

Salvation:

DC 76 vs the Book of Mormon

It's Easier to Fool the People.....
Than Convince the People
They've Been Fooled.

--Mark Twain

Alma had a son....

Alma had a son....who thought God was Unjust

Alma 19:81 / LDS: Alma 42:1

And now, my son, I perceive there is somewhat more which doth worry your mind which ye cannot understand. Which is concerning the justice of God in the punishment of the sinner.

For ye do try to suppose that it is injustice that the sinner should be consigned to a state of misery.

Alma Teaches what He didn't understand

THE God of the universe provided Mercy over Justice for those who would choose it...

It required GOD HIMSELF to take on flesh, dying in the hands of His creation, to allow MERCY to exist.

Alma 19:94 *Therefore, according to justice, **the plan of redemption could not be brought about only on conditions of repentance of men in this probationary state,***

yea, this preparatory state;

For, except it were for these conditions Mercy could not take effect,

Except it should destroy the work of justice;

95 Now the work of justice could not be destroyed.

If so, God would cease to be God.

*Alma 19:96 And thus we see that all mankind were fallen and they were in the grasp of justice,
yea, the justice of God which consigned them forever to be cut off from His presence.*

97 And now the plan of mercy could not be brought about except an atonement should be made;

*Therefore, God Himself atoneth for the sins of the world
to bring about the plan of mercy
to appease the demands of justice,
that God might be a perfect just God
and a merciful God also.*

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin.

It starts with:

Recognizing our sin

Turning our Heart from Sin.

Calling on Jesus, who changes our heart.

Having sin removed at the last day.

- Payment required an infinite sacrifice--so Mercy can overpower Justice—God Himself Became the Sacrifice.

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin. Our sin is what separates us from God's Presence, not the accumulation of works.

Recognizing our sin

Alma 19:96 / LDS: Alma 42:14

*And thus we see that all mankind were fallen and
they were in the grasp of justice,
yea, the justice of God which consigned them
forever to be cut off from His presence.*

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin. Our sin is what separates us from God's Presence, not the accumulation of works.

Turning our Heart from Sin.

2 Nephi 6:72 / LDS: 2 Nephi 9:38

*And in fine, wo unto all they that die in their sins.
For they shall return to God
And behold His face
And remain in their sins.*

2 Nephi 6:89 / LDS: 2 Nephi 9:45

*O my beloved brethren, turn away from your sins
Shake off the chains of him that would bind you fast;*

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin. Our sin is what separates us from God's Presence, not the accumulation of works.

Calling on Jesus, who changes our heart.

Helaman 2:25 / LDS: Helaman 3:28

Thus we may see that **the Lord is merciful unto all who will, in the sincerity of their hearts, call upon His holy name.**

Yea, thus we see **that the gate of heaven is open unto all, even to those who will believe on the name of Jesus Christ,** which is the Son of God.

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

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Humbling ourself before God

Recognizing our sin

Calling Upon Jesus to turn from Sin

Turning our Heart from Sin.

Calling on Jesus, who changes our heart.

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Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin.

It starts with:

Humbling Ourself Before God

[Alma 13:51](#) / [LDS: Alma 22:16](#)

But Aaron saith unto him: "If thou desirest this thing,
if thou will bow down before God,

Yea, if thou repent of all thy sins and will bow down before
God

and call on His name in faith,
believing that ye shall receive,
Then shalt thou receive the hope which thou desirest."

Salvation Taught by Book of Mormon

Is about removal of Sin.

It starts with:

Humbling Ourself before God

Recognizing our sin

Turning our Heart from Sin.

[Alma 13:52 / LDS: Alma 22:18](#)

And it came to pass that when Aaron had said these words,
the king did bow down before the Lord upon his knees,
Yea, even he did prostrate himself upon the earth and cried
mightily, saying: "**O God, Aaron hath told me that there is a
God;**

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NOTE:

In this way, the way of Repentance, Justice is NOT ignored or bypassed. Mercy is granted through the only way Mercy can overcome Justice.

- By Humbling oneself before God
- By Calling on God for deliverance from Sin
- By Asking for Mercy
- By Committing to turn from Sin.
- By Covenanting to refrain from Sin.
- By being nourished by the Word and the Spirit
- By Enduring to the End.

Eternity Taught by the Book of Mormon

- Dwell in God's Kingdom or be Cast Out
- The Result of Mercy extended or Justice.

1 Nephi 4:61 / LDS: 1 Nephi 15:35

Wherefore, the final state of the souls of men
is to dwell in the kingdom of God,
or to be cast out because of that justice of
which I have spoken;

Eternity Taught by the Book of Mormon

- We experience Mercy Foreveror we receive Justice Forever.

