

What About ... a Religion that Changes God into the "form of corruptible man"?

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Let me put it this way,

What religion today changes God into *the form of corruptible man*?

In Romans 1, Paul talks about what happens to a culture (a society, a nation, or an individual) which is so corrupt that *God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them* (verse 24). That would be a society where:

- They suppress the truth in unrighteousness (verse 18)
- They became futile in their speculations
- Their foolish heart was darkened
- Professing to be wise, they became fools (verse 22)
- And [they] exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man (verse 23)

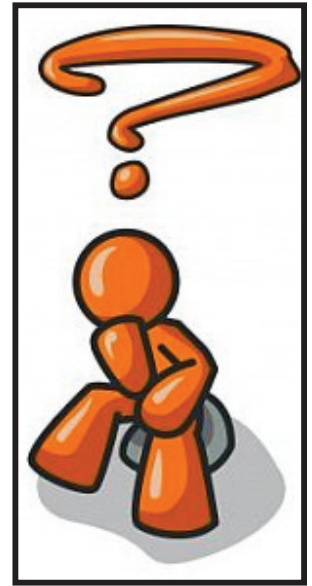
Most of us will concur that the first four bullet points, taken from Romans 1, are happening in our country and in our global society. But what about the last one? The last one says that a corrupt society will accept a religion that exchanges *the glory of the incorruptible God*

for an image in the form of corruptible man. By way of interpretation, Paul was thinking about the idols of his day, but how would he apply that today? Today, this might be a religion so fraudulent that it would replace the *incorruptible God* with a God that used to be a man.

But man is sinful by nature (Romans 3:23; 5:12). Here is what man is:

There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one. Their throat is an open grave, with their tongues they keep deceiving, the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness; their feet are swift to shed blood, destruction and misery are in their paths, and the path of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes (Romans 3:11-18).

So what religion would be so blasphemous as to say God was once a man and man can become a God? Actually, that was Satan's goal. He said, *I will make myself like the Most High.* And that's Satan's goal for us, that we become our own God. In the Garden of Eden, he told Eve, *God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God* (Genesis 3:5). So what religion would have the same goal as Satan?



Enter **Mormonism**. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (known as Mormonism after the angel Maroni supposedly revealed the book of Mormon to Joseph Smith) believes that God was once a man, and that man can become a God. They teach that our God (the God of this planet) was once a flesh-and-blood man on the planet Kolob, or some say on a planet near a sun called Kolob (from the "Book of Abraham," a work published by Latter Day Saint (LDS) prophet Joseph Smith). And you can become a God, and populate your own planet, too. Actually, the goal of Mormonism is for you to *make [yourself] like the Most High*.

In June of 1840, the fifth LDS President Lorenzo Snow declared: "As a man is, God once was; as God is, man may become." On August 8, 1852, Brigham Young, the second prophet and president of the Mormon Church, said, "The Lord created you and me for the purpose of becoming Gods like Himself" ("Journal of Discourses" 3:93).

Can you imagine a society of people who *suppress the truth in unrighteousness, become so futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart becomes so darkened, that professing to be wise they became fools*, to such an extent that they accept such a religion as: good for the family, a form of Christianity, and one that will not adversely impact our society?