

RELIGION

Cults & Occults

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FOREWORD

Glory to the God of heaven and earth, the Lord of lords, the King of kings, the Almighty and Most High God, the God of all the earth!

It is most privileged as a human being to search and study about God. For God's ways are not our ways. The infinite, unfathomable God to be studied by a finite and limited creature is an attempt that humbles one's heart. He alone knows all things and without Him we are nothing and cannot do anything. It is with deep insight that comes from Him that shall set us free and receive enlightenment.

I have selected the major religions man has known today. These include the cults and the occults. Cults are also religions but have the masked of Christianity. They profess they believe Christ but in their doctrines and lives they deny His saving work on the cross. He died and resurrected for the sins of all man once and for all. Occults are those involved in deep spiritual darkness—commonly known as satanic in rituals and beliefs. The religions of man continued the search for God. He has developed religions and beliefs. Preconceived ideas of the Creator whether man made, revelation by spirits, or *angels of light supposedly* abound and seem endless.

There are few things I have deeply observed and have found that these religions have many common characteristics. "Gods" have evolved or "gods" were made by men. Is it right that we should receive "gods" whose beginning or origin is from man's thoughts or ideas? The truth is they exist. They have built their roots and were imbedded in the lives of many people. These have been part of their lives. The sad part many blindly follow them. Some unknown spirits transformed themselves into angels of light reveal a new "god" or "gods", new revelations or teachings. Can the true God reveal Himself directly to man? How can we know that these spirits are from God? Who is behind these spirits? Why do their revelations contradict earlier revelations? Who is behind these contradictions? Insights and observations were made that are worthy of consideration and enlightenment at the end of each religious sects.

I Hope this study will end the search for the true God and may you be found by Him through His Son Jesus Christ. To Him is the highest praise both now and forever.

May the Almighty God guide you as you journey with me in this study, in Jesus Name. Amen.

JESUS

LORD OF ALL

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RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD



World Religions and its Founders

2,085 BC. Judaism-Abraham/ God made a Covenant

1,500 BC. Hinduism- no specific founder

560 BC. Buddhism- Gautama Buddha

550 BC. Taoism - Lao Tzu

30 AD. Christianity –Jesus Christ, the Son of God

325 AD. - After being persecuted for almost 200 years Constantine made the Church a legal state religion, compromise begins to enter.

590 AD.- Roman Catholicism- Developed after Constantine; Pope Gregory?

610 AD.- Islam- Mohammed

1515 AD.- Protestantism- (Reformers) Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin

1650 AD.- Tibetan Buddhism-Dalai Lama

1700 AD.- Freemasonry- Albert Mackey, Albert Pike

1830 AD.- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormonism) – Joseph Smith

1840-45 AD.-Millerites 2nd day Adventists –William Miller

1845-1870AD.- 7th Day Adventists-Ellen.G. White

1870 AD.- Jehovah's Witnesses- Charles Taze Russell

1879 AD.- Christian Science-Mary Baker Eddy

1906 AD. -The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World

1914 AD.- Iglesia ni Cristo- Felix Manalo

1914 AD.- Oneness Pentecostalism- Frank Ewart, G.T.Haywood, Glenn Cook

1917 AD.-True Jesus Church. Founders Paul Wei, Lingsheng Chang and Barnabas Chang

1930 AD.- Black Muslims (Nation of Islam) –Wallace D. Fard

1934 AD.- World Wide Church of God- Herbert W. Armstrong

1954 AD.- Unification Church- Sun Myung Moon

1968 AD.- Children of God- David (Moses) Berg

- 1945 AD.- United Pentecostal International- Howard Goss, W.T.
Witherspoon (can be traced back to 1914)
- 1961 AD.- Unitarian Universalism was officially formed.
- 1965 AD.- Assembly of Yahweh-Jacob Meyer
- 1966 AD.- Church of Satan -Anton LaVey
- 1985 AD- Kingdom of Jesus Christ the Name above every name-
Apollo S. Quiboloy
- 1981 AD - Church of God International
formerly Church of God in Christ Jesus- Eliseo Soriano



HINDUISM



In India there are more than one billion adherents of Hinduism. In Contrast to other religions it has no founder. It is considered one of the oldest religions in the world. Hinduism is hard to define, there being no common creed, no doctrines to bind Hindus together. Intellectually there is complete freedom of belief, and one can be a monotheist, polytheist or atheist. What matters is the social system: a Hindu is one born into a caste.

SCRIPTURES

As a religion, Hinduism is founded on the sacred scriptures, written in Sanskrit and called the Vedas (Veda-knowledge). There are four Vedic books, among which the Rig Veda is the most important. It speaks of many gods and also deals questions concerning the universe and creation. The dates of these works are unknown, The other Veda books were Sama-Veda and Atharva-Veda.

The Upanishads (dated 1000 - 300 BC), commentaries on the Vedic texts, have philosophical speculations on the origin of the universe, the nature of deity, of atman (the human soul), and its relationship to Brahman (the universal soul)

GODS

Brahma is the personification of the essential principle of Brahman as the creator god, the lord and father of all. Thus the many Hindu deities came to be understood as manifestations of the one Brahman from everything proceeds and to whom everything ultimately returns. The religio-social system of Hinduism is based on the concept of reincarnation and transmigration in which all living beings, from plants below to gods above, are caught in a cosmic system that is an everlasting cycle of becoming and perishing. There are many gods of which were only different powers and names of his manifestation.

LAW OF KARMA

Life is determined by the law of karma, according to which rebirth is dependent on moral behavior in a previous phase of existence. The doctrine of transmigration thus provides a rationale for the caste system. In this view, life on earth is regarded as transient (maya) and a burden. The goal of existence is liberation from the cycle of rebirth and redeath and entrance into the indescribable state of what in Buddhism is called Nirvana (extinction of passion).

WRITINGS

Further important sacred writings are the Epics (Puranas), which contain legendary stories about gods and men. They are the Mahabharata (composed between 200 BC and AD 200) and the Ramayana. The former includes the Bhagavad-Gita (Song of the lord), its most famous parts, tells of devotion to Krishna (lord), who appears as an Avatar (incarnation) of the god Vishnu, and of the duty of obeying the caste rules. The work begins with as praise of the yoga (discipline) system.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

The practice of Hinduism consists of rites and ceremonies, performed within the framework of the caste system and centering on the main socio-religious

occasions of birth, marriage and death. There are many Hindu temples, which are dwelling places of the deities and to which people bring offerings. There are also places of pilgrimages, the chief one being Benares on Ganges River.

Brahman, the absolute, supreme essence, central principle and soul of the universe, all pervading force, beyond all appearances, changes, differences, god is all there is. In real nature man is divine. God within and experience the divine. God-realization or self-realization- is the highest of all states. To achieve union and identification with it is the purpose of Hindu meditation.

They have the Swami (teacher) and guru (spiritual guide). Hinduism is veneration to gods like Vishnu, Shiva, Shakti and to their taking human form, and families and children. Rama, Durga, Skanda, Ganesa (the family of Shiva and Krishna the incarnated god Vishnu. Hinduism has 330 million gods and there are altars in every place in the house. Their belief is polytheistic, they believe in one god and all the deities and gods represents the power and attributes of one high god. Hinduism is a convergence of religion and sects that evolve and grown from the past millennium that covers Hindu mythology. Of the many gods they believe in the Trimurti, Brahma the creator, Siva god of fertility, death and destruction and Vishnu god that delivers.

FORGIVENESS AND CLEANSING

Ganga is a goddess, wife of Siva and a personification of the river Ganges. According to the Sanskrit the Ganges River has the power to set free, cleanse, and heal the believers while chanting ganga, ganga and their sins forgiven for the past 3 cycles of life. Everybody comes and even with their dead.

On their belief on the soul, the soul continues from youth to old age and migrates to another body at death. It is indestructible and does not perish or die. The man who lives an evil life shall be brought to hell and suffers terribly and brought to the next life as an animal. The cycle goes on— Karma the present life is a result of the past life.



HINDU GODS

- Aditi - mother of gods, goddess of heaven, the eternal
- Agni - fire god
- Brahma - god the creator , personification of the essential principles of Brahman, lord and father of all, one of the god of Trimurti
- Brahman or Brahm - the supreme essence, the central principle or soul of the universe, the all pervading force, incorporeal, immaterial, invisible, uncreated, unborn, infinite
- Buddha Gautama - founded Buddhism, incarnation (avatar) of Vishnu
- Durga - wife or Shakti of Siva, also referred as Kali
- Ganesha - has a head of an elephant, daughter of Siva, lord of obstruction, god of good fate, also called Ganapati and Gajamana.
- Ganga - goddess, one of the wives of Siva and personification of the river Ganges
- Hanuman - monkey-god and messenger of Rama
- Himalaya - father of Parvati
- Kali - dark consort of Siva, goddess of destruction
- Krishna - eighth incarnation of Vishnu, god of Bhagavad-Gita
- Lakshmi - goddess of beauty and good fate, consort of Krishna
- Manasa - goddess of the snakes

Manu - ancestor of man, saved by a large fish from the great flood
Mitra - god of light, sun god, son of Aditi
Nandi - the bull, used by Siva for traveling
Nataraja - Siva dancing surrounded by fire
Parvati or Uma - goddess consort of Siva, have also the form of the goddess Durga or Kali
Prajapati - creator of the universe, lord of mankind, father of gods, demons and of all created, known later as Brahma
Purusha - cosmic man, four of the foremost caste were created from his body, the original one, also designation of Brahma
Radha - consort of Krishna
Rama, Ramachandra - 7th incarnation of the god Vishnu
Saraswati - gods of knowledge, consort of Brahma
Shasti - goddess defending woman
Siva - god of fertility
Soma - one god animated the soma juice, lengthens life
Vishnu - god the deliverer of life, third member of Trimirti

佛

BUDDHISM



FOUNDATION

Founded in the 6th century BC in northern India, by a Hindu Sidhartha Gautama, who was born in southern Nepal as son to a king. His birth is surrounded by many legends, but western scholars believed that he lived from 563 to 483 BC. Warned by a sage that his son would become an ascetic or a universal monarch, the king confined him to his home. He was able to escape and began the life of a homeless wanderer in search of peace, passing through many disappointments until he finally came to the Tree of Enlightenment, under which he lived in meditation till enlightenment came to him and he became a Buddha (enlightened one).

Now he understood the origin of suffering, summarized in the Four Noble Truths, which constitutes the foundation of Buddhism. The Four are: 1) The truth of suffering, which all living beings must endure; 2) of the origin of suffering, which is craving and which leads to rebirth; 3) that it can be destroyed; 4) and the way that leads to the cessation of pain, i.e., The Noble Eightfold Way, which is the rule of practical Buddhism: right views, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right concentration, and right ecstasy. This is the way to end suffering according to Buddha.

Nirvana is the goal of all existence, the state of complete redemption, into which the redeemed enters. Buddha insight can free every man from the law of reincarnation through complete emptying of the self, freedom and redemption from the Law of Karma and Samsara.

GATHERINGS

The nucleus of Buddha's church or association was originally formed by monks and lay brothers whose houses gradually became monasteries used as places for religious instruction. The worship service consisted of a sermon, expounding of scripture, meditation, and confession. At a later stage pilgrimages to the holy places associated with the Buddha came into being, as well as veneration of relics.

SPREAD

In the 3rd Century BC, King Ashoka made Buddhism the state religion of India but, as centuries passed, it gradually fell into deep decay through splits, persecutions and hostile Brahmins. Buddhism spread to countries outside India, however.

At the beginning of the Christian Era, there occurred a split that gave rise to two main types: Hinayana (Little Vehicle), or Southern Buddhism, and Mahayana (Great Vehicle), or Northern Buddhism. The former type, more individualistic, survived in Ceylon and Southern Asia. Hinayana retained more closely to the original teachings of Buddha, which did not know of a personal god or soul. Mahayana, more social, polytheistic pompous cult, was strong in the Himalayas, Tibet, Mongolia, China, Korea and Japan.

In the present century, Buddhism has found believers also in the West and Buddhist associations have been established in Europe and the US.

SCRIPTURES

Most important writings of Buddhism compose of 31 Books arranged in the three collections called Sanskrit/Tripitaka meaning Three Baskets or Three Collections. Vinaya Pitaka (Basket of Discipline) statutes and commandments for monks and nuns, Sutta Pitaka (Basket of Discourse) sermons, proverbs and sayings of Buddha and his first disciples, Abhidhamma Pitaka (Basket of Absolute Doctrine) commentaries on the doctrines of Buddhists.

TEACHING

Nirvana is not heaven. Everyone can reach it here and now. It is dying, emptying of self of its desires and passions, sickness, fear, needs, love, hate. It is a status of eternal peace and unchanging and an end in the existence of the person.

Salvation and redemption is achieved without God, it is through self-realization and enlightenment through right thinking and good works. It denies the teaching of the existence of God. Man's salvation is in himself and he can be a Buddha, enlightened one.



SECTS, BELIEFS

Hinayan (Little Vehicle) other sect of Buddhism flourished in Sri Lanka, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia and Laos. Conservative thinking by Buddha is upheld. Reaching knowledge and self-redemption is through denouncing the world, live as a monk in the monastery meditating and studying the teachings. It does not consider Buddha as god.