The Book of Mormon does NOT TEACH repentance AFTER this life.

- The Book of Mormon does NOT Teach a 'prison house exists.'
- We must repent in the 'day of this life.'

Then Why does DC 76 Teach other things?

Nephi said no 'new' doctrine until Jesus Comes.

- No one ever added 'until the church is established among the Gentiles'
- Jesus taught his doctrine. Why are we so accepting of another? Because we have been taught to hold up a man over God's word.
- Book of Commandments: Joseph Smith's ONLY gift was to translate, not to pretend to any other gift.
- **These new doctrines become traditions of Gentiles, not teachings of Jesus.**

History of DC 76 for Latter Day Saints

- Came to Joseph in 1832 after Amherst Conference, as he and Sydney Rigdon were writing Inspired Version of Bible.
- Came to John 5:29 regarding resurrection of the Just and Unjust.
- A vision unfolded.
- Was referred to as 'The Vision of Degrees of Glory' or simply 'The Vision.'

The main wide distribution came via print. William W. Phelps, the Church printer in Independence, Missouri, published the full text as “A Vision” in the July 1832 issue of *The Evening and the Morning Star* (the paper’s second issue).

He called it “the greatest news that was ever published to man.”

This official Church newspaper reached the scattered Saints and became the primary way most members first encountered the complete account.

It was later included in the 1835 Doctrine and Covenants and reprinted in other Church publications.

Reception was mixed at first. Many embraced it with joy (e.g., Wilford Woodruff later said it gave him more light than anything he had previously read).

Others found it unsettling or too close to Universalism (the idea that everyone would ultimately be saved) and stumbled at it;

Joseph Smith later counseled caution about emphasizing it with brand-new converts until foundational principles were better established.

History of DC 76 for Restored Gospel Podcast

- First tried to Balance both messages of DC 76 & Book of Mormon
- Couldn't reconcile a few items.
- Realized the Error. DC 76 ideas had replaced Book of Mormon teaching.

76 Destroys the Lessons of Justice

DC 76:4g And this is the gospel, the glad tidings which the voice out of the heavens bore record unto us, that he came into the world, even Jesus to be crucified for the world, and to bear the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness;

4h that through him all might be saved, whom the Father had put into his power, and made by him; who glorifies the Father, and saves all the works of his hands, except those sons of perdition, who deny the Son after the Father has revealed him;

4i wherefore he saves all except them; they shall go away into everlasting punishment, which is endless punishment, which is eternal punishment, to reign with the Devil and his angels in eternity, where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched, which is their torment, and the end thereof, neither the place thereof, nor their torment, no man knows;

Alma 19:94 / LDS: Alma 42:13

Therefore, according to justice, the plan of redemption could not be brought about, only on conditions of repentance of men in this probationary state, yea, this preparatory state; For, except it were for these conditions, mercy could not take effect, except it should destroy the work of justice;

Alma 19:95 / LDS: Alma 42:13

Now the work of justice could not be destroyed - If so, God would cease to be God.

Alma 19:104 / LDS: Alma 42:22

But there is a law given, and a punishment affixed, and repentance granted, which repentance mercy claimeth; Otherwise, justice claimeth the creature and executeth the law, And the law inflicteth the punishment; If not so, the works of justice would be destroyed and God would cease to be God.

DC Implies vast majority Saved. But Book of Mormon teaches:

- ...many end up on the Great and Spacious building.

3 Nephi 13:11 / LDS: 3 Nephi 27:33

And it came to pass that when Jesus had ended these sayings, He saith unto His disciples:

Enter ye in at the strait gate,

For strait is the gate and narrow is the way that leads to life,

And **few there be** that find it;

But wide is the gate and broad the way which leads to death,

And many there be that traveleth therein,

until the night cometh wherein no man can work.” (note: this highlighted verse is

NOT in the Bible, is ONLY in the Book of Mormon)

Matthew 7:13

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

DC 76 Implies God 'gave Jesus certain ones to save.' The Book of Mormon teaches All can be saved if they will repent.

DC 76:4g he came into the world, even Jesus to be crucified for the world, and to bear the sins of the world, and to sanctify the world, and to cleanse it from all unrighteousness

4h that through him all might be saved, whom the Father had put into his power,

(‘had put into his power’ is Calvinist theology)

Alma 9:27 / LDS: Alma 12:15

That He is just in all His works,
And that He is merciful unto the children of men,

And that He hath all power to save every man that believeth on His name and bringeth forth fruit meet for repentance.

