

Special Report: Why I am a Nazarene and Not a Mormon, Roman Catholic, Jehovah’s Witness, Christian Scientist or Seventh-Day Adventist

	NAZARENE	MORMON	ROMAN CATHOLIC
Christ and God	Jesus--Born of Virgin Mary. Jesus--Died on the Cross to redeem mankind. Jesus--Arose from the dead, ascended into heaven, is now making intercession at right hand of God. Jesus--Will come again in like manner as He went away. Jesus--Eternally one with the Father God—is a Spirit and we must “worship Him in spirit and in truth.”	Founded by Joseph Smith (Considered a “Prophet of God) Jesus--Is the son of Adam-God and Mary. Jesus—Was not conceived by the Holy Ghost. Jesus--When He returns, He will establish two Cities as headquarters: Jerusalem and Independence, Missouri, where He will Administer affairs of the “Theocracy.” God—has “flesh and bones” God—will share His creatorship and omnipotent power with men who have risen to “godhood” status.	Believe in the diety of Christ. That Christ was and is the Son of God. Believe that through His merit, His sacrifice, His love, the way is open from earth to Heaven. Mary almost replaces Christ in devotion and commitment, until the real Christ is obscured. Salvation, however, comes via the RC Church, not through Jesus Christ.
Bible	Bible is the Word of God. Contains all truth necessary to faith and Christian living. Whatever is not contained in the Bible is not to be enjoined as an article of faith.	Believe the Bible is the Word of God “as far as it is translated correctly.” Their <i>Book of Mormon</i> is as “equally inspired.” as the Bible. “Progressive revelation” denies the sufficiency and finality of the Bible. Believe that mankind needs their “other” books to supplement the Bible: The <i>Book of Mormon</i> , <i>Doctrine and Covenants</i> and the <i>Pearl of Great Price</i> .	Bible is God’s word to man—but it must be interpreted by the “infallible” Roman Catholic Church (called “traditions”). “Traditions” are of equal importance to the Bible. In America, Catholics are encouraged to read “their” versions of the Bible; in non-Protestant Countries, the Bible is still an unknown Book.
Salvation	Sin is twofold: acts or purposes of transgressions, and corrupted nature (original sin). Christ made full atonement for sin, which atonement is the only ground of salvation. Justification is by faith, preceded by repentance. Entire sanctification is the act of God freeing the Heart from original sin and filling with power.	A person must believe in founder Joseph Smith and the <i>Book of Morman</i> to be saved. Must work out salvation by obedience to rules And ordinances of the Mormon Church. Baptism is for remission of sins. Vicarious baptism (for remission of sins) for the dead by living Mormons—which rite is always performed in the Mormon Temple.	Original sin in washed away in water baptism. Salvation comes by observance of the sacraments of the Roman Catholic church. <i>Five essential sacraments are baptism, confirmation (full membership in the church), the Eucharist (communion), penance (confession of sin) and extreme unction (anointing).</i> No direct access to God—grace must be mediated through a priest, the (RC) church, Mary, or saints. Those outside the Roman Catholic church will be lost.
Future Life	The bodies of the just and the unjust shall be raised to life and united with their spirits. Everlasting life in heaven for all who repent of their sin, believe in and obediently follow Christ. The finally impenitent (those who do not believe/repent) Shall suffer eternally in hell.	Mormons accept the immortality of man. Those Mormons married for eternity will be “exalted” and will eventually rise to “godhood” —having offspring through eternity. Sinners will have a second chance after death, but those few “sons of perdition” will suffer eternally in hell.	Everyone at death goes to purgatory—a place of Punishment for sins. The length of stay in purgatory varies. The faithful eventually experience supernatural happiness In heaven. Demons, those not baptized and the willfully evil will be punished eternally for their sins.

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	JEHOVAH’S WITNESS	CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST	SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Christ and God	Founded by Charles T. Russell. Deny the deity of Christ. His human existence ended on the cross. Christ is dead—“forever dead.” Deny the physical resurrection of Christ. No one knows what became of Christ’s body. Christ was only a messenger, an angel, a created being, a perfect man, a representative of God, but not God-Man.	Founded by Mary Baker Patterson Eddy. Deny the deity of Christ. Christ is only a divine “idea.” Deny the Virgin Birth. Christ’s “seeming” death was only a “misunderstanding.” Deny His second coming—saying that the Second Coming is only the “advancing idea of God in Christian Science.” Christ is only the “Way-Shower.”	Founded by Ellen Harmon White. Jesus was born with a sinful nature. Deny the finished work of Christ on the Cross by saying That He did not enter the inner “sanctuary” of heaven Until 1844. Christ is coming back to earth again—and soon.
Bible	Read it and memorize it and quote it—out of context, and thus “wrest” the scriptures. Refuse to take the Bible “as is,” and insist that Founder, Charles T. Russell’s interpretations (<i>Studies in the Scriptures</i>) and their own Bible version, the <i>New World Translations</i> are necessary if the Bible is to be understood correctly.	Profess great respect for the Bible but deny its teachings, its finality, and its Gospel. The Bible is inadequate and must be interpreted by Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy’s <i>Science and Health</i> . Believe Mrs. Eddy’s writings are “inspired,” and necessary to the understanding of the Bible.	Believe the Bible is the Word of God, but also believe Mrs. White’s writings to be “inspired,” and her writings must be read along with the Bible if the Bible is to be understood. Mrs. White is the “Voice,” the “Messenger” of God interpreting the Bible to the people of this age. Followers believe Mrs. White to be a “prophet to the church of Christ today” interpreting the Bible based upon her “spirit of Prophecy.”
Salvation	Salvation consists of being “imitators” of Jesus in being “witnesses” to Jehovah God. Know nothing of conversion or cleansing. Salvation by works, and not by faith. They deny Christ provides salvation through faith, deny the Holy Spirit as a person of the trinity, deny conversion, regeneration, justification by faith, cleansing from sin, and baptism with the Holy Spirit...	Man is incapable of sin, for sin is unreal, an error, an illusion of mortal mind. Salvation is “demonstrating” the unreality of sin. No need for a Savior, as sin is destroyed by the demonstration of it as error. No redemptive power or purpose in the cross of Christ. Man can free himself through the practice of “divine” Science.	No one should ever say he is saved—for no one knows that, and will not know it until Christ returns to earth. According to Mrs. White, Christ does not bear away our sins, rather, Christ casts sins upon Satan, who will one day bear them away to destruction. Denies salvation by grace. No cleansing of the human heart—Christ cleanses the “inner sanctuary” of heaven—since 1844.
Future Life	Death is cessation of being—destruction, complete and total—extinction. “Dust to dust.” All who die will be “restored” at the second coming of Christ, and given a second chance. Those who persist in their rejection will be annihilated, for there is no hell—no place of eternal torment. 144,000 “special” Witnesses will be in heaven; other “Witnesses” will be on earth.	Death is an illusion—it is unreal. There is no heaven and no hell in a geographical sense—they are merely symbolic states of mind—heaven being a “harmonious” state and hell being “mortal belief, error, remorse, self-destruction.”	At death one enters into “soul sleep” where the person enters a state of “silence, inactivity, and entire unconsciousness.” (They quote scriptures regarding the body only rather than the spirit.) Only those who at the judgment who are found righteous will have immortality conferred upon them. The wicked are annihilated—completely destroyed, utterly consumed, brought to ashes. Hell itself will be destroyed along with the wicked.