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Romney praised in Utah for avoiding specifics of Mormonism

Salt Lake City, Utah



12/06/07

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) _ Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney discussed few specifics of what he believes as a Mormon during a speech on faith in America today.

That's exactly what political observers in the church's home state said he should have done.

Here's what some of them have to say: Romney supporter and Hinckley Institute of Politics head Kirk Jowers says Romney didn't have enough time to address all of the issues some people have with the Mormon faith.

Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson, a Democrat and inactive Mormon, says every Mormon has to obey church leaders and he doesn't believe it when Romney says he wouldn't if elected president.

BYU political science professor Quin Monson says describing Mormon theology is a ``mine field" for any national candidate.

But Monson says the longer Mitt Romney sticks around in the public eye, the better off the next Mormon candidate will be.

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