Mahayana (Great Vehicle), Zen Buddhism thrived in China, Korea, Japan and Vietnam. It teaches and gives weight to Buddha teaching that the truth and the way of salvation is in the individual himself whenever he lives in the cave, monastery or in their houses... and not only denouncing the world. The foundational belief that great is the love and mercy of Buddha and that he will grant salvation to anyone who follows. Every one of us has the nature of Buddha. Enlightenment comes not in the disciplining of self but faith in Buddha and mercy to all that have life.

Buddha never taught of acknowledging the existence of God but later became and was considered god in every sense of the word by his followers.

Buddhism has grown into different sects and denominations. A sect of Mahayana, Peaceful Land teaches faith in Amida Buddha for salvation who promised new life in paradise, land of joy and happiness where gods and men live and from there one can easily reach Nirvana. It is through repetitious prayer sometimes a thousand times a day with chant "I put my faith to Amida Buddha."

Zen Buddhism, Zen (Ch'an) Chinese, (Zen) Japanese means meditation. It teaches that study, good works and rituals are not so important and enlightenment can be reached through meditation of complex proverbs like, "what is the sound of clapping with one hand, what you can see in an empty place." Character of Zen is also seen in the arranging of flowers, painting, poems, gardening. Etc.

Lamaismo or Buddhism in Tibet also called Mantrayana (Vehicle Mantra) because of its use of Mantra lengthfully. Instead of dwelling in knowledge and mercy it dwells in rituals, prayer, spiritism in worship. Thousands of chants in prayer are made through the beads and the ritual is learned in their Dalai Lama or Panchen Lama.



CONFUCIANISM

Confucius (Kung Fu-tzu) born in the state of Lu (northern China) lived from 551 to 479 BC. Tradition, exaggerating the importance of Confucius in life, has depicted as a great statesman but in life he seems to be a private teacher. Anthologies of ancient Chinese classics along with the Analects (Lun Yu), became the basis of Confucianism. These Analects are collection of his sayings as transmitted which he discussed ethical and social problems.

Confucius emphasized the importance of an old Chinese concept (li) which has the connotation of proper conduct. He believed in Heaven (T'ien) and sacrificed to his ancestors. Ancestor worship he did encouraged as an expression of filial piety, which he considered the loftiest of virtues.

ETHICS

Piety to Confucius was the foundation of the family as well as the state. The family is the nucleus of the state, and the five relations between king and the subject, father and son, man and wife, older and younger brother, friend and friend are determined by virtues of love of fellow men, righteousness and respect.

Confucius doctrine of State with its emphasis on ethics and social morality rooted in Chinese tradition developed and continued by his disciples, has been standard in China and the Far East.

ORDER

Confucianism's practical way is that society shall be in order if every person shall act accordingly to his status and responsibility. It is influenced by Li. And Jen, Li (statutes of morality and ethics that moves the social being of a true man) Jen (the goodness inherent in every man) and this is achieved by progressing the self through education and knowledge. The theory knowledge changes man and changed society is its result. The family being the nucleus of change and that's why Chinese families have close ties.



DEVELOPMENT

Emperor Wu Ti of Han Dynasty made Confucianism a state religion. Emperor Han started the tradition of offerings in his grave. In 630 AD Emperor T'ai Tsung of T'and ordered temples be built and offerings made to Confucius. Confucius was elevated to a god and Confucianism a religion.

Knowledge, self, and nature were exchanged for the existence of the true God.

SCRIPTURES

The Four books were (Ta Hsueh) Great Learning- foundation of education, (Chung Yung) Doctrine of Steadfast Mean, advancing the nature of man through moderation, (Lun Yu) the Analects- collection of sayings of Confucius, (Meng- tze) sayings of Mencius - sayings of the great disciple of Confucius, Mencius.

The Five Classics were (Shih Ching) Book of poems - 305 poems depicting everyday lives, Chou's time (1000 - 600 BC), (Shu Ching) Book of History- covers history of China from the 17th Century dynasty Shang (1766 -1122 BC), On disintegrated lines, (Li Chi) Book of Ceremonies - collection of teachings on ceremonies and rituals, (Ch'un Ch'iu) Yearly Record of Harvest and Famine- history of Lu, Province Confucius was born, 721- 478 BC.



SHINTOISM

Shinto in the 6th Century AD, the Chinese term for the Japanese Kamini Michi, i.e., the way of gods, comprises the religious ideas and cult indigenous to Japan. Kami or gods, considered divine forces of natures that are worshipped, may reside in rivers, trees, rocks, mountains, certain animals, the sun or moon, which are practiced by their ancestors. The worship of ancestors, heroes and deceased emperors was incorporated earlier.



BELIEFS

The centers of worship are the shrines and temples in which deities are believed to dwell and believers approach them through torii (gateways). Most important shrine is the Imperial Shrine of the Sun goddess at Ise. Ceremonies are held in June and December. Acts of worship consists of prayers, clapping of hands, acts of purification and offerings. On feasts days processions and performances of music and dancing take place and priest read prayers before the gods in the shrines, asking for good harvest, well-being of the people and the emperor. In modern times sects have arisen, one is Tenrikyo in Tenri City (Nara), in which healing by faith plays a central role.

WORSHIP

The worship of ancestors who later became gods that protects their clan begun in the fear of the spirit of the dead. So as not to inflict harm on them they undergo rituals and later were worshipped. Gods of nature and ancestral gods which they believe are in the air were invoked to dwell to specific place for making holy during feasts or festivals. Shintai are the places were these spirits dwell. Later the people built altars on which they believe are good gods. Many gods were named and called. The term yaoyoro-zu-no-kami, literally eight million gods signifies the multitude of gods that cannot be numbered. In the 7th Century AD, Amaterasu Omikami, goddess of the sun, became the primary figure of the gods of Shinto.

BOOKS

The nature, character and acts of these gods are of mythical origin from their ancestors. The two foremost books are Kojiki and Nihon shoki which were gathered during the 2nd Century AD, although it was not considered the inspired writing. Shinto has no exact doctrine, no detailed theology, no statues or laws to follow.

UNION WITH GODS

To a Shintoist besides doctrines, statutes and sometimes the gods they worshipped (because gods changes from its seats) what is important is reconciliation, union with the gods, nature, society is good. Anything that hinders is evil.

Feast, festivals and rituals are the means of establishing this belief, in their festivals the gods were called to join them and the people are united. Shintoist should be cleansed and morally pure. Rituals comes in, the ohari and misogi - in oharai the Shinto priest waves a branch of a sakaki tree with a paper or cloth tied on its end to cleansed any property of man and the misogi, water is used.

THE MERGE

Shintoism absorbs elements of other religions that would come, Taoism, Confucianism and more on Buddhism. By the end of the 6th Century AD. Prince Shotoku of Japan embraced Buddhism inspite of rejections from Shintoists the past hundred years. As a result Shintoism and Buddhism in Japan became one. Buddhist monks settled in the mountains wherein the belief the gods dwell also. Buddhism led the religious theories.

RISE AND FALL

There was a resurgence of Shintoism, Norinaga Motoori, 18th Century held the goddess of Shinto Amaterasu Omikami as supreme. Atsutante Hirata followed and purified Shinto from the influence of Chinese. He introduced the trinitarian teaching of the Roman Catholics. Amenominakamushi-no-kami one god mentioned in Kojiki who rules mankind, Takami-musubi the high bearer and Kami-musubi, the holy bearer. From this theology of Hirata also evolved emperor worship and the state. Emperor Meigi wrote Imperial Rescript to soldiers and sailors and Imperial Rescript on education. Shinto State became the primary religion and the 13 sects of Shintoism that teaches now different doctrines became Shinto Sects. Emperors were taught as sons of the goddess of the Sun Amaterasu Omikami, who were gods revealed to man. These in turn came the teaching that the empire should be worldwide. Then came World War II in 1941 and they were defeated in 1945 because of the atomic bomb in Hiroshima. Emperador Hirohita became a defeated man. The faith of the Japanese was destroyed. Shinto gave no clear answer of the defeat. The reason then came "no gods or Buddha"

NOT FOUND GOD

Today Buddhism and Shintoism remains their religion and to some there is no god or Buddha.



TAOISM



Taoism, a religion of China founded by Lao Tze in the 6th Century BC. The book Tao Te Ching (the classic of the way and its power) composed in short chapters in aphoristic rhymes. Central are the word Tao, which means way or path and in deeper sense signifies the principle that underlies the reality of this world and manifests itself in nature and in the lives of men and the word Te (power). Virtuous man empowered by Tao (way or path) by non-action and keeping away from human striving and live in harmony with the principles that underlie and govern the universe. It is comprehended by inward quietness. Deals with dieties, spirits., magic, soothsayings.



BELIEF

Tao, the way is a law that governs the world. There is not a god that is ruling the universe but teaches that fate and the will of heaven causes everything. And the order of existence of the world is a manifestation of the Tao. Man to live harmoniously and orderly with the Tao have to act in the right way otherwise who'll go against shall have trouble and destruction. Taoism spiritual path is silence, non-resistance and going back to nature to work itself.

In the book "Tao Te Ching", chapter 25, Tao (way) already existed before heaven and earth, the mother of all things. Chapter 51, all came from Tao, given life by Te (power) and all revere Tao and honors Te. Therefore it teaches there is a cosmic power that causes everything and man to deny the world look for it and be one with nature.

MANY WAYS

Taoism also embraced the Yoga-exercise, stop breathing, diet, sexual practices, amulets, walking in the water and flying, miraculous marks that have symbols of yin and yang (female & male) that draw away evil spirits and wild beasts. In the Tang Dynasty, 618 - 907 AD, on the onset of Buddhism, Lao-Tze was venerated as god, his writings sacred, temples and monasteries established. Pantheon of many gods and goddesses and myths of Chinese heroes were enjoined. The result was a combination of the elements of Buddhist, traditional superstitions, spiritism and worship of ancestors. It became a system of idolatry and superstition. Each one worships his favorite god for protection from evil and for blessings. Priests are hired for burial, choosing right place for living, business (fengshui are consulted), casting evil spirits, sorcery, holding feasts and many rituals.



ISLAM

Islam is the religion founded in Arabia by Mohammed between 610 and 632 A.D. More than a billion adherents are found in countries stretching from Morocco in the West to Indonesia in the East.

Mohammed was born in A.D. 570 at Mecca and belonged to the Quraysh tribe, which was active in caravan trade. At the age of 25 he joined the caravan trade from Mecca to Syria in the employment of a rich widow, Khadiji, whom he married. Critical of the idolatry of the inhabitants of Mecca, he began to lead a contemplative life in the deserts. There he received a series of revelations. Encouraged by Khadiji, he gradually became convinced that he was given by a god-appointed task to devote himself to the reform of a religion and society. Idolatry was to be abandoned. An angel Gabriel appeared to him and dictated him the Qur'an.

The Hegira (Hejra)(migration) of Mohammed from Mecca, where he was not honored, to Medina, where he was well received, occurred in 622 and marks the beginning of the Muslim era. In 630 he marched on Mecca and conquered it. He died at Medina in 632. His grave there has since been a place of pilgrimage.

Mohammed's followers, called Muslims, revered him as the prophet of Allah, beside whom there is no other god. Although he had no close knowledge of Judaism and Christianity, he considered himself succeeding and completing them as the seal of the prophets. Sources of Islamic faith are the Qur'an, regarded as the uncreated, eternal word of God, and tradition (hadith) regarding sayings and deeds of the prophet.

Islam means surrender to the will of Allah. He is the all-powerful, whose will is supreme and determines man's fate. Good deed will be rewarded at the last judgment in paradise and evil deeds will be punished in hell.



The Five Pillars, primary duties, of Islam are: 1) witness, confessing the oneness of God and of Mohammed, his prophet, 2) prayer, to be performed five times a day, 3) alms giving to the poor and the mosque (house worship), 4) fasting during daylight hours in the month of Ramadan and 5) pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in the Muslim's life.

The practice Holy War (jihad), at first was responsible for the rapid growth of the new religion, could not be maintained. Mohammed curtailed the practice of polygamy by limiting it to four wives. The eating of pork and drinking of intoxicants is forbidden.

Islam, upholding the law of brotherhood, succeeded in uniting the Arab world that has disintegrated into tribes and castes. Disagreements concerning the succession of the prophet caused a great division in Islam between Sunnis and Shias. Among these other sect Wahhabi arisen. Doctrinal issues also led to the rise of different schools of thought in theology. Nevertheless, since Arab armies turned against Syria and Palestine in 635, Islam has expanded successfully under

Mohammed's successors. Its rapid conquest in Asia and Africa are unsurpassed in history.

The Qur'an confirmed God's covenant, the law and the books given to the Israelites and the Christians. Believed Jesus' gospel, a prophet not God nor Savior. He did not die on the cross nor did resurrect from the dead. There is no trinity. There is Heaven and Hell. Jesus will come again, neither a Savior nor Son of God but shall confirm Allah as the only true god and Mohammed his prophet.



To earn Paradise is through belief in the Qur'an and Shunnah (Five Pillars of Islam), in the oneness of Allah, do righteous deeds, true in faith, words, deeds and obedient, sincere devotion and fear to Allah. Hell is for those who earns evil, reject faith, disbelieve ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, signs, and revelations), polytheists, and disbelievers and belied ayat.

