

More Resources!



"The Kingdom of the Cults: The Definitive Work on the Subject"

Dr. Walter Martin

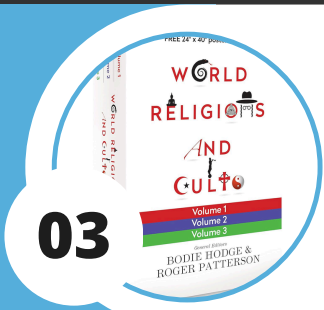
Covers many kinds of cults and how to engage with them



"Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons"

Ron Rhodes

Excellent guide on what they will say, and how you can be ready to respond

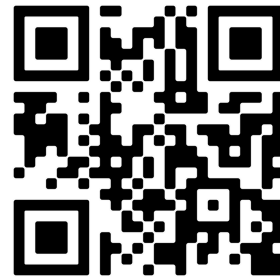


"Cults and World Religions" 3 Vol. Set

Bodie Hodge and Robert Patterson

Contains high level overviews of many different religious groups

Message of Salvation!



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Stay in touch!

If you are wrestling with hard questions, doubting your faith, or just have general questions, don't hesitate to drop me an email!

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conversationswithchristians@gmail.com

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conversationswithchristians.org

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THE CULTS AND CHRISTIANITY



Defining the Word:

The word “cult” can be defined many ways, but the most helpful definition here is any religious group that uses Christian language, but maintains very different meanings underneath.

Claims of Restoration

As the USA expanded westward, the landscape was ripe for the production of new cults and religious movements. Many of the religions we may encounter today claim to be a “restoration” of lost truth, and were produced within the same century. These restoration movements include:

- Church of Christ
- Christian Science
- Mormonism
- Jehovah’s Witnesses
- Seventh Day Adventism
- Hebrew Israelites



Common Characteristics

Restored truth

The truth of Christianity was lost. Only their prophet or group has restored *true* Christianity. All other churches are false or lack the “fullness” of the gospel.

You need their authority

The Bible isn’t enough. You need their study materials and guidance in order to understand scripture properly.

Works righteousness

A rejection of salvation by faith alone. Most cults add a mixture of works that need to be accomplished in order to earn salvation. Sometimes individuals must report their service hours, be deemed “worthy” in order to enter a temple, or even risk jeopardizing eternity with their family if they aren’t obedient enough.

Rejection of the Trinity

Virtually all of the restoration cults reject the triune nature of God. They take on varying forms of polytheism (Mormons) or at least demote Christ to a form of a lesser, created being.

Equip Yourself!

Here are important verses that are helpful when engaging members of these groups

There is only one God.

“You are my witnesses,” declares the LORD, “and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.” *Isaiah 43:10 ESV*

God’s Word stand’s forever; won’t be lost.

“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever” *Isaiah 40:8 ESV*

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” *Matthew 24:35 ESV*

Salvation is not our own doing.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” *Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV*

Paul warned that others would come with false gospels.

“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.” *Galatians 1:8 ESV*

TIP!

If someone from one of these groups ever comes to your door and you feel unprepared, always ask if they can come back at a later date. They will almost certainly take you up on it!