

**Pre-Existence**

**Earth**



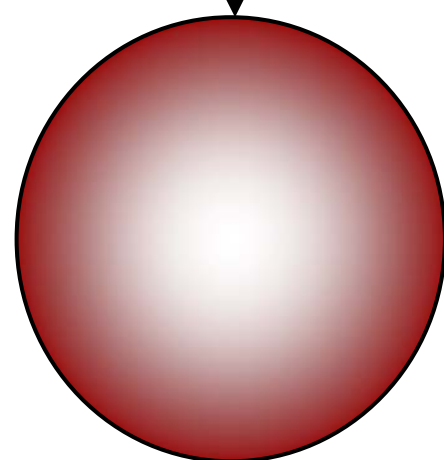
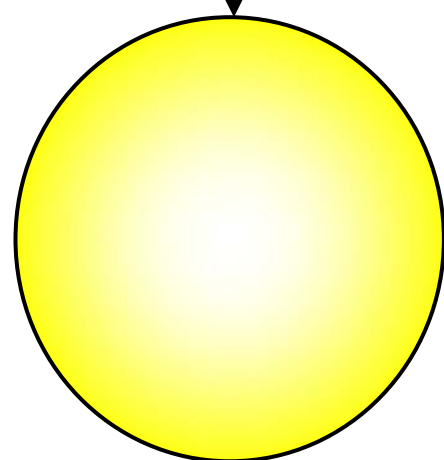
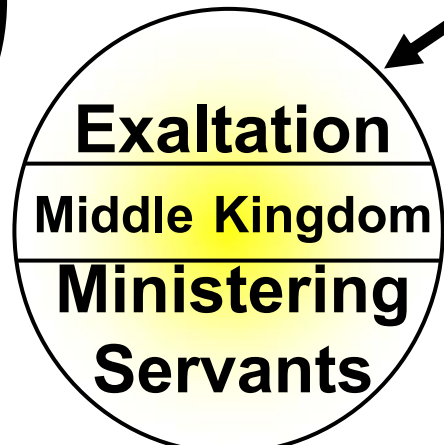
**Spirit Children**

**The Dead**

**Lucifer's Demons**

**Apostates**

**Judgment Day**



**Celestial**

**Terrestrial**

**Telestial**

# The LDS Plan of Salvation

The LDS church {The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints} bases their plan of salvation on being worthy to receive eternal life.

An article in the October 2003 Ensign reiterates the LDS gospel's "... emphasis on individual effort and righteousness as requirements for eternal life" (Page 48)

- The LDS church rejects Christ's role as our substitute in making our payment for sin.
- The LDS church rejects Christ's role as our substitute in being perfect and offering us his righteousness through faith. Having rejected Christ's perfect robe of righteousness won for us, they will stand on Judgment Day wearing a robe of 'filthy rags' (their own imperfect works).
- The LDS church teaches its members (commonly called Mormons) that the way to eternal life is through personal worthiness {earning forgiveness for their sins, obeying God's and additional LDS commands, completing temple ordinances, and performing "good" works}.
- Almost all "gifts" are based on worthiness.
  - ❖ Only the worthy are forgiven.
  - ❖ Only the worthy receive the guidance and companionship of the Holy Spirit.
  - ❖ Only the worthy receive personal revelations.
  - ❖ Only the worthy are allowed in the temple.
  - ❖ Only the worthy receive eternal life.

It's easy to be confused about what Mormons believe. Their beliefs are different from Christianity; but they make very Christian sounding statements. However, many biblical terms are redefined.

- Mormons say "Jesus saved me"; but 'saved' means resurrection and not eternal life.
- Mormons say "Jesus paid for my sins"; but 'paid' means became their creditor. They do not believe they no longer have a debt to sin. They believe they must pay Jesus back.

A Biblical Terms Glossary is on our Web Site. It gives contrasting biblical and LDS definitions of common terms.

# The Progression to Eternal Life

The LDS church teaches:

- A person's life starts as a spirit in the Pre-Existence.
- He or she is born to Heavenly Father and a Heavenly Mother before the earth was created.
- After demonstrating his or her worthiness, each person is born physically on earth.
- The purpose of earthly life is to be tested and centers on progression in personal worthiness, i.e. "Becoming perfect".
  - ❖ Performing "works".
  - ❖ Obedience to the laws & ordinances of the LDS church.
  - ❖ Earning forgiveness for each sin.
- Worthiness is required for most of God's "gifts"
- Obedience is the central theme of Mormonism. Opening quote from LDS.org on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2003: "Satan's efforts can be thwarted by all who come unto Christ by obedience to the covenants and ordinances of the gospel." —President James E. Faust; Ensign, Sept. 1995, 7
- At physical death, each person returns to spirit form and goes to the spirit world.
- The worthy go to spirit paradise, the rest go to spirit prison.
- Each person continues the work of progression in worthiness until Judgment Day.
- Each person will be judged by his or her own works. Those who fulfilled the ordinances and are judged to have "done all they could do" gain exaltation (eternal life) and become God's equal.
- These people will become gods and be given their own world to populate and rule.
- Everyone else will spend eternity in a lower kingdom, based on worthiness.
- Our world's God was once a man on a different world and progressed to godhood in this manner.
- Only former LDS members that have rejected Mormonism are in jeopardy of Outer Darkness (Hell).