JESUS IN THE QURAN

Annunciation of Christ

Quran:

Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah hath chosen thee and purified thee - chosen thee **above the women of all nations.**" S. 3:42

"Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah giveth thee glad tidings of **a word from him: his name will be the Messiah Jesus**, The son of Mary, held in honor in this world *and the hereafter* and of those nearest to Allah.." She said: "O my Lord! How shall I have a son **when no man hath touched me?**" He said: "Even so: Allah createth what He willeth: when He hath decreed a plan, He but saith to it, 'be; and it is!' " S. 3:45,47.

These passages confirm that Jesus is **1) Al Masih, the Messiah, 2) virgin born, 3) Kalimat Minhu - a word from God and one of those nearest to God.**

Relate in the book (the story of) Mary... She placed a screen (to screen herself) from them: then we sent to her our angel (*Ruh* - spirit) and he appeared before her as a man in all respects... He said: "Mary! I am only a messenger from thy Lord, (to announce) to thee the gift of a holy (i.e. faultless) son (**Ghulamin Zakiyyan**)." She said: "How shall I have a son, seeing that no man has touched me, and I am not unchaste?" He said: "So (it will be): thy Lord saith, 'That is easy for me: and (we wish) to appoint him **as a sign (ayat) unto men (alamin)** and a **mercy from us**: It is a matter (so) decreed." Surah. 19:16, 17, 19-21.

These verses further establish the fact that Jesus is 4) faultless and 5) a sign from God to the entire world, not merely to the Israelites.

We can find in the Quran that that Jesus is **The Messiah, Virgin born son of Mary, The Word of God, Sinless, A Sign and Mercy unto mankind.**

1. The Messiah

"Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the Earth set themselves, and the rulers take council together, against the LORD and *His Anointed* (Mashiach), saying, 'Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us.' He who sits in the heavens laughs; The LORD has them in derision, then He will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in His fury, saying, 'I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.' I will tell of the decree of the LORD; He said to me (the Messiah), '*You are my son, today I have begotten you. Ask of me and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.* You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' Now therefore, o kings, be wise, be warned o rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling kiss *His Son*, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way; For his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him." Psalm 2:1-11

And,

"The LORD says to my Lord [i.e. David's sovereign]: '*sit on my right hand*, till I make your enemies your footstool'... The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, '*you are a priest forever* after the order of Melchizedek.'" Psalm 110:1, 4

These two passages point out the fact that the one specific Messiah predicted to come would be the Son of God, the King of all the nations and the Eternal Priest of God who sits on the right hand of majesty forever.

The fact that Jesus is the one being referred to in these passages becomes quite clear when reading the Gospel accounts of the angel's annunciation to Mary:

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!' But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called *the Son of the Most High*; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his Father David, and *He will reign over the house of Jacob forever*; and of His kingdom *there will be no end.*" Luke 1:26-33

"...and she (Elizabeth) exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and *blessed is the fruit of your womb!*'" Luke 1:42

Indeed Mary is so highly blessed due to the reason that she was to conceive the greatest man who ever lived; the Son of the Most High, the Savior of the World, Jesus the Messiah.

2. The Virgin Birth.

"Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah giveth thee glad tidings of **a word from him: his name** will be **the Messiah Jesus**, The son of Mary, held in honor in this world *and the hereafter* and of those nearest to Allah.." She said: "O my Lord! How shall I have a son **when no man hath touched me?**" He said: "Even so: Allah createth what He willeth: when He hath decreed a plan, He but saith to it, 'be; and it is!' " S. 3:45,47.

"And Mary said to the angel, 'How shall this be, since I have no husband?' And the angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; Therefore the child to be born *will be called holy, the Son of God.*'" Luke 1:34-35

The reason that the child is born of a virgin is because he is the Son of God and as such, he could not be conceived in the normal fashion. Had he been born otherwise he would have inherited a sinful nature like all the rest of mankind.

In other words, the virgin birth was a necessity only for the fact that this was the only befitting way for the King of glory to become incarnate, since he is God's unique Son.

Hence, Christians do not believe that the virgin birth makes Jesus the Son of God. Rather, they believe that because Jesus is the Son of God he had to be born of a virgin.

3. The Word of God.

In S. 4:171 we are told:

"O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: nor say of Allah aught but the truth. Christ Jesus the Son of Mary was a messenger of Allah, *and His Word (Kalimatuhu)*, which He bestowed on Mary, and a spirit proceeding from Him (*Ruhun-Minhu*): so believe in Allah and His messengers. Say not 'three': desist."

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God *and the Word was God. He* was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that has been made...The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth..." John 1:1-3, 14a.

4. Sinless

Both Christians and Muslims affirm his perfect and sinless life. Not only is Christ the only sinless person amongst all the prophets mentioned in this tradition, but we have Muhammad once again confirming that Jesus is the Word and Spirit of God and not just a word or spirit from him.

"...And those (false gods) whom they invoke besides God have no power of intercession. **ONLY HE WHO BEARS WITNESS TO THE TRUTH** and they know." S. 43:86

The only one who is not only a witness to the truth but is the very Incarnation of Truth is Jesus Christ:

"Jesus said to him' "I am the way and the **TRUTH** and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." John 14:6

Due to the fact that Jesus is the Truth of God revealed to mankind and because he, among all men, is without sin, his intercession is welcomed and accepted. The short-comings of all the other prophets will prevent them from fulfilling this role:

"For there is one God and **ONE** mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Tim. 2:5

"My little children, these things I write to you, that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ *the Righteous*. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world." 1 John 2:1-3

Of humanity we are told that, "None are righteous, no, not one." Since "*all* have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." Romans 3:10, 23

But of Christ we read that, "He committed no sin, no guile was found on His lips," and that He is "like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." 1 Peter 2:22, 1:19

Jesus Christ is "a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens." Hebrews 7:26

He was "one who in every respect was tempted as we are, yet without sin" and because of this God "made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21

So assured is the sinless life of Christ that He could ask His enemies, "which of you can convict me of sin?" John 8:46

5. Sign Unto Mankind

The Quran itself bears testimony to the universal mission of Christ:

He said: "so (it will be): thy Lord saith, 'That is easy for me: and (we wish) to appoint him *as a sign unto men and mercy from us*.'" S. 19:21

And (remember) who guarded her chastity: "We breathed into her of our Spirit and We made her and her son *a sign for all peoples*." S. 21:91

Yusuf Ali states in two separate footnotes that Jesus was meant to be a sign for the world:

"Mary the mother of Jesus, chastity was her special virtue: with a son of virgin birth, she and Jesus became *a miracle to all nations*. This was the virtue with which they (both Mary and Jesus) resisted evil." (1:815, f. 2748)

And when I (God) inspired the disciples, (saying): Believe in me and my messenger (Jesus), they said: we believe. Bear witness that we have surrendered (unto thee). S. 5:111 M. Pickhtall

O ye who believe! Be ye helpers of God: As said Jesus the son of Mary to the Disciples, "who will be my helpers to (the work of) God?" Said the Disciples, "we are God's helpers!" Then a portion of the children of Israel believed, and a portion disbelieved: *But we gave power to those who believed, against their enemies, and they became the ones that prevailed.* S. 61:14

The Quran testifies that the Apostles were given the same inspiration (*wahi*) that the earlier Prophets and Muhammad afterwards were given. It also states that God would insure that the true disciples of Jesus Christ would prevail and dominate till the Resurrection Day. Since the Day of Resurrection has not arrived, this would mean that true Christianity still exists. This would also compel us to accept the Bible as authoritative and inspired since it is the only testimony given by the God-inspired Apostles to their followers, a testimony that Allah himself said would remain and prevail against the attacks of the unbelievers. Thus the Apostolic testimony recorded in the Holy Bible can be trusted, and it is within these inspired pages that the universal mission of Christ is confirmed.

"Again Jesus spoke to them saying, '*I am the light of the world*'; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

"As long as I am in the world, *I am the light of the world.*" John 9:5

"... and I, when I am lifted up from the Earth, *will draw all men to myself.*" John 12:32

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that *whoever* believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but *that the world might be saved through Him.*" John 3:16-17

Jesus' Qualities and Attributes:

Spirit Of God

As mentioned earlier, both the Quran and Traditions refer to Jesus as the Spirit of God (*Ruh-Ullah*). While it is true that the title given to Christ in S. 4:171, "a spirit from Him" (*Ruhun-Minhu*), implies that there are others who could rightly be called spirits from God (i.e. Adam), two other passages make it clear however that Christ is *the* Spirit of God incarnate:

"And (remember) her who guarded her chastity; *We breathed into her of our Spirit*, and We made her and her son a Sign for all peoples." S. 21:91

"And Mary daughter of Imran, who guarded her chastity; and We breathed into (her body) of our Spirit; and she testified to the truths of the words of her Lord and of His revelations, and was one of the devout (servants)." S. 66:12

"Thus he spoke to the people in the cradle and was able to read and write the Torah and the Gospel without instruction. He was also able to revive the dead and heal the sick and perform many other miracles." (2:146)

Your Lord is the mighty One, the Merciful. This is surely revealed by the Lord of the universe. The Faithful Spirit brought it down into your heart, that you might warn the mankind in Arabic speech. S. 26:192-95 Dawood

"But He fashioned him (man) in due proportion, and breathed into him something of His Spirit..." S. 32:9

"Behold! Thy Lord said to the angels: 'I am about to create man, from sounding clay from mud molded into shape; 'When I have fashioned him (in due proportion) *and breathed into him of My Spirit* fall ye down in obeisance unto him.'" S. 15:28-29

Christians believe that based on the Bible, the Holy Spirit is not Jesus Christ, but a distinct yet inseparable personality from Christ. God is Father, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

The Father creates, bringing all things into existence through His Eternal Word, by whom He also reveals Himself to man. The Father imparts life into man and unites with him through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit. [Genesis 1:1-3; 2:7; John 1:1-3, 14,18; 1 Corinthians 6:19]

God as creator, the Father - Hebrews 3:4. God revealed, The Son - His Word - Matthew 11:27; John 1:1; Revelation 19:13. God the giver of life, the Holy Spirit - Romans 8:4b,11; 2 Corinthians 3:6b)

Christ the Author Of Life

The Quran portrays Jesus as the divine Creator and Author of life:

And Allah will teach him the Book and Wisdom, the Law and Gospel and (appoint him) a messenger to the children of Israel (with this message): "I have come to you, with a Sign from your Lord, in that I make for you out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird *and breathe into it*, and it becomes a bird by Allah's permission. And I heal those born blind, and the lepers, *and I quicken the dead*, by Allah's leave; and I declare to you what ye eat, and what ye store." S. 3:48-49; 5:110

This is the closest the Quran comes to acknowledging the omnipotence of Christ. Christ is given a prerogative that is God's alone, namely the ability to infuse life into non-living matter by the breath of his lips. This power bears a profound resemblance to the manner in which God fashioned the first man:

And when thy Lord said to the angels: I am going to create a mortal of sounding clay, of black mud fashioned into shape. So when I have made him complete *and breathed into him of My Spirit*, fall down making obeisance to him. S. 15:28-29

From this we observe that Christ, similar to God, is a life-giving spirit. This fact is echoed in the Holy Bible:

"...The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam (Jesus) became a *life-giving Spirit*." 1 Corinthians 15:45

"All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being." John 1:3

"Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; For whatever He does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father *loves the Son*, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. The Father judges no one, *but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father*. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. Truly, truly I say to you, the hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. *For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself and has given him authority to execute judgment*, because he is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; For the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. I can do nothing on my own authority; as I hear I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.'" John 5:19-30

The reason behind Christ's authority to give life and to judge is that he is the eternal love of God and all must worship him as the Father's beloved Son. The following passages also confirm this fact:

"And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven saying, '*This is my beloved Son*, with whom I am pleased.'" Matthew 3:16-17

"Father I desire that they (the disciples) also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me *in thy love for me before the foundation of the world*." John 17:24

The Father and his Son have existed in perfect love from all eternity, making them the object of each others love. From this unconditional love flows the grace and mercy towards humanity, which has been revealed at the cross of Calvary:

"He (Satan) has no power over me; but I do as the Father commanded me, so that the world may know *that I love the Father*..." John 14:30b-31

"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as an expiation for our sins." 1 John 4:9-10

The Quran only acknowledges what the Bible believing Christians have always known, namely that Jesus is the resurrection and life:

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; He who believes in me though he die yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.'" John 11:25-26

Knowledge Of The Unseen

One attribute of God is the ability to know the unknowable (i.e., omniscience). No man or creature is capable of having the knowledge of the things invisible and hidden. This the Quran bears witness to:

"Say: The unseen belongs *only* to God." S. 10:20

The Quran attributes to Christ a function that belongs to Deity alone:

"...And I declare to you what ye eat, and what ye store in your houses. Surely therein is a sign for you if ye did believe." S. 3:49

According to al-Tabari based on the authority of Ibn Ishaq, "When Jesus was nine or ten years old, his mother sent him to a religious school. But whenever the teacher tried to teach him anything, he found that Jesus already knew it. The teacher exclaimed, 'Do you not marvel at the son of this widow? Every time I teach him anything, I find that he knows it far better than I do.'" (2:142)

Again al-Tabari states, this time based on Said ibn Jubayr, "that Jesus would say to one of his fellow playmates in the religious school, 'Your parents have kept such and such food for you, would you give me some of it?'" (Ibid.)

