

LDS vs. Muslims & Jehovah's Witnesses

What They Get Right, What They Get Wrong, and the Irony of Protestant Criticism

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

What JW's Get RIGHT:

1. **Reject Nicene Trinity** — The creeds are post-biblical
2. **Emphasize God's name** — Honor for Jehovah/YHWH
3. **Active evangelism** — Take Great Commission seriously
4. **Reject eternal hellfire** — God is merciful

What JW's Get WRONG:

1. Jesus = Michael the Archangel WRONG

JWs teach Jesus is a created angel, not divine.

Biblical Response:

- **Heb 1:5:** "To which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son?'"
- **Heb 1:6:** "Let all God's angels worship him" — Angels worship Jesus!
- **Dan 10:13:** Michael is "one of the chief princes" (not unique)
- **Heb 2:5:** World subject to Christ, NOT angels

LDS: Jesus is Jehovah, divine Son of God, NOT a created angel.

2. Only 144,000 Go to Heaven WRONG

JWs: Only 144,000 "anointed" rule in heaven; others live on paradise earth.

Problem: Rev 7:9 describes "a great multitude that no one could count" IN heaven.

LDS: Countless will inherit celestial kingdom. 144,000 are high priests (D&C 77:11).

3. No Blood Transfusions DANGEROUS

JWs let members DIE rather than accept transfusions.

Problem: Acts 15:29 prohibits eating blood as food, not medical procedures. Jesus: "The sabbath was made for man" — life > ritual law.

LDS: No prohibition. Medical decisions left to individuals.

4. Jesus NOT Physically Resurrected WRONG

JWs: Jesus rose as "spirit creature," not physical body.

Luke 24:39: "A spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

LDS: Physical resurrection is central doctrine (D&C 130:22).

5. No Holidays — No Christmas, Easter, birthdays

6. No Flag Salutes — Refuse military service entirely

7. Strict Shunning — Families cut off from ex-members

ISLAM

What Islam Gets RIGHT:

1. **Reject Nicene Trinity** — Creeds aren't biblical
2. **Prophetic revelation** — God spoke through prophets
3. **Reject original sin** — Humans born innocent
4. **Family emphasis** — Marriage and children valued
5. **Health code** — No alcohol, harmful substances
6. **Charity** — Zakat (giving to poor) required

What Islam Gets WRONG:

1. Jesus Was NOT Crucified CATASTROPHIC

Quran 4:157: "They did not kill him, nor crucify him."

Problem: The crucifixion is the most historically attested event in antiquity. Roman + Jewish + Christian sources all confirm it.

Without crucifixion = No atonement = No salvation

LDS: Crucifixion is historical fact and central to our faith.

2. Muhammad = "Seal of Prophets" WRONG

Islam: Revelation ended with Muhammad (632 AD). No more prophets.

LDS Question: Why would God stop speaking? 1,400 years without divine guidance?

LDS: God continues to speak through living prophets.

3. Jesus Is NOT Divine WRONG

Islam: Jesus was a prophet, nothing more.

John 1:1: "The Word was God"

Matt 28:9: Jesus accepted worship

LDS: Jesus is Jehovah, divine Creator and Savior.

4. God Has No Physical Form

5. No Pre-Mortal Existence

6. No Eternal Families

THE PROTESTANT IRONY

Protestant Criticism: "Joseph Smith is just like Muhammad — both claimed angelic visitations!"

The Problem: Angels appear throughout the Bible:

- Gabriel to Zechariah and Mary (Luke 1)
- Angel to Cornelius (Acts 10)
- Angels freed Peter (Acts 12)

If angelic visitation disqualifies, you've disqualified the Bible.

Protestant Criticism: "You have additional scripture like Muslims!"

The Irony: Who decided what's in the Bible?

- NT canon not settled until 4th century
- Protestants REMOVED books at the Reformation

If the canon was open enough to remove books in 1546, why is it closed now?

The REAL Paralle:

Protestants, Catholics, and Muslims ALL agree revelation has ceased.

They just disagree on WHEN:

Position	Islam	Protestant	LDS
Revelation ended	632 AD	~100 AD	NEVER
Canon closed	Yes	Yes	No
Living prophets	No	No	Yes

LDS Question: If God spoke through prophets for 4,000+ years, why would He suddenly go silent? The claim of "closed revelation" is the Islamic position too.

THE CORE DOCTRINES

Doctrine	LDS	JW	Islam	Prot.
Jesus is divine	YES	NO	NO	YES
Jesus crucified	YES	YES	NO	YES
Physical resurrection	YES	NO	NO	YES
Continuing revelation	YES	▲	NO	NO
Nicene Trinity	NO	NO	NO	YES
Original sin	NO	NO	NO	YES

Notice: On the most fundamental Christian doctrines (Christ's divinity, crucifixion, resurrection), LDS aligns with Protestants — NOT with Muslims or JW's.

SUMMARY

Jehovah's Witnesses:

- Right: Reject creeds, emphasize evangelism
- Wrong: Jesus = angel, no physical resurrection, blood transfusion ban, only 144,000

Islam:

- Right: Reject creeds, reject original sin, family emphasis
- Wrong: Deny crucifixion, deny Christ's divinity, revelation ended

Protestant Irony:

- Criticize LDS for "additional scripture" — but canon wasn't closed until centuries after Christ
- Criticize LDS for "angelic visitations" — but the Bible is full of them
- Share Islamic position that revelation has ceased

The LDS Advantage:

- ✓ Christ's full divinity (vs Islam, JW)
- ✓ Christ's crucifixion & resurrection (vs Islam, JW)
- ✓ Continuing revelation through living prophets (vs ALL)
- ✓ Eternal families sealed by priesthood
- ✓ Coherent Godhead without creedal confusion

When Protestants say "Mormons are like Muslims," they're admitting their own position — closed revelation — is the Islamic position too.