WQ 2020 OVERVIEW OF CATHOLIC, MORMON, & BAPTIST BELIEFS

	Catholic	Mormon	Baptist
Founder	None - Gradual (606 AD)	Joseph Smith (1830 AD)	John Smyth (1607 AD)
Headquarters	Rome	Fayetteville, NY	Congregational
God	Father, Son, & Holy Spirit - one God in three persons.	 God resides on a planet near a star called Kolob. His name is Elohim. God is in the form of a man. God the Father had a father. There are many Gods. Mankind can progress to a state of godhood. God is referred to as heavenly Father. We have a mother in heaven. The trinity is three separate God's. Not one God in three persons. 	Father, Son, & Holy Spirit - one God in three persons.
Authority	Hierarchical: Pope, Cardinals, Curia, Tribunals, Apostolic Legates, Councils, Episcopacy, Prelates, Religious Orders	 Teachings come from: Doctrine and Covenants & The Pearl of Great Price. The Book of Mormon is their sacred text along with the bible. They believe the Book of Mormon is more correct than the Bible. 	 The scriptures are the basis of their authority. Also follow the "Church Handbook" or "Baptist Manual."

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Bible	Oral tradition is equal to the scriptures.	 They have their own translation. Accept the bible as far as it is "translated correctly." 	 Bible is inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. Is the standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried.
Sin	Multiple types of sin: Actual Sin, Habitual Sin, Material Sin, Mortal Sin, Original Sin, Venial Sin, Sin Against the Holy Ghost, Sin of Omission, Sin of Others, Sin by Silence.	 The first effect of atonement of Jesus is to secure to all mankind a plan of General Salvation. The second effect is to open a way for Individual Salvation where we can have remission of personal sins. Each person is responsible for their own sin. 	 Original Sin: it is not an actual sin but a state of sin in which each individual of the human race; inherits form Adam. Sin is also a disobedience to God's word.
Salvation	 God grants grace to a person to believe in Christ & in the truth of the Catholic Church. After belief, the person must be baptized to erase original sin & unite with Christ which gives grace & grants justification. To maintain salvation, you must perform good works & participate in the sacraments. 	 Jesus offered a plan of salvation to the Father and Satan offered a plan to the father but Jesus' plan was accepted. Jesus' sacrifice was not able to cleanse us from all our sins. Good works are necessary for salvation. There is no salvation without accepting Joseph Smith as a prophet of God. 	 To be saved and have your sins forgiven is to "accept Jesus as your personal Saviour" by grace through faith - Eph. 2:8-9 Once Saved Always Saved Assurance of salvation is experienced by living out a life of faith, the Christian life.

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Baptism	 Necessary to be a part of the church. Can be done by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion. Also believe in Baptism of Blood & Baptism of Desire. 	 Necessary for receiving Christ's atonement for sins Baptism for the dead 	 Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water. It is symbolic of the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus.
Forgiveness	Removal of the guilt and stain of sin is through faith by the sacrament of Penance.	 Jesus paid for all our sins when He suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane. We accept Christ's atonement by repenting of our sins, being baptized, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, and obeying all of the commandments. 	 Accomplished by repentance & saying the sinner's prayer. Must be followed with a life in line with the scriptures

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Church	 The Church is all baptized persons united in the same true the same sacrifice, and the same sacraments, and subject to the authority of the Pope and the bishops with him. Christ is the invisible head of the church. He's personally representing on earth by the Pope. There is only one true church established by Christ, the Catholic Church. 	 Claim that the LDS is the one true church on the face of the earth. Mormons claim only the LDS possesses the divine authority of the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood. 	 An autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by their in the faith in the gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operated under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. The office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture. In order to join the church you must be baptized (immersed) in that congregation or bring a letter of good standing from another congregation and then be voted on to be allowed to join.