Al-Suddi relates, "Jesus used to tell his fellow pupils what their parents ate and what they kept for them. He used to say to a boy, 'Go home, for your parents have kept for you such and such food and they are now eating such and such food.' As the parents became annoyed by this, they forbade their children to play with Jesus, saying, 'Do not play with that magician.'" (Ibid.: 142-143)

Christ Is Worshipped

The Quran announces the birth of John the Baptist as a messenger sent to prepare the way for Jesus Christ:

"And the angels called to him (Zechariah) while he was he was standing at prayer in the sanctuary, 'God gives you glad tidings of John, confirming a word of God, a master, chaste man and a prophet, one of the righteous.'" S. 3:39 Mahmoud's Translation

That the word of God being spoken of here is Jesus, is almost unanimously held by all Islamic scholars, making John a witness to Christ.

Mahmoud Ayoub, citing Tabarsi states:

"Tabarsi argues that John was obligated by God to be a witness to the fact that Jesus was in truth *the word of God and His Spirit*." (2:109)

(We once again find confirmation that Jesus is *THE* Word of God, not just a word.)

Zamakshari substantiates this by saying:

"It is related that John *was the first to believe in Jesus*. Jesus was called *Word*... because he came to being only by God's word. It was His saying, '*kunn*' (be), and no other cause." (2:108)

What is more interesting though, is not the fact that John came as a confirmation to Jesus, but what he actually did when he was in the presence of Christ:

Qurtubi writes that when Mary conceived Jesus, her sister came to visit her during the time of her conception of John:

"The sister visited Mary and said, 'O Mary, do you perceive that I am with child?' Mary answered, 'Do you see that I am also with child?' Her sister went on, 'I feel the child in my womb *bowing down to the child in your womb*.'"

Qurtubi continues, "It is reported that she felt the fetus in her womb bow down with its head turned toward Mary's womb." (2:108)

The Bible also records the incident of John leaping in the womb:

"...And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 'And why is this granted me, that *the mother of my Lord* should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.'" Luke 1:41-44

Elizabeth gives a reason for John's joy. Mary was to conceive Elizabeth's Lord, and because Jesus is Lord of all, everyone must bow down in reverence to the Messiah:

"When they (the magi) saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and *they fell down and worshiped him*." Matthew 2:10,11a

"...And those in the boat *worshiped him* saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'" Matthew 14:33

"And behold, Jesus met them and said, 'Hail!', and they came up *and took hold of his feet and worshiped him*." Matthew 28:9

"And when they saw him *they worshiped him*; but some doubted." Matthew 28:17

"Jesus heard that they had cast him (the blind man) out and having found him said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you.' He said, 'Lord I believe'; *and he worshiped him.*" John 9:35-37

"And again, when he brings his first-born into the world, he says, 'Let all of God's angels *worship him.*'" Hebrews 1:6

Because, "at the name of Jesus *every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*" Philippians 2:10-11

"Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, *the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:*
'You are worthy, O Lord.
To receive glory and honor
And power; For you created
All things, and by your will they exist and were created."
Revelation 4:9-11

The inhabitants of heaven worship Jesus:

"Now when He had taken the scroll, *the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying:*
'You are worthy to take the scroll,
And to open its seals;
For you were slain,
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
And have made us kings and priests to our God;
And we shall reign on the earth.'
"Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice:
'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
To receive power and riches and wisdom,
And strength and honor and glory and blessing!'"
Revelation 5:8-12

Finally,

"And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all therein saying, 'To Him who sits upon the throne *and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!*' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' and the elders *fell down and worshiped.*" Revelation 5:13-14

The evidence compels us that to worship Jesus is to worship God.

Christ Above The Law

All creation is subject to the Laws of God. None can add or subtract from the divine decrees but must faithfully follow the commands established by the Creator. For a man to override God's command is blasphemy. Yet, we find Christ doing precisely this in Matthew 5:21-44 when after quoting the Law, he redefines it on his own authority by boldly stating, "*But I tell you this...*" This places Christ's authority on an equal level with God's, indicating equality in essence and nature.

The Quran itself bears witness to this Biblical fact:

"(I have come to you), to attest to the Law which was before me *and to make lawful to you part of what was (before) forbidden to you...*" S. 3:50

According to Wahb bin Munabbih, Jesus came to "relieve" the Jews "of some of the hardships" which the Torah imposed on them. (2:149)

Indeed, the more one analyzes the Quranic portrait of Christ the more amazing it appears. In fact, if it were not for the Quran's denial of Jesus' divinity and unique Sonship in such passages as S. 5:72 and 9:30, one would be left with the impression that the Quran does in fact tend to suggest that Christ is both divine and human, two natures united in one person. Even the titles used of Christ in the Quran suggest this i.e., *ibn Maryam* (son of Mary) and *kalimatullah* (Word of God).

The title "Son of Mary" is equivalent to the Biblical "Son of Man," an epithet used by Christ in regards to his own person; whereas the title "Word of God" being a synonym for "Son of God." (cf. Mark 14:61b-62; John 1:18, 3:16).

Thus, Jesus Christ the man was limited to the extent of which all humans are limited. He hungered, thirsted, grew weary, slept and grew in wisdom and knowledge similar to all humans. Yet, as God's own Word and unique Son he is the Bread of life, the Living Water, the Sustainer of the universe, the Judge of both the living and the dead, the King of kings and the Lord of Lords. (cf. John 6:35, 4:10; Hebrews 1:3; John 5:26-29; Revelation 17:14, 19:16)

The Biblical teaching is that Christ is God who became man, uniting two natures in one Person. These two natures did not fuse together but rather remained distinct, yet inseparable, in the person of Christ. Hence, we see time and again that Christ could not do in his humanity what he could do in his divinity and vice versa, displaying a perfect manifestation of both natures in one person.

To finish with this aspect of our study, we would like to state that once the evidence has been objectively examined, one will surely arrive to the logical conclusion that Jesus is the Son of the living God, the Savior of the world.

Methods Of Evangelism

Muhammad:

"Fight those who believe not in God nor the last day... Nor acknowledge the religion of truth (Islam), (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay Jizya (tribute tax) with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued." S. 9:29

"Say to the desert Arabs behind: Ye shall be summoned (to fight) against a people given to vehement war: then shall, ye fight, or they shall submit. Then if you show obedience, God will grant you a goodly reward, but if ye turn back as ye did before, He will punish you with a grievous penalty." S. 48:16

"Apostle! Rouse the believers to fight!" S. 8:65

"Know that Paradise is under the shades of swords." Vol. 4:73

Jesus:

"But into whatsoever city you enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, 'Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is nigh unto you.'" Luke 10:10,11 K.J.V.

"Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword die by the sword. Matthew 26:52

"For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." Luke 9:56

Eternal Security

A Muslim can only hope for salvation, never knowing if his Lord will be pleased with him enough to allow him to enter into Paradise.

"But as for him who shall repent and believe and do right, *perhaps he may be one of the successful.*" S. 28:67

"Oh, ye who believe, repent toward Allah, with a sincere repentance. *It may be that your Lord will remit from your evil deeds and admit you to gardens beneath which rivers flow.*" S. 66:8

"Those only shall worship in the mosques of Allah, who believe in Allah and the last day and observe proper worship and give alms and fear none except Allah; *and it might be that these are of the rightly guided.*" S. 9:18

Even those who are nearest in love to God (i.e. angels) can only hope for salvation:

"Even those (the angels and prophets) who are nearest. *They hope for his mercy and fear his wrath.*" S. 17:57

In reference to hell, the Quran says, "Not one of you but will pass over it (original: *through it*). This is a decree *which must be accomplished.*" S. 19:71

Muhammad himself was not guaranteed salvation:

"By Allah, though I am the Apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me." Vol. 5:266

"Truly thou (Muhammad) wilt die, and they (Muslims) (too) will die. S. 39:30

This is why a believer is told to pray for Muhammad's salvation:

"God and his angels pray for the Prophet, and you who believe pray for him and ask for his salvation." S. 33:56

On the other hand, a Christian who has accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is guaranteed eternal life,

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." John 5:24

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; *and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and none can snatch them out of My hand.*" John_10:27-28

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

Jesus says to his followers, "Because I live, you will live also." (John 14:19 N.K.J.V.)

"Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, *I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.*" John 14:1-3

"When Jesus had spoken these words, He lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life that they know *thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.*'" John 17:1-3

"Father I want those you have given Me *to be with Me where I am, and to see My glory, the glory you have given Me because you loved Me before the creation of the world.*" John 17:24

"For whosoever calleth upon the name of the Lord, *shall be saved.*" Romans10:13 K.J.V.

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing *you may have eternal life in His name.*" John 20:31 .

In fact Jesus does not need us sinners to pray for him since He *is* eternal life and our advocate with the Father:

"... the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaimed to you the eternal life (Jesus) which was with the Father and was made manifest to us..." 1 John 1:2

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and *the life...*" John 14:6

"My little children, I am writing this to you so that you may not sin; but if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also *for the sins of the whole world.*" 1 John 2:1-2

Christ's superiority over the prophet of Islam, comes from Muhammad himself:

Narrated Abu Huraira: Two persons, a Muslim and a Jew quarreled. The Muslim said, "By him who gave Muhammad superiority over all the people!" The Jew said, "By him who gave Musa [Moses] superiority over all the people!" At that the Muslim raised his hand and slapped the Jew on the face. The Jew went to the Prophet and informed him of what had happened between him and the Muslim. The Prophet sent for the Muslim and asked him about it. The Muslim informed him of the event.

The Prophet said, "Do not give me superiority over Musa [Moses], for on the day of resurrection all the people will fall unconscious and I will be one of them, but I will be the first to gain consciousness and will see Musa [Moses] standing and holding the throne (of Allah). I will not know whether [Musa (Moses)] has also fallen unconscious and got up before me, or Allah has exempted him from that stroke." Vol. 3:594

Narrated Abu Huraira: The Prophet said, "Whoever says that I am better than Yunus (Jonah) Bin Matta, is a liar." Vol. 6:128

If Muhammad is not as great as either Jonah or Moses, then he cannot possibly be as great as Jesus Christ, since Christ is greater than both Moses and Jonah. Jesus was also greater than Solomon and the very temple of God:

"I (Jesus) tell you that one greater than the temple is here." Matthew 12:6 N.I.V.

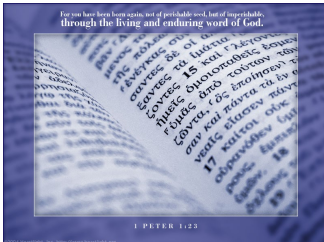
"And now one greater than Jonah is here...And now one greater than Solomon is here." Matthew 12:41, 42

"But do not think that I (Jesus) will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. If you believed Moses, you would have believed me, *for he wrote about me.*" John 5:45-46

In fact, all the prophets beginning from Abraham, rejoiced in the knowledge of the coming Christ, hoping this event would occur in their day:

"Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." John 8:56 N.I.V.

"But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it." Matthew 13:16-17



The Bible, the Quran and Salvation

I. THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD

A. THE QURAN CONFIRMS Earlier Revelations, Prophets and Books:

The Quran confirmed all the earlier revelations of God to Moses, David, the prophets and Jesus Christ. All their writings were considered sacred and true. The Books written by them were from God. Since it is the Word of God it cannot be altered or changed by anyone at anytime. It is a supreme and divine provision and success that the Word of God to stand forever. We are to receive guidance through them.

1. They include: The Law of Moses, The Psalms, The Prophets and The Gospel {/Koran Su 28:43; 4:163; 3:48}
2. They are Enlightenment for mankind, guidance and mercy {/Koran Su 28:43}
3. There are no distinction of Messengers and Books {/Koran Su 2:285; 2:87; 3:48, 5:111, 61:14}
4. Both Jews and Christians should believe in them {/Koran Su 5:68-69}
5. All Muslims must believe in them too {/Koran Su 2:136; 4:136}. Otherwise, they will go to go astray and go to Hell {/Koran Su 2:85,87}
6. The BOOKS were existing during Christ's Time {/Koran Su 2:40,41;3:48,50} {Jn 5:39; Mt 22:29}
7. And still existed during Muhammad's Time (600 A.D.) {/Koran Su 10:94,32:23}
8. NONE CAN ALTER OR CHANGE HIS WORDS {/Koran Su 6:34,115}

9. God's word cannot be changed and it is a Supreme Success {/Koran Su 10:64}

B. THE BOOKS, THE BIBLE CONFIRMS IT AS:

The Bible declared itself as the incorruptible, unchanging word of God. It is the Book of the LORD and therefore its source and author is the LORD. He Himself is responsible for its preservation and endurance. He commanded His prophets to write all the words that He has spoken to them in a book.

1. The Book of the LORD {Jer 30:2; Is 34:16; Mal 3:16; Rev 22:9-10}
2. Preserved Forever {Ps 12:6-7; 102:18; 119:89; Mt 24:35}
3. Commanded to be Written {Deut 31:24; Jer 30:2; Rev 1:17-19 /Koran Su 7:145}

II. JESUS IS THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE BOOKS

The Quran and the Bible confirm its teachings on Christ as the Sign and Mercy to all Mankind, His virgin birth, and He the Mercy and the Messiah from God. Jesus is God's way of salvation for man. His name was given for man to believe whereby he must be saved.