The Book of Mormon Teaches all are invited to Repent, Jesus is willing to save all who will come to Him. But Not all will choose to Come to Him.

2 Nephi 11:113-115 / LDS: 2 Nephi 26:33

And He inviteth them all to come unto Him and partake of His goodness;

And He denieth none that come unto Him - black and white, bond and free, male and female;

Helaman 4:72 / LDS: Helaman 12:25

And I would that all men might be saved; But we read that in that great and last day there are some which shall be cast out, Yea, which shall be cast off from the presence of the Lord,

DC76 and Calvinism

Q: What one of the many Christian religions puts forth the idea that Jesus only saves those who are ‘put into his power’ to save

GROK (Ai) Reformed / Calvinist theology (particularly the doctrine of limited atonement or particular redemption).

The specific idea that Jesus saves only those “whom the Father had put into his power” (or, in more common biblical phrasing, those the Father has “given” to the Son) is a hallmark of **Reformed / Calvinist** teaching on the atonement. In this view, Christ did not die with the intention of saving every individual; He died specifically for the elect—the people the Father chose and gave to Him.

Key related biblical texts Calvinists emphasize

- John 6:37–39: “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me... And this is the Father’s will... that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing.”
- John 17:2, 6, 9: Jesus has authority over all flesh “that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.” He says He prays not for the world, but for those the Father has given Him.

These passages are interpreted as teaching a definite, particular atonement: the Father gives a specific people to the Son, and the Son saves exactly those people.

DC76 and Calvinism...(Continued)

Q: What one of the many Christian religions puts forth the idea that Jesus only saves those who are 'put into his power' to save

Where this view is held

It is taught in:

- Presbyterian and Reformed churches (e.g., many congregations in the Presbyterian Church in America, Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Christian Reformed Church, etc.)
- Reformed Baptist churches
- Some confessional Anglican and Dutch Reformed traditions

It is formalized in historic Reformed confessions (such as the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Canons of Dort) under the headings of unconditional election and limited (or definite) atonement.

DC76 and Calvinism...(Continued)

Q: What one of the many Christian religions puts forth the idea that Jesus only saves those who are ‘put into his power’ to save

Contrast with other Christian views

Most other major Christian traditions reject this limitation:

- Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist, Wesleyan, Pentecostal, and most Baptist churches teach a universal atonement (Christ died for all people). Salvation is then applied only to those who believe/repent, but the atonement itself is not restricted to a pre-selected group “given” to Christ.
- Arminian theology explicitly opposes limited atonement.

The language in Doctrine and Covenants 76 (“all might be saved, whom the Father had put into his power”) closely echoes the Reformed phrasing drawn from John 6 and 17. In the earlier discussion, that wording was contrasted with the Book of Mormon’s repeated statements that Christ invites *all* and denies none who come to Him.

The Book of Mormon does not limit suffering to Millennium. It does NOT teach Prison House.

DC:7d these are they who are thrust down to hell; 7e these are they **who shall not be redeemed from the Devil, until the last resurrection**, until the Lord, even Christ the Lamb, shall have finished his work;

7f these are they who receive not of his fullness in the eternal world, but of the Holy Spirit through the ministration of the terrestrial; and the terrestrial through the ministration of the celestial: and also the telestial receive it of the administering of angels, who are appointed to minister for them, or who are appointed to be ministering spirits for them, for they shall be heirs of salvation.

Alma 16:228 / LDS: Alma 34:32

For behold, **this life** is the time for men to prepare to meet God;
Yea, behold, the **day of this life** is the **day** for men to perform their labors.

230 For after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity,
Behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, **then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed.**

Note: Book of Mormon teaches Day and Night

- No mention of Celestial, Terrestrial, Telestial

Book of Mormon does NOT Teach Prison House Repentance

Alma 9:28-32

28 "And now behold, I say unto you, then cometh a death, even a second death which is a spiritual death;

29 Then is a time that whosoever dieth in his sins, as to the temporal death, shall also die a spiritual death; Yea, he shall die as to things pertaining unto righteousness.

30 "Then is the time when their torments shall be as a lake of fire and brimstone whose flames ascendeth up forever and ever.

31 "And then is the time that they shall be chained down to an everlasting destruction according to the power and captivity of Satan, he having subjected them according to his will.

32 "Then, I say unto you, they shall be as though there had been no redemption made, For they cannot be redeemed according to God's justice, And they cannot die, seeing there is no more corruption."

