


# Mormonism

- <sup>6</sup> I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,
- <sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.
- GALATIANS 1:6, 7



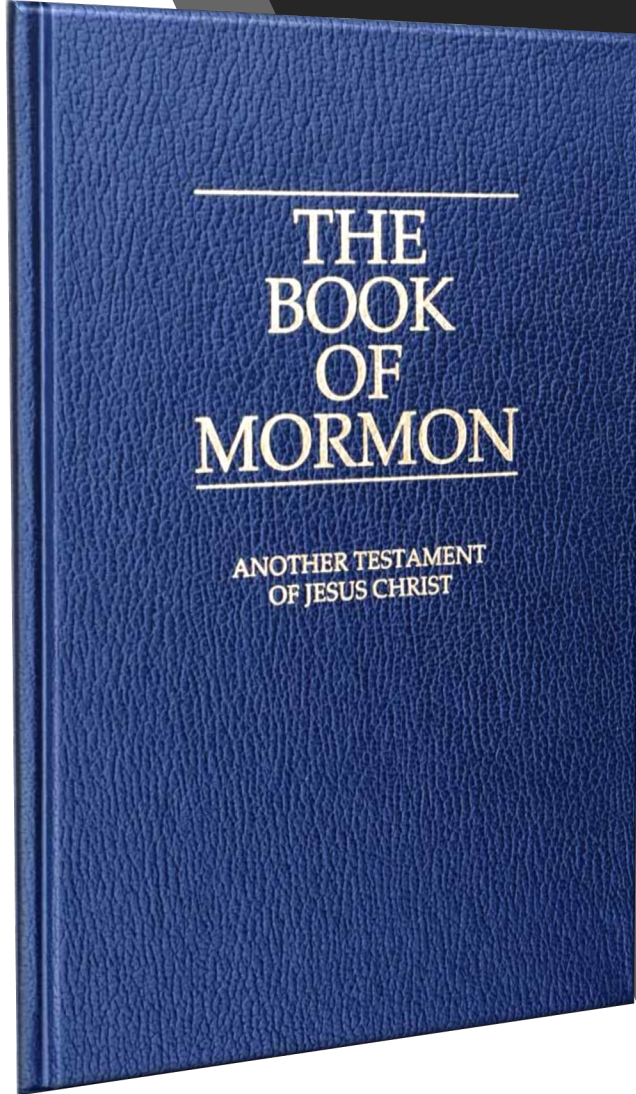
THE  
BOOK  
OF  
MORMON

ANOTHER TESTAMENT  
OF JESUS CHRIST

## **Galatians 1:8, 9**

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach **any other gospel** to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches **any other gospel** to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.



“The ancient record thus brought forth from the earth as the voice of a people speaking from the dust, and translated into modern speech by the gift and power of God as attested by Divine affirmation, was first published to the world in the year 1830 as THE BOOK OF MORMON.”

<https://www.lds.org/scriptures/bofm/js?lang=eng&clang=eng#p24>  
(accessed, February 19, 2019)

# Joseph Smith Jr.

(December 23, 1805 – June 27, 1844)



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- Author & Proprietor
- A False Prophet

←  
*Changed to a translator  
seven years later in 1837*

“But, behold, verily, verily, I say unto thee, no one shall be appointed to receive commandments and revelations in this church excepting my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., for he receiveth them even as Moses”  
(Doctrine and Covenants, 28:2)

# The Claim: "Even As Moses"?

## **What works did Joseph Smith, Jr. do that compare with Moses?**

- Plagues in Egypt before one of the strongest kings in the world
- Deliverance of a nation numbering in the millions
- Divided the Red Sea and drowned the opposition
- Numerous miracles in a desolate wilderness
- Transformed a nation of slaves into the armies of the living God
- Destroyed powerful kings (Sihon and Og)
- God communicated to him without visions, but spoke with him face to face – Num. 12:6-8

# The Claim: "Even As Moses"?

## **Joseph Smith, Jr.**

- Claimed to have visions...makes him less than Moses!
- His "first" alleged vision in the Spring of 1820
  - Confessed: *was first time to pray vocally?*
  - Setting: *in the secluded woods?*
- Claims of events done in secret are reasons against belief!
  - Acts 26:26; Acts 9:7; 10:23, 44, 45; 11:12