A. JESUS IS THE WAY OF SALVATION {Jo 14:6,Ps 2:12}

1. The Sign To All Mankind {/Koran Su 19:21; 21:91} {Lk 1:31-32; 2:27-32; 1Jn 4:14}
2. Virgin Birth {/Koran Su 3:45-47; Lk 1:34-35; Is 7:14}
3. Mercy from Us {/Koran Su 19:21; Lk 24:44-47}
4. Messiah {/Koran Su 3:45; Mt 16:16; Jn 4:42; Mt 26:62-64}

B. EARLIER BOOKS, MESSENGERS AND REVELATIONS POINT AND CONFIRM A MESSIAH WHO SUFFERED, WAS CRUCIFIED, WHO DIED AND RESURRECTED:

All Bible Translations today dozens of them and since the time of the apostles never changed the Message. We can read from all the books and the scriptures—Christ suffered, was crucified, died and rose from the dead. For almost two thousand years this one message of the cross has been preached and believed by hundreds of millions of believers.

1. Books of the Prophets {Is 53:4-6,12; Ps 22:1; Mt 27:46}
2. Christ Himself Foretold and Confirmed His Death and Resurrection {Ps 16:10; Lk 24:44-46; Jn 2:19; 10:18}
3. God's Way of forgiveness in the Old Testament Law of Moses/Torah {Ex 19:5-6; Lev 16:11; 17:11}

C. FULFILLED IN CHRIST AS THE LAMB OFFERING {Ps 40:6-7; Heb 10:1-10; Zec 3:8-9}

III. ETERNAL SECURITY

The Bible promises it as a present possession {*Jn 5:24, 3:36, 10:27-28, 11:25-26, 1Jn 5:9, 11-13*}

What is the worth of having a religion if one does not know where his soul is going after death. Only in the Bible that we are told to possess' salvation and eternal life because of what the Son of God Jesus has finished and done on the cross. Jesus was the only founder of a religion that proclaimed that He was the Son of God that He came down from heaven. He brought and made the will of the Father known to us— and that is Eternal Life through Him.

V. HOW TO BE SAVED

The Bible's Message is simple. God provided the salvation for man through His Son Jesus Christ. If anyone repents from his sin and believes in Him, he is forgiven. Salvation is done and our sin atoned for already by Christ on the Cross. Forgiveness is appropriated to us only after turning away from our sins and looking unto Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

A. REPENT FROM YOUR SINS {*Mk 1:15; /Koran Su 11:52*}

B. ASK FORGIVENESS {*Ps 79:9 ; /Koran Su 3:16*}

C. BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

1. He is the I AM {*Jn 8:24*}. Is Yahweh {*Ex 3:14*}
2. Confess Jesus as the Lord and has risen from the dead {*Ps 2:1-6, 12; Rom 10:9*}
3. He is the Christ the Son of the Living God {*Mt 26:62-64; Pr 30:4*}, the Savior of the World {*1Jn 4:14*}
4. He is Mercy from God {*/Koran Su 19:21; /Jn 3:16*}

D. RECEIVE JESUS/MERCY FROM GOD {*Jn 3:36, 1:12-13; /Koran Su 6:16*}

CONCLUSION:

Is the Bible the word of God that teaches the Way of salvation?

THE ANSWER IS A BIG YES AND AMEN!

Four Books(THE TORAH, THE PROPHETS, THE PSALMS AND THE INJEEL/GOSPEL) testifying and confirming each other: that Jesus is indeed the Sign to all Mankind and the Mercy from God a matter that is already decreed--- He is the Saviour sent by God the Father for us to receive forgiveness, salvation and eternal life.

FINALLY, CRITICS SAY THAT BIBLE TRANSLATIONS OR VERSIONS DON'T AGREE WITH EACH OTHER. EACH BOOK HAS DIFFERENT MESSAGE THEY CONVEY. THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS THAT THERE ARE DOZENS OF TRANSLATIONS TODAY OF THE BIBLE AND HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF COPIES PRINTED IN THE WORLD SINCE IT WAS WRITTEN THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO AND THESE BIBLES TRANSLATED TO DIFFERENT LANGUAGES HAVE THESAME VERSES PROCLAIMING THAT JESUS CHRIST CAME WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND THAT HE IS THE SON OF GOD OUR THE LORD AND SAVIOR. NONE OF THESE OF BIBLES PRINTED DENIED THE DEATH, CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST BUT RATHER ALL HAVE THESAME VERSES PROCLAIMING IT. BRING US A SINGLE BIBLE THAT DENIED HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION. YOU SHALL FIND NONE AND THERE IS NONE.



JUDAISM



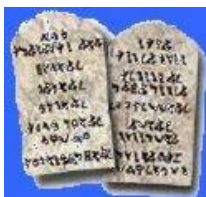
In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth. By His word He created everything in the heavens and the earth, visible and invisible, thrones, principalities, powers and dominion. He made the angels and Lucifer. Lucifer rebelled and wanted to be like the Most High, fell and became Satan. He became the adversary of God. Many angels followed him and whom now we call demons.

God created man in His image and likeness. He made man- male and female he made them. They were placed in the Garden of Eden where we can find the tree of knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life. God commanded them not to eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil for they shall die. Satan entered a serpent and teased Eve to eat the fruit saying she will be like God. She gave to Adam and he ate. God cast them out of the Paradise. They were cursed and death entered. Creation became subjected into corruption. God promised a Deliverer, a Savior who shall bruise Satan's heel, destroy him and returns man's freedom and become children of God.

Man continued to dominate the earth but they were continuously evil. God called Noah to build an Ark to put pairs of all the animals with his family. He shall destroy man through flood. Noah preached the coming judgment for 100 years. No one believed him and then judgment came. Only Noah and his family were saved. Man multiplied and replenished the earth.

God found a man who would serve Him by the Name of Abraham. He was called to get out of his country to a land He promised him. By faith he obeyed God even when he was tested to offer his only son Isaac. God blessed him and made a covenant with him that through his seed all nations shall be blessed and that blessing is the coming of a Savior. He shall be a father to many nations. Israel was still on his loins when God made this covenant.

After Abraham came Isaac, then Jacob and then the 12 tribes of Israel. Joseph who became the governor of Egypt that time took his family because there was famine in the land. They were favored in the land. Years had passed until a Pharaoh was born who new not Joseph. The Israelites became slaves.



God heard their cry. He appeared to Moses and revealed His Name- YHWH (Yahweh) to him. God through Moses delivered Israel. In Mt Sinai, God gave the Law the Ten Commandments and made a covenant with the Israelites that He alone shall be their God, serve Him and keep His commandments and ordinances. He wrote the Ten Commandments on two tablets of stones with His fingers. Moses also wrote His words in a book. They were given instructions and commandments of how to worship the only true God and have godly relationships with one another.



Israel conquered lands and kingdoms as God promised them. They established their kingdom and their own kings ruled before them. David ruled and his son Solomon built the House of God in Jerusalem. Israel was stubborn and continued to break God's covenant by worshipping other gods and not keep His laws. Prophets were sent to warn them and the nations before them. The kingdom was divided into two— Israel and Judah. Judgment came and as prophesied the Assyrians conquered Israel and the Babylonians besieged Judah. The glory of the Lord departed from the temple. People were killed by the sword and those left in the land died of famine. After 70 years of captivity, Israel returned to its land. Jeremiah and Isaiah prophesied on Cyrus as God's instrument to command Israel to return was fulfilled. Israel was then again established.



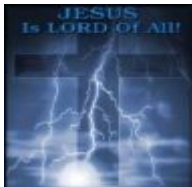
Through out the generations God directly called and talked to all His prophets and gave His messages. The prophets were commanded to write the words in a book— The Scriptures, The Old Testament (The Law, the Prophets, the Psalms). The prophets prophesied that God would send a Savior to save His people from their sins and through whom the Gentiles shall trust. He shall make a new covenant not like the first covenant which Israel broke. This covenant is what He promised to Abraham. He shall remember their sins no more. He shall write His laws in their heart. He shall put a new heart and new spirit so they can follow Him. Many shall be His people who were not His people.



CHRISTIANITY



Time has passed and at the proper time Christ was born in a Virgin. It was prophesied hundreds and thousands of years ago that a child shall be born of a virgin at Bethlehem. The child Jesus is the Son of God who came down from heaven and took the form of a man to suffer and die on the cross for our sins, pay the penalty and resurrect on the third day. During His earthly ministry He called and trained His Disciples who later became Apostles. Jesus rebuked the false teachers of His time. They didn't practice what they preached and they misunderstood the Law. They did not recognize that the Christ had come as it written in the Law of Moses, the Psalms and the Prophets. He brought and made known the will of God. That will is eternal life. Many were healed, forgiven and delivered from the power of Satan and his demons. Jesus taught with great authority using the Scriptures. He proclaimed that He is the Son of God, the Bread of Life, the Bread that came down from Heaven the Light of the world and was with the Father. He knew God the Father and was sent by Him to do His will. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life and no man can come to the Father except through Him.



He was crucified even there was no guilt nor sin was found in Him. After His resurrection His disciples were strengthened and grew in faith. They were commanded by Jesus Christ to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that he has commanded.

The Holy Spirit baptized them on the day of Pentecost. Thousands of Jews got saved that day and many people from different nations and languages. God opened the door for the Gentiles. Peter preached into the household of Cornelius. For the promise of God to Abraham was fulfilled that many nations shall be blessed through his seed. That seed the blessing of Abraham was Jesus Christ through whom all shall be saved. The gospel (good news about Jesus) was preached unto them. The apostles commanded that all should repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. For whosoever shall call upon His name shall be saved. The disciples were first called Christians. The church grew and many congregations were established from all places. The church is the body of believers who experienced new birth through the gospel and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.



The rest was history. Christianity established its roots from the teachings of the apostles and the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ. The New Testament was completed and from then the gospel was preached into the entire world, to all creation under heaven. Many were saved. Lives and families were changed, delivered from

demonic possessions, oppressions, fear and power of Satan. Many were healed from all kinds of sicknesses and diseases.

Real Christianity is a spiritual changed of heart through new birth by the gospel and resurrection of Christ. He offered His body as the sacrifice for sins once and for all. As one repents and believes the gospel that Christ died for our sins for our forgiveness and salvation. By faith they receive Him and confess from the heart that He is the Lord and Savior. He is born into the family of God spiritually by the power of the Holy Spirit and resurrection of Christ. Salvation is by repentance and faith through the finished work of Christ on the cross. He is washed, sanctified, made holy, forgiven and given eternal life. The Church of Jesus Christ are composed of all those who spiritually experience the saving knowledge and forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ through His shed blood. They have turned to God and had become His witness into all parts of the world.

Today there are hundred of millions of Christians who hold only the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. They believe that the Bible alone is the only authority for faith and practice. Traditions, teachings of men, new revelations from spirits and others are not accepted as they have contradicted the Bible and the gospel. All of these congregations through out the world believe that by the grace of God alone man can be saved. The conditions set by God were repentance— that is turning away from our sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Christians await and are looking unto the Second coming of Christ. The Gospel— the good news about Christ as the Lord and Savior is preached into the entire world as a testimony unto them.



Christ will come again into this earth to take all that is His and give them glorified incorruptible bodies. His appearing shall be visible to all the people on the earth and all the saints. The anti-christ after deceiving the world for a short time, the wicked and all those that obey not God and His gospel, Satan and his angels shall be cast into hell at His coming. Christ with His saints shall reign on earth a thousand years. After which comes the Last Judgment. All those whose name was not written in the Lamb's book of Life shall rise from the dead and be thrown together with Satan, Death and Hell into the Lake of Fire- the Second death wherein they shall suffer forever.

There shall be New Heaven and New Earth for the first heaven and earth shall pass away and shall be burned by an intense heat. God shall be with His people and He shall dwell with them in the Holy City. He shall reign forever and ever. God and the Lamb Jesus Christ shall be on the Throne.

To God be the glory through His Son Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.



ROMAN CATHOLICISM



Roman Catholicism comprises the belief and practice of the Roman Catholic Church. The church stands under the authority of the Bishop of Rome and is ruled by him and bishops who were held to be through ordination. Fundamental to the structure of the church is the juridical aspect: doctrine and sacraments are bound to the power of jurisdiction and consecration of the hierarchy of archbishops, bishops, priest and deacons, has full ecclesiastical power, granted him by Christ through Peter. As successor to Peter who is the rock and foundation, he is the Vicar of Christ. The powers that others in the hierarchy possess are delegated.

Roman Catholics believe their church to be the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, possessing all the properties of the one, true Church of Christ.

The faith of the church is understood to be identical with that taught by Christ and His apostles and contained in the Bible and Tradition, i.e. the original deposit of faith, to which nothing new may be added.

In the 4th century the Catholic Church had taken root in the countries stretching from Spain in the west to Persia and India in the East. And in 313 AD, Constantine of Roman State gave tolerance to Christianity after persecutions. Since that time, the Church became favored under his successors and in 380 AD the Emperor Theodosius proclaimed Christianity the State Religion. Paganism was suppressed and public life was gradually molded with Christian ethical demands.

