

Why the Mormon (LDS) View of the Godhead Is Not Supported by Scripture

Here is a clear, scripture-focused Bible study you can walk through with your friend. It contrasts the official Latter-day Saint teaching with what the Bible actually says. The goal is to let the verses speak for themselves.

1. Official LDS Teaching on the Godhead (for accurate comparison)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches that ****the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate beings****.

Direct quote from their official manual: "The members of the Godhead are three separate beings. The Father and the Son have tangible bodies of flesh and bones, and the Holy Ghost is a personage of spirit."

From their own scripture (Doctrine and Covenants 130:22):

"The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of Spirit."

They explicitly state this differs from the traditional Christian Trinity: God the Father is a glorified man with a physical body who progressed to godhood.

2. What the Bible Actually Says

A. There is only ONE God — not three separate gods or beings who each are gods

- Deuteronomy 6:4 — "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one."

- Isaiah 44:6 — "Thus says the Lord... 'I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.'"

- 1 Timothy 2:5 — "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

- James 2:19 — "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe — and shudder!"

The Bible never says "three gods in one Godhead" or "one in purpose only." It repeatedly declares absolute oneness with no other gods existing.

B. God the Father is spirit — He does NOT have a body of flesh and bones like a man

- John 4:24 — "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

- Numbers 23:19 — "God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind."

- Hosea 11:9 — "I am God and not a man..."

- 1 Timothy 1:17 — "To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God..."

These verses directly contradict the idea that God the Father has a physical body

"as tangible as man's." (Note: Jesus took on a human body at the incarnation — John 1:14 — but the Father never did.)

C. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three distinct persons, yet they are ONE God (the Trinity)

The Bible shows distinction in personhood but complete unity in essence:

- Matthew 28:19 — "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name [singular] of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- 2 Corinthians 13:14 — "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."
- Matthew 3:16-17 (Jesus' baptism) — The Spirit descends, the Father speaks from heaven, and the Son is in the water — all three present and distinct at the same moment.
- John 10:30 — Jesus says, "I and the Father are one." (The Jews tried to stone Him for making Himself equal with God — John 10:33.)
- John 1:1 — "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh" (Jesus).
- Colossians 2:9 — "For in him [Christ] the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily."
- Acts 5:3-4 — Peter tells Ananias, "You have lied to the Holy Spirit... You have not lied to man but to God." (The Holy Spirit is fully God.)

D. God is eternal and unchanging — He was never a man who "progressed"

- Malachi 3:6 — "For I the Lord do not change."
- Psalm 90:2 — "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

The LDS view (three separate gods, Father with a body of flesh and bones, God once a man) comes from later writings (Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith's teachings) but is never taught in the 66 books of the Bible. Therefore one can NOT conclude it is a biblical teaching .