



CAN MEN BECOME GODS?

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

What Mormons and Christians believe about God's nature is one of the most fundamental differences between these two religions. The LDS Church teaches that men - by performing sacred Mormon rituals - can become gods. But through the prophet Isaiah, God says that no gods were before Him, and none shall come after Him.

"Before me no God was formed, nor shall there be any after me." (Isaiah 43:10)

He says that He is the first and last.

"I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god." (Isaiah 44:6)

He declares that that He does not know of any other gods.

"Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any." (Isaiah 44:8)

He even says that in the end, He alone will be exalted.

"And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day." (Isaiah 2:17)

DOESN'T GOD WANT US TO BE LIKE HIM?

Yes! God wants us to display all the godly attributes he has commanded of us (holiness, justice, kindness, love, mercy, goodness, etc). But that does not mean that we can be "like" God in every way.

If a man were to paint a self-portrait, that portrait would not be a man; it would be the *representation of a man*. Although he created it "in his image" it would NEVER become human. Furthermore, someone could point to the painting and say, "That's a man!" without meaning that he thought the painting was actually human, but simply that the painting could be recognized as an *image of its creator*.

There are many things that distinguish us from God. We are created while God is uncreated. God has never worshipped another being, while we are designed to worship Him forever. We are of an entirely different substance than Him. We were created "in God's image" (**Genesis 1:27**). That means God has created us with the capacity to share some of His attributes...but not ALL of His attributes!

The Bible warns us of thinking that we can become like God. God even proclaims judgment against the King of Babylon for wanting to be "like the Most High".

"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." (Isaiah 14:14)

MEN DON'T BECOME GODS...GOD BECAME A MAN!

But perhaps most importantly, the good news of the Gospel message is not that men can become gods, but that God became a man!

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." (Galatians 4:4)