It was in these years also that the Church was able to achieve a certain unity in doctrines. Due to differences of interpretation of basic doctrines concerning Christ, which threatened to divide the Catholic Church, a standard Christian Creed was formulated by bishops at successive Ecumenical Councils, the first of which was held in 325 AD (Nicea). The chief doctrines formulated concerned the doctrines of Trinity, i.e., that there is one God in three Persons: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Constantinople, 381 AD); and the nature of Christ as both divine and human. (Chalcedon, 451 AD).

Through differences and rivalry between East and West the unity of the Church was broken by schism in 1054. In 1517 a separation occurred in the Western Church with Reformation.

New definitions of doctrines, such as the Immaculate Conception of Mary (1854) and the bodily assumption of Mary (1950), have been declared by Popes, however, in accordance with the principles of development (implicit-explicit doctrines).

At Vatican Council I (1870) the Pope was proclaimed "endowed with infallibility, ex cathedra, i.e., when exercising the Office of Pastor and Teacher of all Christians (Catholics). The center of Roman Catholic worship is the celebration of the Mass, the Eucharist, which is the commemoration of Christ's sacrificial death and

resurrection. Other sacraments are Baptism, Confirmation, Confession, Matrimony, Ordination, and Extreme Unction, seven in all. The Virgin Mary and saints and their relics are venerated and prayers are made to them to intercede with God, in whose presence they are believed to dwell. Since Vatican II (1962-1965) many changes have taken place.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ECCE and W & L Publications, 1994)



SCRIPTURE

- 81 Sacred scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit. (DV9) And (Holy) Tradition transmits in its entirety the Word of God which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit. It transmits it to the successors of the apostles so that, enlightened by the Spirit of truth, they may faithfully preserve, expound and spread it abroad by their preaching. (II - 81 p 33, DV9).
- 82 As a result, the Church, to whom the transmission and interpretation of Revelation is entrusted does not derive her certainty about all revealed truths from the Holy Scriptures alone. Both Scripture and Tradition must be accepted and honored with equal sentiments of devotion and reverence. (II - 82 p 33).

OUR PARTICIPATION IN CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

- 618 The Cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the "one mediator between God and man. But because in his incarnate divine person he has in some way united himself to every man, "the possibility of being partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery" is offered to all men. He calls His disciples to "take up(their) cross and follow (him), for Christ also suffered for (us), leaving (us) an example so that (we) should follow in his steps. (618 p 152)

CHURCH

- 780 The Church in this world is the sacrament of salvation, the sign and the instrument of the communion of God and men. (780 p 191).
- 805 The Church is the body of Christ. Through the Spirit and his action in the sacraments, above all the Eucharist, Christ, who once was dead and is now risen, establishes the community of believers as his own body. (805 p 197).
- 846 Outside the Church there is no salvation. How are we to understand this affirmation, often repeated by the Church Fathers? Re-formulated positively, it means that all salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his body. (846 p 206)

Basing itself on Scripture and Tradition, the council teaches the church, a pilgrim now on earth, is necessary for salvation; the one Christ is the mediator and the way of salvation; he is present to us in his body which is the Church. He himself explicitly asserted the necessity of faith and Baptism, and thereby affirmed as the same time the necessity of the Church which men enter through Baptism as through a door. Hence they could not be saved

- who, knowing that through Christ, would refuse either to enter in, or to remain in it. (846 pp 206 - 207)
- 869 The Church is apostolic. She is built on a lasting foundation: the twelve apostles of the Lamb (Rev 21:14). She is indestructible (Mt 16:18). She is upheld infallibly in the truth: Christ governs her through Peter and the other apostles, who are present in their successors, the Pope and the college of bishops. (869 p 212)

FORGIVENESS OF SINS

- 985 Baptism is the first and chief sacrament of the forgiveness of sins; it unites us to Christ, who died and rose, and gives us the Holy Spirit. (985 p 234).
- 986 By Christ's will, the Church possesses the power to forgive the sins of the baptized and exercises it through bishops and priests normally in the sacrament of Penance. (986 p 234)
- 987 In the forgiveness of sin, both priests and sacraments are instruments which our Lord Jesus Christ, the only author and liberal giver of salvation, wills to use in order to efface our sins and give us the grace of justification. (987 p 234, Roman Catechism 1,11,6)

RESURRECTION

- 998 Who will rise? All the dead will rise, "those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. (998 p 237)

PURIFICATION (At Purgatory)

- 1030 All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. (1030 p 234)
- 1031 The Church give the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned.... Council of Trent. (1031 p 244)

JUDGMENT DAY

- 1059 The holy Roman Church firmly believes and confesses that the Day of Judgment, all men will appear in their own bodies before Christ's tribunal to render an account of their own deeds. (1059 p 249/Council of Lyons II (1274): DS 859; cf DS 1549)

THE MASS

- 1069 The word liturgy originally meant a public work or service in the name of/on behalf of the people. In Christian Tradition it means the participation of the People of God in the work of God, through the liturgy Christ, our redeemer and high priest, continues the work of redemption in, with and through his Church. (1069 P 255)
- 1105 The Epiclesis (invocation upon) is the intercession in which the priest begs the Father to send the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, so that the offerings may become the body and blood of Christ and that the faithful, by receiving them, may themselves become a living offering to God. (1105 p 267)

THE SACRAMENTS OF FAITH

- 1122 Christ sent his apostles so that "repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations" "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." The mission to baptize, and so the sacramental mission, is

- implied in the mission to evangelize because the sacrament is prepared by the word of God and by the faith which is assent to his word. (1122 p 270)
- 1123 "The purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify men, to build up the body of Christ and finally, to give worship to God. (1123 p 271)
- 1127 Celebrated worthily in faith, the sacraments confer the grace that they signify. They are efficacious because in them Christ himself is at work: it is he who baptizes, he who acts in his sacraments in order to communicate the grace that each sacrament signifies. The Father always hears the prayer of His Son's Church which, in the epiclesis of each sacrament, expresses her faith in the power of the Spirit. As fire transforms everything it touches, so as the Holy Spirit transforms into the divine life whatever is subjected to his power. (1127 p 271/ Council of Trent (1547) DS 1605; DS 1601)

HOLY IMAGES

- 1159 The sacred image, the liturgical icon, principally represents Christ. It cannot represent the invisible and incomprehensible God, but the incarnation of the Son of God has ushered in a new "economy of images". (1159 p 280)
Previously God, who has neither a body nor a face, absolutely could not be represented by an image. But now that he has made himself visible in the flesh and has lived with men, I can make an image of what I have seen of God... and contemplate the glory of the Lord, his face unveiled." (St John Damascene, De imag.1,16; PG 96:1245 - 1248)
- 1192 Sacred images in our churches and homes are intended to awaken and nourish our faith in the mystery of Christ. Through the icon of Christ and his works of salvation it is he whom we adore. Through sacred images of the holy Mother of God, of the angels and of the saints, we venerate the persons represented. (1192 p 287)

BAPTISM

- 1213 Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to other sacraments. Through baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word. (1213 p 293/Roman Catechism II,2,5,c.f. Council of Florence: DS 1314; CIC, cann. 2041; 849; CCEO, can, 6751)
- 1250 Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of new birth in baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called. The sheer gratuitousness of the grace of salvation is particularly manifest in infant baptism. (1250 p 300/ Council of Trent (1546) DS 1514 cf. Col 1.12-14)

NECESSITY OF BAPTISM

- 1257 The Lord himself affirms that baptism is necessary for salvation. He also commands his disciples to proclaim the gospel to all nations and to baptize them. Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament. The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude; this is why she takes care not to neglect the mission she has received from the Lord to see all who can be baptized are "reborn of water and spirit". God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments. (1257 p 301/ cf. Jn 3.5, Mt 28:19-20; Council of Trent (1547) DS 1618; LG14; AG5; Mk 16:16)

Grace of Baptism, for the forgiveness of sins

1263 By Baptism all sins are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin. In those who have been reborn nothing, neither Adam's sin, nor personal sin, nor the consequences of sin, the gravest of which is separation from God. (1263 p 302, Council of Florence (1439)); DS 1316

EUCCHARIST

1367 The Sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: "the victim is one and the same; the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different." In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in as bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner. (1367 p 323, Council of Trent (1562); DS 1743 cf. Heb 9.14, 27)

1375 It is by the conversion of the bread and wine into Christ's body and blood that Christ becomes present in this sacrament. The Church Fathers strongly affirmed the faith of the church in efficacy of the word of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit to bring about this conversion. (1375 p 325, St. John Chrysostom, Prod, Jud, 1.6; PG 49, 380 St. Ambrose, De myst . 9, 50:52: pL 16, 405 - 407)

PENANCE

1486 The forgiveness of sins committed after baptism is conferred by particular sacrament called the sacrament of conversion, confession, penance or reconciliation. (1486 p 350)

AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE

1495 Only priests who have received the faculty of absolving from the authority of the Church can forgive sins in the name of Christ. (1495 p 351)

EFFECT OF THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

1496 The spiritual effects are:
reconciliation with God by which the penitent recovers
remission of the eternal punishment incurred by mortal sins
remission, at least in part, of temporal punishments resulting from sin.
(1496 p 351)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

1532 The special grace has its effects:
the forgiveness of sins, if not able through the sacrament of Penance
the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul
the preparation for passing over to eternal life (1532 p 358)

HOLY ORDERS

1592 The ministerial priesthood differs in essence from the common priesthood of the faithful because it confers a sacred power for the service of the faithful. The ordained ministers exercise their service to the people of God by teaching (munus docendi), divine worship (munus liturgicum) and pastoral governance (munus regendi). (1592 p 373)

FUNERALS

1689 The Eucharistic Sacrifice when the celebration takes place in the church, the Eucharist is the heart of the Paschal reality of Christian death. In the Eucharist, the church expresses her efficacious communion with the departed: offering to the Father in the Holy Spirit the sacrifice of the death and resurrection of Christ, she asks to purify his child of his sins and their consequences, and to admit him to the Paschal fullness of the table of the kingdom... (1689 p 393, cf OCF 57)

GOD'S SALVATION: LAW & GRACE

1949 Called to beatitude but wounded by sin, man stands in need of salvation from God. Divine help comes to him in Christ through the law that guides him and grace that sustains him: Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for God is at work in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (1949 p 447, Phil 2.12-13)

THE NEW LAW OR THE LAW OF THE GOSPEL

1980 The old Law is the first stage of revealed law. Its moral prescriptions are summed up in the Ten Commandments. (1980 p 453)

1984 The Law of the Gospel fulfills and surpasses the Old Law and brings it to perfection: its promises, through the Beatitudes of the kingdom of heaven; its commandments, by reforming the heart, the root of human acts. (1984 p 454)

GRACE AND JUSTIFICATION

1987 The grace of the Holy Spirit has the power to justify us, that is, to cleanse us from our sins and to communicate to us "the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ" and through Baptism. (1987 p 454, Rom 3.22 cf. 6.3-4)

1991 Justification is at the same time the acceptance of God's righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ. Righteousness (or "justice") here means the rectitude of divine love. With justification, faith, hope and charity are poured into our hearts, and obedience to the divine will is granted us. (1991 p 455)

1992 Justification has been merited for us by the Passion of Christ who offered Himself on the cross as a living victim, holy and pleasing to God, and whose blood has become the instrument of atonement for the sins of all men. Justification is conferred in Baptism, the sacrament of faith. It conforms us to the righteousness of God, who makes us inwardly just by the power of his mercy. Its purpose is the glory of God and of Christ, and the gift of eternal life. (1992 p 455, Council of Trent (1547): DS 1529, Rom 3.21-26)

2019 Justification includes remission of sins, sanctification and the renewal of the inner man. (2019 p 461)

THE CHURCH, MOTHER AND TEACHER

2030 It is the Church, in communion with all the baptized, that the Christian fulfills his vocation. From the church he receives the word of God containing the teachings of the Law of Christ. From the church he receives the grace of the sacraments that sustains him on the way. (2030A p 462 Gal 6.2)

2032 The Church, the pillar and bulwark of truth, has received this solemn command of Christ from the apostles to announce the saving truth. To the Church belongs the right always and everywhere to announce moral principles, including those pertaining to the social order, and to make judgments on any human affairs to the extent that they are required by the fundamental rights of the human person or salvation of souls. (2032 p 462, 1Tim 3.15, LG 17, CIC Can 747 & 2)

2034 The Roman Pontiff and the bishops are "authentic teachers, that is, teachers endowed with the authority of Christ, who preach the faith to the people entrusted to them the faith to be believed and put into practice. The ordinary and universal Magisterium of the Pope and the bishops in communion with him teaches the faithful the truth to believe, the charity to practice, the beatitude to hope for. (2034 p 463, LG25)

INFALLIBILITY

2035 The supreme degree of participation in the authority of Christ is ensured by the charism of infallibility. This infallibility extends as far does of doctrine, including morals, without which the saving truths of the faith cannot be preserved, explained or believed. (2035 p 463, cf. LG; CDF decl. Mysterium Ecclesiae 3)

CENTRAL MESSAGE:

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS Ex 20.2-17 Deut 5.6-21

Traditional Catechetical Formula

1. I Am the LORD your God: You shall not have strange Gods before Me.
2. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

(pp 466 - 468)

NOT MAKE GRAVEN IMAGES

2129 The divine injunction included the prohibition of every representation of God by the hand of man. Deuteronomy explains: "Since you saw no form on the day that the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of fire, beware lest you act corruptly by making a graven image for yourselves, in the form of any figure..." It is the absolutely transcendent God who revealed himself to Israel. He is the all, but at the same time He is greater than all His works. He is the author of beauty. (2129 p 486 Deut 4.15-16, Sir 43.27-28)

JUSTIFICATION OF MAKING GRAVEN IMAGES

2130 Nevertheless, already in the Old Testament, God ordained or permitted the making of images that pointed toward salvation by the Incarnate Word: so it was with the bronze serpent, the Ark of the Covenant and the cherubim. (2130 p 486, cf. Num 21.4-9, Wis 16.5-14 Jn 3.14-15 Ex 25.10-22 1Kngs 6.23-28, 7.23-26)

2131 Basing itself on the mystery of the incarnate word the seventh ecumenical council at Nicea (787) justified against the iconoclasts the veneration of icons-

of Christ, but also of the Mother of God, the angels, and all the saints. By becoming incarnate, the Son of God introduced a new "economy" of images. (2131 p 487)

2131 The christian veneration of images is not contrary to the First Commandment which proscribe idols.

Indeed, the honor rendered to an image passes to its prototype, and whoever venerates an image venerates the person portrayed in it. The honor paid to sacred images is a respectful veneration, not the adoration due to God alone: but tends toward that whose image it is.