Prophecy was not a private interpretation - 2 Pet. 1:20, 21

The prophet was the mouthpiece of God - Exod. 7:1; 4:15, 16

The prophet may not know the meaning of what was shown to him - Dan. 7:15ff

The prophet could search the work of other prophets to find answers - Dan. 9:2

## The Prophet and Prophecy

# **Joseph Smith's Works**

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**VASTLY DIFFER FROM BIBLICAL PROPHETS IN VOLUME**

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**DIVERGE FROM THE PROPHET'S PURPOSE: FROM A MOUTHPIECE TO AN INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR?**

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**OPPOSE AND CONTRADICT OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS**



# Moses Taught

- “You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you” (Deut. 4:2)
  - “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear” (Deut. 18: 15)
- ✓ Jesus fits the prophet like Moses who had authority to command!
  - ✓ Joseph Smith contradicts Jesus & Moses!

# Joseph Smith Jr.

(December 23, 1805 – June 27, 1844)



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- Author & Proprietor
- A False Prophet

“For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ” (2 Cor. 11:13)

# Matthew 7:15, 16

“I am going like a lamb to the slaughter; but I am calm as a summer’s morning; I have a conscience void of offense towards God, and towards all men.” (Doctrines & Covenants 135:4)



15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.



16 "You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?



# Matthew 7:15, 16

*Compare John 18:3, 8-11*



When does a *lamb led to slaughter* engage in a gunfight?



15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.



