Christianity. That holy, unselfish act of voluntarily taking on Himself the sins of all other men is the Atonement. Rather, they merely pave the way for Latter-day Saints to walk through the door, but everything else rests on their own backs. A much different picture is evident in biblical Christianity. How One could bear the sins for all is beyond the comprehension of mortal man. But this I know: He did take on Himself the sins of all and did so out of His infinite love for each of us. All of the sins of mankind are not paid through the atonement. In fact, two LDS apostles said that it is necessary for everyone to become a Mormon as well as deny oneself and participate in the temple ordinances. The greater gift of eternal life, however, is conditional. In spite of that excruciating ordeal, He took the cup and drank. He suffered the pains of all men so we would not have to suffer. He endured the humiliation and insults of His persecutors without complaint or retaliation. He bore the flogging and then the ignominy of the brutal execution—the cross. In Gethsemane and on Calvary, [Jesus] worked out the infinite and eternal atonement. It was the greatest single act of love in recorded history. Then followed His death and resurrection. The cross does not play a central role in LDS teaching when the Atonement is considered. Over the years few positive statements have been made about the cross. For example, Apostle Bruce R. McConkie wrote, The sectarian world falsely suppose that the climax of his torture and suffering was on the cross Matt.

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