(2131 p 487, St. Basil, De Spiritu Santo 18,45: PG 32, 149C; Council of Nicea II: DS 601; cf. Council of Trent: DS 1821 -1825 : Vatican Council I: SC 126; LG 67; St Tomas Aquinas, STh 11 -11, 81, 3 ad 3)

PRAYER

2564 Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ. It is the action of God and man, springing forth from both the Holy Spirit and ourselves, wholly directed to the Father, in union with the human will of the Son of God made man. (2564 p 572)

IN COMMUNION WITH THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

2674 Mary gave her consent in faith at the Annunciation and maintained it without hesitation at the foot of the Cross. Ever since, her motherhood has extended to the brothers and sisters of her Son "who still journey on earth surrounded by dangers and difficulties. Jesus the only mediator, is the way of our prayer; Mary, his mother and ours, is wholly transparent to him; she "shows the way" (hodigitria), and is herself "the Sign" of the way, according to traditional iconography of East & West. (2674 p 595, LG 62)

2682 Because of Mary's singular cooperation with the action of the Holy Spirit, the Church loves to pray in communion with Virgin Mary, to magnify, with her the great things the Lord has done for her and to entrust supplications and praises to her. (2682 p 597)

In Acts 11:26 the disciples were first called Christians. During the time of the apostles and the early Christians there were no statues or idols made or introduced to represent God, Jesus, Mary and the saints. It gradually crept into the church when it was made a state religion in Rome by Emperor Constantine. Roman Catholicism was a result of the mixture of Christianity and paganism at the time of Constantine around 300 AD onwards. Many new teachings came in that were not scripturally sound. Teachings of purification in purgatory, worshiping images , praying the rosary, praying to the saints, praying for the dead, indulgences, revision of the Ten Commandments (not to make idols were deleted which is commandment number two), traditions came in, papacy introduced, forgiveness of sins through the priests, salvation only through the church, the sacraments and keeping the Ten Commandments.

The gospel (good news) that Christ died for our sins and resurrected for our salvation and redemption and that whosoever believe in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (Luke 24:44-47 John 3:16, 3:36) has been the belief of the early Christians and also today all over the world. Christians differ from Roman Catholicism in

many major ways. Christianity is based on a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ His Son. They don't worship God through images, don't pray to the saints, and don't pray for the dead. The major doctrine they hold is that eternal life and salvation can be experienced now through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ after hearing the good news about Him. Forgiveness is through the shed blood of Christ on the cross.

Roman Catholicism does not teach that salvation and eternal life is received now. The church does not believe it can only be receive by repentance and faith in Christ alone. Salvation is through good works, through the sacraments, keeping the commandments. Their souls should be purified at purgatory at death before going to heaven. **This doctrine contradicts the finished work of our Lord Jesus Christ. By His crucifixion and death on the cross and the offering of His body purified us and by His resurrection we were justified. The repentant believers need not any of the works or rituals.**

Roman Catholics today are open to the saving knowledge about Christ and about the kingdom of God. They are open to the bible and the word of God. What is needed is someone has to share them the gospel. They already believe Jesus as God. They have to understand that Jesus already finished the work of salvation on the cross, that He was crucified, died and resurrected for the forgiveness of our sins and redemption of our souls. What they are experiencing is a historical Jesus. They are experiencing only head knowledge of Christ. Relationship only happens when they repent from heir sins and truly trust Jesus Christ and receive Him as their Lord and Savior.

They should hear and believe the gospel.

Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the **gospel of God**, for it is the **power of God for salvation to everyone who believes**"

Romans 1:16

SUMMARY, DEEP ANALYSIS AND INSIGHTS TO ALL THE RELIGIONS MAN KNEW TODAY

Man was really created by God not as an independent being but a person with soul and heart. It is innate in him to know God. Through his inner spirit and deep soul he gropes and looks for the Divine and Creator whom we call God.

Studying all the religions that we have listed, there are few things that I found common among them and realized something different.

- some men saw that the world was evil, there were sufferings around him and to give solace to his spirit he tries to find

- peace within himself and those around him by virtuous deeds, goodness, good thoughts, good words etc.
- these men began to teach many of their noble thoughts and goodness, they wrote their teachings
 - others find solace by separation from worldly desires and passion
 - others find communion with nature and self
 - others think that there is no god but there is a force out there why all these are happening
 - their followers later deified or made their founders as god and worshipped them which in the beginning was not even thought of by these men
 - others because of fear try to offer sacrifices to spirits and worships their ancestors
 - others just worship anything, believe anything
 - another wrote the revelations from spirits such as a certain angel gabriel but contradicting the original revelation of the original angel Gabriel about Christ and earlier Scriptures
 - introduced a new god and a new book and claimed that the same god introduced is also the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses,
 - that their book is the only book left uncorrupted,
 - this book denied the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, His being the Son of God, Lord and Savior which the earlier Books confirmed and boldly declare.
 - one religion believe its roots from Christianity but as hundreds of years passed by new doctrines, teachings, traditions, beliefs, rituals and idolatry came into the church.
 - It became a mixture of paganism (idolatry) and Christianity.

Difference of Christianity:

- There are many things we can find in the course of these studies that make Christianity and the God whom we love and worship different.
- YAHWEH created and revealed Himself to Adam and Eve, the first man and woman
- It was God who searched for man.
- He talked and appeared to Noah
- He made a covenant with Abraham
- He appeared to Moses and gave the Ten Commandments
- He directly called, talked and sent His prophets
- They proclaimed and wrote His words in progressive revelation
- He declared the past and the future
- He is the God of all mankind, the dead and the living
- He sent His Son to the world and spoke the truth
- In these last day He has spoken to us through His Son Jesus Christ

One thing that is outstanding and amazing. No religious founder made the following claims and proved it as Jesus Christ did:

- **HE IS THE SON OF GOD**
- **SIN WAS NOT FOUND NOR LIE IN HIS MOUTH**
- **HE CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN FROM GOD HIS FATHER**
- **HE IS THE LIFE AND SAVIOR OF THE WORLD**
- **HE THAT BELIEVES HIM AND HIS WORDS SHALL NOT DIE AND PERISH IN HELL BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**
- **HE PREDICTED HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTED**
- **AND HE IS ALIVE NOW SITED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER IN HEAVEN**
- **HE IS WITH THOSE WHO PREACH THE GOSPEL AND HIS PEOPLE AND UNTIL NOW HE HEALS THE SICK, HE FORGIVES SINS, HE GIVES PEACE AND LIFE TO ALL WHO SHALL BELIEVE HIS NAME AND HIS SAME WORDS 2,000 YEARS AGO....**
- **JESUS HAS ONLY ONE MESSAGE FOR THE WORLD AND THAT IS THE COMMANDMENT OF HIS FATHER: GIVE ETERNAL LIFE TO ALL WHO SHALL REPENT AND BELIEVE, ACCEPT HIM AND HIS WORDS.**



The CULTS & The OCCULTS



CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (Mormons)

GOD

Eternal Father	Moroni 4.4, 5.2, 10.4, 31 D&C 20.77, 79
Father, Son, Holy Spirit one God	Alma 11.44 3 Neph 11.27 Mormon 7.7 D&C 20.28 A Faith 1
Father has a body of flesh and bones	Ether 3.15-16 Moses 6.9 D&C 130.22
Created all things spiritually before naturally	Moses 3.5,7

JESUS CHRIST

Son of the Eternal Father	1 Neph 10.17, 11.7, 21
Father of heaven and earth	Mosiah 3.8, 15.4, 16.15 Alma 11.38-39 Ether 4.7
The Eternal Father	Alma 11.38-39 Mosiah 15.1-5 Helaman 16.18
Father because conceived by the power of God	Mosiah 15.3
Father & Son	Ether 3.14 Mormon 9.12 D&C 93.3-4
God & Christ seen	Ether 3.13-16 D & C 76.23, 110.2-10, 137.3
Appearance to John 14.23 is personal	D&C 130.3
Appeared to Nephi, his people, chose twelve gave a doctrine	3 Neph 11.1-2, 7-10, 12.1, 20 3 Neph 11.25-31, 37-41, 21.6

HOLY SPIRIT

Personage of Spirit	D&C 130.22
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SIN

Adam fell; man might have joy, redeemed by Messiah according to the commandments of God	2 Neph 2.25-26 Moses 5.10-11
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MAN

Created in the image of God, has body	Ether 3.15-16
Was a spirit before made man	Moses 3.5,7

HELL

Eternal/ Endless Punishment	D&C 19.11-12
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SCRIPTURES

Doctrine of Christ only true doctrine of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit	2 Neph 31.21
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The Bible not only the revealed, written Word 2 Neph 29.3, 7-8, 10
Books of Authority: 2 Neph 32.3-6, 33.1-2, 5, 10-11 Jacob 1.6, 4.4

Book of Mormon, Doctrine & Covenants, Alma 6.8 3Neph 28.33
Pearl of Great Price

Book of Mormon is the most correct book of any book on earth; keystone of our religion, man gets nearer to God by abiding by its precepts.

FOUNDER

Joseph Smith received revelations from an angel Moroni at Manchester, New York on September 21, 1823 and onwards. (Introduction, par 6, Book of Mormon)

SATAN

Similitude (image, semblance or likeness) of the only begotten Moses 1.16

WORLDS

Celestial World	
where God's throne is	D&C 137.1
where Mormons go	D&C 76.50-70
be like gods	D&C 76.58, 121.28, 32,132.20, 37
Terestial World	
for good men not Mormons	D&C 76.71-80, 98-101
Telestial World	
for evil, wicked men, Hell	D&C 76.81-84, 103-106

SALVATION

Atonement of Christ	
by obedience to the Laws & ordinances of the gospel all mankind may be saved	Articles of Faith 3
Forsake sins and obey commandments	D&C 93.1 Mosiah 2.41 Alma 38.1, 12.30,32
By the church	D&C 76.50-54, 94, 84.88
Receive the servants	Neph 26.20-22 D&C 99.1-4, 76.50-52
Without Order of Priesthood no one will see God	D&C 84.14-22,27
through repentance, baptism by water and the doctrine of Christ in the book	2 Nep 31.17-21



GOSPEL

Central Message:

First principles and ordinances of the gospel are:

Faith on the Lord Jesus Christ

Repentance

Baptism for remission of sins

Laying of hands for gifts of the Holy Spirit (A of Faith 4 & 3)

Gospel of repentance, baptism, remission of sins, and

the law of carnal commandments D&C 84.26-27, 76.50-52

This is my gospel teaching peaceable things of the kingdom D&C 39.5-6

Churches deny the more parts of the gospel 4 Neph 1.27

Fullness of the gospel contained in the Book of Mormon J Smith-H 1.34

Eternal life, know true God & Jesus Christ, receive Law D&C 132.24, 21, 27

Ask the Father in Christ Name if the Book (of Mormon) is true

the Holy Spirit reveals Mormon 10.3-5

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, all come to him,
obey the laws and ordinances of the gospel may be saved
(Introduction par 5, Book of
Mormon)

SIX STEPS (Study) in Membership

1. God, Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith, Book of Mormon
2. Gospel of Christ - repentance, baptism and the commandments
3. Restoration of the Church
4. Family and the Temple
5. To be perfect like Christ
6. To be a member of the church

THE ARTICLES OF FAITH OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

1. We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe that man will be punished for their sins, and not for Adam's transgression.
3. We believe that through the atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel.
4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are:
First, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, second, Repentance, third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.
5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.
6. We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, namely apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists and so forth.
7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, and so forth.
8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.
9. We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now revealed, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the kingdom of God.
10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion (the New Jerusalem) will be built upon the American continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.
11. We claim the privilege of worshipping the Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.
12. We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, magistrates, in obeying, honoring and sustaining the law.

13. We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul- We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.

JOSEPH SMITH

Mormon teachings deviate from the truths that are in the Bible. They do not accept the bible as the only inspired book of the Lord. They have the book of Mormon given by a certain angel Moroni who claimed to have the fullness of the gospel. They have teachings that are contrary to the original revelations.