Book of Mormon does NOT Teach Prison House Repentance

Alma 19:61

But they are cast out and consigned to partake of the fruits of their labors or their works which have been evil, And they drink the dregs of a bitter cup.

Helaman 5:51-52

51 "But behold, your days of probation are past; Ye have procrastinated the day of your salvation until it is everlastingly too late and your destruction is made sure;

52 Yea, for ye have sought all the days of your lives for that which ye could not obtain; And ye have sought for happiness in doing iniquity, Which thing is contrary to the nature of that righteousness which is in our great and Eternal Head.

Book of Mormon does NOT Teach Prison House Repentance

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How Salvation Really Works...

Alma 19: 108 And thus God bringeth about His great and eternal purposes which were prepared from the foundation of the world.

109 And thus cometh about the salvation and the redemption of men,
And also their destruction and misery.

Therefore, O my son, whosoever will come may come and partake of the waters of life freely;

110 And whosoever will not come, the same is not compelled to come,
But in the last day it shall be restored unto him according to his deeds -

111 If he hath desired to do evil and hath not repented in his days, Behold, evil shall be done unto him, according to the restoration of God.

The Book of Mormon does NOT teach Prison House—no After Life Repentance.

Alma 16:228 / LDS: Alma 34:32

For behold, **this life** is the time for men to prepare to meet God;
Yea, behold, the **day of this life** is the **day** for men to perform their labors.

230 For after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity,
Behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, **then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed.**

231 "Ye cannot say when ye are brought to that awful crisis that ' I will repent, that I will return to my God ';

232 Nay, ye cannot say this, For that same spirit which doth possess your bodies at the time that ye go out of this life, That same spirit will have power to possess your body in that eternal world.

There is no Salvation without Repentance

- There is NO side-stepping Justice.
- This is why DC 76 can not serve as the true reward for this life—many people who remain in their sin but aren't with God or Satan (DC 76 7V).
- This is contrary to the Book of Mormon.

The Book of Mormon does not teach an “order of Melchizedek or Enoch.”

Only teaches “Order of God”

DC:5e they are they who are the church of the Firstborn;

5f they are they into whose hands the Father has given all things:

5g they are they who are priests and kings, who have received of his fullness, and of his glory, **and are priests of the Most High after the order of Melchisedec, which was after the order of Enoch**, which was after the order of the only begotten Son:

Alma 9:69 / LDS: Alma 13:6

And thus being called by this holy calling and ordained unto the **high priesthood of the holy order of God**, to teach His commandments unto the children of men, that they also might enter into His rest,

Alma 10:12 / LDS: Alma 13:18

But Melchizedek, having exercised mighty faith and received the office **of the high priesthood according to the holy order of God**, did preach repentance unto his people,

Alma 20:2 / LDS: Alma 43:2

Now, we shall say no more concerning their preaching, except that they preached the word and the truth according to the spirit of prophecy and revelation, And **they preached after the holy order of God by which they were called.**

The Book of Mormon does NOT teach Justice has an End.

- This is the balance of God
- The Soul lasts forever.
- If Mercy is to last forever, Justice must last forever.

3 Nephi 11:33 / LDS: 3 Nephi 26:5

*If they be good,
to the resurrection of everlasting life,
And if they be evil,
to the resurrection of damnation,
Being on a parallel, the one on the one hand,
and the other on the other hand.*

*According to the mercy and the justice and the holiness which is in Christ,
which was before the world began.*

The Book of Mormon Does NOT teach an infinite number of Salvations.

It DOES NOT TEACH SALVATION OUTSIDE THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

DC76:7u These all shall bow the knee, and every tongue shall confess to him who sits upon the throne for ever and ever;

7v for they shall be judged according to their works; and every man shall receive according to his own works, and his own dominion, in the mansions which are prepared, and they shall be servants of the Most High, but where God and Christ dwell they cannot come, worlds without end.

1 Nephi 4:61 / LDS: 1 Nephi 15:35

Wherefore, the **final state** of the souls of men is

To dwell in the kingdom of God,

Or to be cast out

because of that justice of which I have spoken;

The Book of Mormon Does NOT teach an infinite number of Salvations.

It DOES NOT TEACH SALVATION OUTSIDE THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

Alma 16:233-234 / LDS: Alma 34:35

For behold, if ye have procrastinated the day of your repentance, even until death,
Behold, ye have become subjected to the spirit of the devil, And he doth seal you his;

Therefore, the Spirit of the Lord hath withdrawn from you and hath no place in you, And the devil hath all power over you;

And this is the final state of the wicked.