

## SOME THOUGHTS FROM MATTHEW 24:3-28

JESUS TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES, “DON’T GO; DON’T BELIEVE IT,” WHEN THEY WOULD HEAR ABOUT ATTRACTIVE BUT FALSE “CHRISTS” AND PROPHETS.

CHRISTIANS TODAY CAN BE TEMPTED BY PROPOSALS MADE BY MORMONS AND THEIR PROPHETS—THAT JESUS APPEARED IN NEW YORK IN THE EARLY 1800S TO REESTABLISH HIS CHURCH ON EARTH AFTER IT HAD FAILED MORE THAN A MILLENNIUM EARLIER; THAT NOW IT IS THE ONLY TRUE, FULLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH; THAT WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THEIR MISSIONARIES, FOLLOW THEIR PROPHETS, READ AND PRAY ABOUT THEIR *BOOK OF MORMON*.

WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS SAY ABOUT THE RELIGION OF MORMON PROPHETS?

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### IT’S WRONG FROM BEGINNING TO END

**In the beginning.** The Mormon church teaches: “It is true that Adam helped [his older brother, a premortal Jesus] to form this earth,” possibly assisted by some of his billions of sibling spirits in a premortal world. We were all there when plans were made. This “creation” was really a matter of organizing uncreated, preexisting materials which “had no beginning, and can have no end.” By creating Earth, the spirits made a place where they would be able to face the perils and temptations of mortal life, as their Father and Mother had, an essential step toward godhood. (Creation in official Mormon church materials, for example: page 29, <http://tinyurl.com/hu54rf3>.)

**In the end.** The church says, deceased mortals revert to spirits until resurrection and may continue their progress toward godhood, or eternal life. Those judged to have fallen short, for whatever reason, will have a glorious everlasting existence nonetheless, but not eternal life.

**And in between.** The church urges mortals to strive to realize their divine potential, to become like their Heavenly Parents, not only resurrected physical beings, but gods. The ultimate goal, called eternal life, can be attained only by obeying the laws and ordinances of the “restored gospel” of the Mormon church. Eternal life and other blessings “are earned through a lifetime of striving, seeking, repenting, and finally succeeding,” (Today’s living Mormon prophet, Thomas S. Monson: <http://tinyurl.com/ju6lu5m>. Also see MOQ 23-4 here: <http://tinyurl.com/z8up6th>.)

#### A CHRISTIAN’S SIMPLE REPLY TO MORMONS

I know that through Christ alone, unworthy though I am, I have eternal life. By faith I am at peace with God, have been declared righteous forever, and will receive His best for me now and in eternity. I am now His child and will live in His eternal family forever.

I do not accept the testimony of your prophets and missionaries to the contrary, and will not read your *Book of Mormon* and pray to see if it is true. Jesus warned against seeking or believing new teachings, even when they are similar to the Gospel. I believe the Bible is His word, and it is there that I have found truth and my eternal salvation.

I want you to know Him and His peace, too.