

A Different Gospel

Galatians 1:6–9 ⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

Islam

Islam draws its doctrine from the sayings of Mohammed, who supposedly received the messages from the angel Gabriel, as recorded in the Koran. The Koran mentions Jesus as a prophet, but the following is one passage that reveals the Muslim view of who Christ is.

Surah 5:17 In blasphemy indeed are those that say that Allah [God] is Christ the son of Mary. Say: “Who then hath the least power against Allah, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all every-one that is on the earth? For to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between. He createth what He pleaseth. For Allah hath power over all things.”

How does the opening statement of this passage compare to Colossian 2:8–10?

Is this a different Christ?

Is Mohammed a true prophet of God? Explain.

Mormonism

Mormonism draws its doctrine from the Bible and also three other books supposedly given to Joseph Smith from God: *The Book of Mormon*, *The Pearl of Great Price*, and *Doctrine and Covenants*. These three works are revered above the Bible since they came directly through Joseph Smith. The following comes from the *Book of Mormon* as delivered on golden plates by the angel Moroni, translated by Joseph Smith, and recorded by a scribe.

2 Nephi 25:23 For we labor diligently to write, to persuade our children, and also our brethren, to believe in Christ, and to be reconciled to God; for we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do.

How does this compare to Ephesians 2:8–9?

Is this a different gospel?

Is Joseph Smith a true prophet of God? Explain.

Jehovah’s Witnesses

Witnesses take their doctrine from the writings of Charles Taze Russell and a re-translation of the Bible known as the New World Translation. Today, the Watchtower Society directs the information, and the Witnesses spread the message by distributing *The Watchtower* magazine door to door. In the writings of this organization, we find the following statement about the Resurrection of Jesus:

Having given up his flesh for the life of the world, Christ could never take it again and become a man once more. For that basic reason his return could never be in the human body that he sacrificed once for all time.

How does this statement compare to Luke 24:38–40 and 1 Corinthians 15:1–5?

Can the biblical gospel be true if Christ were not raised from the dead with a physical body (1 Corinthians 15:12–17)?

Does the Watchtower Society speak on behalf of God?

Three tests to discern God’s Word:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.