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(Mormon.org - Are Mormons Christians?
By Gordon B. Hinckley)

“We are Christians in a very real sense... we have a very vital and dynamic religion based on the teachings of Jesus.”

GORDON B. HINCKLEY SAID,

WOULD YOU AGREE?

Every true Christian church must base it's doctrines on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

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(Ensign, May 2003, Eternal Marriage,
Elder F. Burton Howard of the Seventy)

“The prophets have uniformly taught that-God's great plan for the blessings of his children is eternal marriage... President Howard W. Hunter described celestial marriage as ‘the crowning gospel ordinance.’”

THE PRINCIPLE OF ETERNAL MARRIAGE

SO, HERE IS MY QUESTION,

Can ‘Eternal Marriage’ be the crowning ordinance of Jesus Christ’s gospel if Jesus never taught it?

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ETERNAL MARRIAGE?

Only **once** did the concept of 'marriage in the afterlife' come up in a conversation with Jesus. Consider the story below.

Matthew 22:23-30.

"The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. And last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her." **STOP HERE - If eternal marriage was the 'crowning ordinance' of Jesus Christ's gospel, how would Jesus have responded to these men?**

JESUS WOULD HAVE ASKED, "Was the woman married to any of her husbands in the temple for time and all eternity?"

Instead... "Jesus answered them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven."

THINK ABOUT IT:

The principle of Eternal Marriage was never taught by Jesus Christ, His Apostles, or any Prophet in the Bible (or in the Book of Mormon). To be a Christian means you follow Jesus and base your beliefs on His teachings.

THE PREEXISTENCE?

According to the LDS Church, "Before we were born on the earth, we lived in the presence of our Heavenly Father as His spirit children." (LDS.org, Pre-earth Life)

JESUS TAUGHT THE OPPOSITE: "Father, ...You loved Me before the foundation of the world... The world has not known You"—(John 17:24-25); "The Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form"—(John 5:37-38); "Not that any man has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father"—(John 6:46); "He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. But I know Him, for I am from Him"—(John 7:28-29); "It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him"—(John 8:54-59); And, Jesus said, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world"—(John 8:23-24).

THINK ABOUT IT:

If we are all the literal children of God then why would we need to "become the sons of God"? (see John 1:12). And, why would God adopt us? (see Rom. 8:14-16).

THE GREAT APOSTASY?

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has proclaimed to the world... that there was an apostasy of the church founded by Jesus... This is a fundamental belief of the Latter-day Saints. If there had not been an apostasy, there would have been no need for a restoration." (LDS.org, Apostasy)

JESUS TAUGHT: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"—(Matthew 16:18); "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away"—(Matthew 24:35); "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen"—(Matthew 28:20); "You shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"—(Acts 1:8).

THINK ABOUT IT:

If the great apostasy happened, Jesus is a liar.

PRIESTHOOD AUTHORITY?

"The priesthood is the eternal power and authority of God... God gives priesthood authority to worthy male members of the Church so they can act in His name for the salvation of His children." (LDS.org, Priesthood)

Jesus must not have considered the topic of priesthood authority to be important at all because he never once discussed it with his disciples. Jesus consistently taught that all power and authority would come through the gift of the Holy Ghost/Spirit.

JESUS SAID: "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:4-8). This power had nothing to do with any priesthood.

THINK ABOUT IT:

According to the book of Hebrews, Jesus is the only high priest after the order of Melchizedek and the Aaronic priesthood is totally obsolete (study this out in Hebrews chapters 5-7).

DO NOT GET THE WRONG IDEA!

We are not trying to destroy your faith in Jesus. We want your faith to rest in Jesus alone and we want you to trust His teachings as your final authority (Matt. 7:24-29).