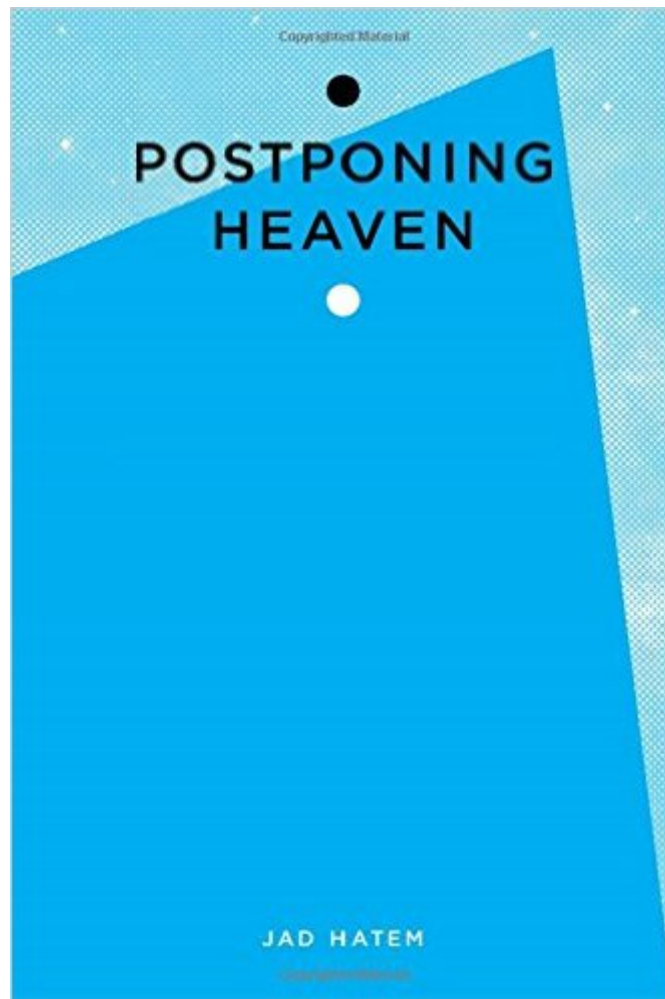


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# Postponing Heaven: The Three Nephites, The Bodhisattva, And The Mahdi (Groundwork )



## Synopsis

Christianity, like other world religions, surprisingly acknowledges the existence of a plurality of human messiahs. In this comparative work, philosopher Jad Hatem examines Mormonism's Three Nephites, Buddhism's Bodhisattva, and Islam's Mahdi; distinctive messianic figures who postpone Heaven, sacrificially prolonging their lives for the benefit of humankind.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

To the New Atheist, similarities among religions prove that all religions are false. To an uncritical apologist, similarities among religions prove only that his own religion is true. But to the rest of us such similarities can be quite enlightening. Jad Hatem has noticed a similarity among three religions that are not often compared: Mormonism, Twelver Shia Islam, and Mahayana Buddhism. All three of these religions tell stories of saintly figures whose lives have been extended far beyond their natural span "but for whom long life is a sacrifice, not a blessing. What follows from this observation is a guided journey through stories of human messianicity, the desire of humans to imitate the divine by working for others' salvation. The guide doesn't mind wandering "which, if you do mind wandering, might annoy you a bit "but his learning is broad, and he offers views on his subject you're not likely to find in another book. He understands that when three religions tell the same story, they tell it differently, and the differences speak volumes about both the story and the religions. In short, if you have an intellectual interest in Mormonism and want to think more about the

Three Nephitesâ™ or if youâ™re just wondering what comparative religion looks like when done by a French-speaking Catholic philosopher from Lebanonâ™ œPostponing Heavenâ™ • is well worth a read.

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