16 "You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

**DIED IN A GUNFIGHT AT THE  
CARTHAGE JAIL!**

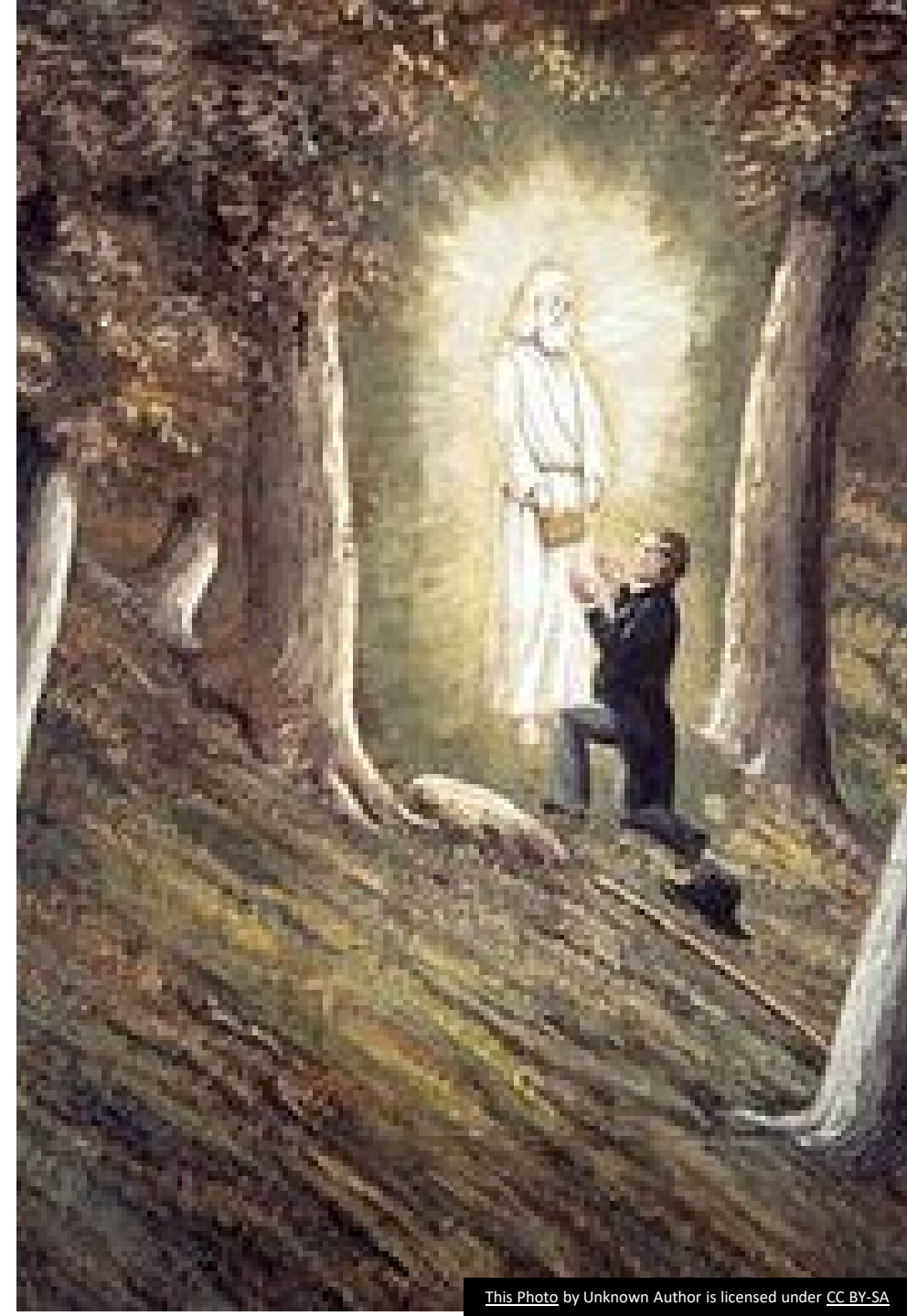


# 1. FALSE CLAIM: Seen The Father And The Son

## **NO WITNESSES AND IN THE WOODS!**

“It no sooner appeared than I found myself delivered from the enemy which held me bound. When the light rested upon me I saw two Personages, whose brightness and glory defy all description, standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—*This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!*”

(Joseph Smith, *History*, 1:17, see:  
<https://www.lds.org/scriptures/pgp/js-h/1?lang=eng>)



Was Paul Mistaken?

Was Paul Born Out of Due Time?

6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:6-8

What are we to make of Joseph Smith, Jr.?

## 2. False Prophecy: the Coming of the Son of Man

On February 14, 1835, it was recorded that Joseph Smith preached:

- “...and it was the will of God that those who went to Zion, with a determination to lay down their lives, if necessary, should be ordained to the ministry, and go forth to prune the vineyard for the last time, or the coming of the Lord, which was nigh--even fifty-six years should wind up the scene.”

History of the Church II: 182.

*But the scene didn't “wind up” in 1891!*

## Weak & Confusing Prophecies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming

“I prophecy in the Name of the Lord God that the commenceme[n]t of bloodshed as preparat[o]ry to the coming of the son of man. will commenc[e] in South Carolina.— (it probably may arise through the slave trade.)— this ~~the~~ a voice declard to me. while I was praying earne[s]tly on the subje[c]t 25 December 1832.”

*The Joseph Smith Papers*

"Journal, December 1842–June 1844; Book 2, 10 March 1843–14 July 1843," p. [39], The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed February 21, 2019, <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/journal-december-1842-june-1844-book-2-10-march-1843-14-july-1843/47>



Why refer to years if it was unknowable?

**“It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority” (Acts 1:7)**

“I earnestly desired to know concerning the coming of the Son of Man & prayed. when— a voice said to me, Joseph, my, son, if thou livest until thou art 85 years old thou shalt see the face of the son of man. therefore let this suffice & trouble me no more on this matter.”

?

*The Joseph Smith Papers*

"Journal, December 1842–June 1844; Book 2, 10 March 1843–14 July 1843," p. [40], The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed February 21, 2019, <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/journal-december-1842-june-1844-book-2-10-march-1843-14-july-1843/48>

## THE DOCTORED UP VERSION AS PUT OUT IN "DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS"

What about the bloody wars that followed the Civil War where millions of casualties followed?

**12** I prophesy, in the name of the Lord God, that the commencement of the difficulties which will cause much bloodshed previous to the coming of the Son of Man will be in South Carolina. **13** It may probably arise through the slave question. This a voice declared to me, while I was praying earnestly on the subject, December 25th, 1832. **14** I was once praying very earnestly to know the time of the coming of the Son of Man, when I heard a voice repeat the following:

## THE DOCTORED VERSION PUT OUT IN “DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS”

*Why speak in Early Modern English (1500-1700) in the 1830's?*

**15** Joseph, my son, if thou livest until thou art eighty-five years old, thou shalt see the face of the Son of Man; therefore let this suffice, and trouble me no more on this matter.

**16** I was left thus, without being able to decide whether this coming referred to the beginning of the millennium or to some previous appearing, or whether I should die and thus see his face.

**17** I believe the coming of the Son of Man will not be any sooner than that time.

Doctrine and Covenants, 130

*Connects the second coming with a Civil War?*

*Does this really teach anything of value?*

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(December 23, 1805 – June 27, 1844)



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- Author & Proprietor
- A False Prophet
- Took Liberty to Change the Lord's Law

Next Lesson! ↗