Salvation they say is by the atonement of Christ but includes obedience to its laws and ordinances and entry to their church. They believe that the Christian churches today are not the true church of our Lord Jesus Christ. The true Church holds only to the Bible for its final authority, faith and practice. The true church proclaims the only one gospel that Jesus' sacrificial offering is enough for man's forgiveness and salvation. The requirement in the Bible is true repentance and faith in Christ.

God warned not to add words or remove words from this prophecy for curse shall come to them.

"I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book."

Revelation 22:18-19

They get their teachings from the Doctrines and Covenants and from the Book of Mormon which came from a spirit that carried a different gospel message from what God has previously revealed and written. These books are not biblically sound and do not conform to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to Bible truths. This is accursed in Galatians 1:8-9.



JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

GOD

God's personal Name is Jehovah. (The truth shall make you free., p.17)
Only Jehovah is from everlasting to everlasting. (Make sure of all things, 1965, p486)

Jesus Christ is not one God with the Father (MS p. 485)

Holy Spirit is God's active force, not a person (MS p. 487)

There was a time when Jehovah was alone in universal space. All life, energy and thought were contained in him alone.(Let God be true, 1952 p.25)

Elohim is the plural of majesty. It does not mean he is mysteriously a trinity. (New Heavens and New Earth p 36)

The obvious conclusion is that Satan is the originator of the trinity doctrine. (LG p.101)

JESUS CHRIST

Not Jehovah God. He was the first son that Jehovah God brought forth. (LG p.32)

The first creation by God. (MS p. 282)

Jesus Christ had a pre-human existence (LG p.34)

Michael the archangel is no other than the only-begotten Son of God, now Jesus Christ (NH p. 38)

At baptism Jesus was anointed to become the Messiah, or Jesus the Christ(Anointed) (LG p. 38)

He shows his subjection to God by humbling himself to a most disgraceful death on a torture stake. (LG p.35)

God raised him as a mighty immortal spirit Son (LG p.40)

HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the invisible force of Almighty God, which moves his servants to do his, will. (LG p.108)

SIN

Sin is falling short of God's mark of perfection, transgression of his righteous law. (MS p 456)

At death, Adam was to return to dust, a return to non-existence (NH p88)

All are born in sin (imperfect, with wayward tendencies)(MS p 456)

MAN

The soul is not eternal or immortal.

Shall not suffer eternally in hell.



SALVATION

Jesus Christ laid down in sacrifice a perfect HUMAN LIFE, equal to that which Adam forfeited (You may survive Armageddon p. 39).

His perfect human life with all its rights and prospects was laid down in death, but NOT FOR SIN AND IN PUNISHMENT. (LG

116)

That which is redeemed or brought back is perfect human life with its rights and earthly prospects.

(LG p.114)

The value of the perfect human life was now available for use on behalf of faithful men. (LG . 116)

The Bible plainly shows that 144,000 will share heavenly glory, while others will enjoy blessings of life here on earth. (LG p 298)

Faith in Jehovah God and Christ Jesus and do God's will and faithfully carry out their dedication, rewarded with everlasting life.

The righteous shall resurrect in the last day after sleeping in the grave.

HELL

There is no Hell. The Dead are inactive, unconscious. Destruction is annihilation. (LG p 99 MSP 143 LG p 270)

HISTORY

Founded by Charles Tze Russell (1852 - 1916) from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

He couldn't believe God can condemn a sinner in eternal fire, text were Jeremiah 7.31, 19.5, 32.35 1John 4.8,9

July 1879 Started the Publication of Zion's Watch Tower & Herald of Christ's Presence which is known worldwide as the Watch Tower- Witnessing the Kingdom of Jehovah.

1888 Non-profit Bible Society- Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society now known Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania.

1914 Prophesied Christ Second Coming an important event in man's history. Context is Christ coming is not seen. Mt 24.3-22 Lk 21.7-33

1920-1930 The Bible Students gave impetus to house to house preaching Act 20.20

1931 They bonded together to witness the Name of Jehovah and be called and known that way. Is 43.10-12 Mt 28.19-20 Act 1.8

1935 Believed only 144,000 sealed Christians will rule with Christ in heaven and the kingdom, heavenly rule will be for the rest of mankind in earth.

Rev 7.4, 9, 10, 14.1-3 Rom 8.16,17

Therefore their goal is a worldwide witness to this millions of people looking for God.

1942 Trained ministers in WatchTower Bible School of Gilead.

1946 Held weekly meetings of study of the bible in Kingdom Halls and from here it spread though out the world.

CENTRAL MESSAGE:

Proclaim the coming of Jehovah on earth. Ps 37.9-11, 29

Witness the Name of Jehovah Rev 1.5, 3.14 1Jn 4:14-16 Is 43.10-12
Mt 28.19,20 Act 1.8

There is only one religion

Here we have a deviation from the truth. They denied the deity of Christ as equal to the Father. They have named God as Jehovah. This is not the Name revealed to Moses and the prophets and the scriptures but it was YHWH/Yahweh. The death and resurrection of Christ they taught was an example of perfect human life and not the sacrifice for sins. **The Bible teaches otherwise, Christ was sacrificed for sins once and for all.**

"10By this will we have been sanctified **through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11**Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; **12but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,"**

Heb 10:10-12

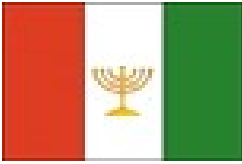
They do not believe the existence of Hell and everlasting consciousness of the wicked in the Lake of Fire. The wicked dead don't exist anymore according to them. The Bible says otherwise and opposite they shall perish forever and the saints saved because of the sacrifice of Christ for sin.

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire."

Revelation 20:13-14

"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne... Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;'... "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:31, 41, 46



CHURCH OF CHRIST (Iglesia ni Kristo)



PROPHECY

Apostasy of the First Century Church	1Tim 4.1
Another flock to be gathered	Jn 10.16
From the Far East, ends of the earth (Philippines)	Is 43.5-6, 41.9
Ends of the earth (time before the end of age)	Mt 24.3, 6-7
Messenger sent. Felix Manalo (1914)	Is 41.9-10, 46.11 Rom 1.16
from the ends of the earth	

THE CHURCH

Christ built	Mt 16.18
Name of the church	Rom 16.16
He is the head	Col 1.18 Eph 1.22
Purchased by his blood	Act 20.28 Eph 1.7
Gave His life for it	Jn 10.11 Eph 5.25
The holy city, new jerusalem	Rev 21.2
He is the savior, no other name	Act 4.12
Entrance through faith in :	Rom 5.2
God and Christ (man)	Jn 14.1-2
the gospel (doctrines)	Mk 16.15-16
messenger (Felix Manalo)	Jn 6.29
be baptized in their church	Mt 28.19 Act 2.38 Mk 16.15-16



SALVATION

Central Message:

If anyone wants to be saved he must enter and be a member of the church of christ.
 Enter the sheepfold Jn 10.7,9,1
 Be a member of the body Eph 3.6, 5.29-30 1Cor 12.12-13
 Christ is the savior of the body Eph 5.23 1Cor 6.13

GOD

The Father is the only true God	Jn 17.3 1Cor 8.6 Eph 4.5 Is 43.10-12, 63.16 Mal 2.10
God is a spirit	Jn 4.24
God cannot be man and man God	Hos 11.9 Num 23.19
The Father is greater	Jn 10.29 1Cor 11.3

JESUS CHRIST

Jesus is not God, he said he is a man	Jn 8.40
Apostles taught it	Act 2.22 1Tim 2.5
Has flesh and blood	Lk 24.37-40

He died, God cannot die	Rom 5.6 Act 2.23
Prayed to God the Father	Mt 26.39
He has a Father and God	Jn 20.17
Existed only as man	1 Jn 4.2
Authority came from God	Mt 28.18 Act 2.36, 22 Jn 5.30
Power from the spirit of God	Act 10.38 Lk 10.21-22, 11.20
	Mt 12.28
Made holy only from God	Jn 10.36 Mk 10.17-18
Glorified by God and commanded to worship	Phil 2.9-11
Made above all creation	Eph 1.20-22
But to be subjected to God	1Cor 15.27-28
Made Lord, Savior and Mediator	Act 2.36, 5.31 1 Tim 2.5

HOLY SPIRIT

He is not God, only power or force	
Sent by the Father and Son	Jn 14.26, 15.26
Seven spirits sent by God	Rev 5.6

MAN'S DEATH

Into the grave	Ps 88.5, 146.4 Act 2.29,34
Sleeps	Jn 11.11-4 1Thess 4.14
No knowledge	Eccl 9.5,10 Job 7.9-10
Raised in the last day	Jb 14.10, 12 Jn 11.11-14, 5.28
	1Thess 4.15-16 Dan 12.1-2
Soul also dies	Ezek 18.4
Cleaves to the dust	Ps 119.25

HELL

Only at the judgment day	Mt 13. 38-40, 16.27
	Jn 12.48, 5.28-29
It is the lake of fire	Rev 20.10-15

FOOD

Eating blood is sin	1Saml 14.32-33
Sin against the Holy Spirit	Mt 12.31-32 Act 15.28-29
Cast out of the church	Lev 17.10

JUDGMENT

On the coming of Christ	Jde 1.14-15
Wicked shall be gathered	2 Pet 3.7, 10
No condemnation to those in Christ	Rom 8.1
which the church he built	Mt 16.18
The name is church of christ	Rom 16.16
Resurrected	1 Thess 4.16-17
after 1,000 years satan and the wicked turned into the lake of fire	Rev 20.5, 7-10
So each member should be in peace	2 Pet 3.14
inside the church of christ	Col 3.15, 1.18
stay until the end	Mt 24.13

INDOCTRINATION

(For those who wants to be a member)

1. The word of God is written in the bible
2. The true God taught in the bible
3. Not all churches are of God
4. Christ's commandments whoever wants to be saved must be a member of the church of christ
5. Why we're born Catholics and not church of christ
6. Teachings Catholic turned away from
7. Christ built the church of christ in the Philippines through prophecy
8. Felix Manalo messenger of God in the last day
9. Why the church of Christ is persecuted and the reward of not falling
10. Right way of membership into the church of christ
11. The true nature of Christ according to the bible
12. The use of wrong texts and translations are the basis of those who teach that Christ is the true God
13. Responsibility of the members of the church of christ to change life
14. Responsibility of the members to attend all church worship
15. God commanded offerings, thanksgiving and gifts
16. God commanded to love the brethren
17. God prohibited eating of blood and marriage to different faith
18. Be baptized to be a disciple of christ
19. All members should bring converts and pray
20. All members should be registered and under an administration
21. Judgment, resurrection of the dead and the inheritance of the church of christ
22. The foundation of unity of the church of Christ

This group blatantly and boldly proclaims and teaches that Jesus is not God nor does He possess divine nature. Jesus is a created Son of God and Lord. They stress Jesus as man only. The Lord Jesus took the form of a man.

"Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man,..."

Philippians 2:5-8a

Never can they read from the Scriptures that Jesus is not God. They remove words from the Scripture by simply not teaching them. They twist and don't read the scriptures that declare the Godhead of Jesus Christ. The Scriptures declare Jesus is God in nature (John 1:1-3, 20:28-29, Philippians 2:5-11, Colosians 1:13-18, Titus 2:13, Hebrews 1:5-13, 1 John 5:20 Revelation 1:7-8).

They say they worship Jesus and call Him Lord because the Father has commanded. What kind of worship and lordship do they attribute to Him— like God?

Jesus said, "so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father who sent Him."

John 5:23

Jesus asked the religious leaders of His time.

"If David then **calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his son?"**

Matthew 22:45

They believe that Christ died for the church and that church is the church of Christ. He is the savior of the church so if you want to be saved you must be a member and enter that church. They corrupt the Scripture. They make use of the name of the church— church of Christ as the church Jesus built and whom He shall saved. So you should enter it to be saved. They interpreted the scripture erroneously. Jesus said He is the door of the sheep and that whoever enters in the door shall be saved and whoever enters in not by through Him is a robber and a thief. It is in Jesus the head that we enter as the door by faith in Him and not go directly into the church which is the body.

"I am the **door**; If anyone **enters through Me**, he will be saved,"

John 10:9

Faith therefore here is faith directed to Christ as Lord and Savior and it is He that is received (John 3:16, 1:12). The true church are the believers who repented, accepted Christ, believed and entered through the gospel - His finished work in Calvary enough for their salvation (Mark 1:15, Hebrews 3:6, Ephesians 3:6).



MEMBERS
CHURCH OF GOD
INTERNATIONAL

MEMBERS CHURCH OF GOD INTERNATIONAL



PROPECY

Leader – Eliseo Soriano	
Wiseman	Eccl 9.15
Sent	Rom 10.14-15
Stewards of mysteries	1Cor 4.1
Book sealed until end of time	Dan 12.4
Understood by the wise	Dan 12.10
True preacher	Jn 7.17, 3.34

THE CHURCH

Built by God	Ps 127.1
where the name of God is	Deut 12.5
the house of God	1Tim 3.15
Church of God International	1Thess 2.14
Both has the Father and Son	Mt 16.18 Jn 14.10

SALVATION

From God’s wrath	1Thess 1.10
defer anger for His Name’s sake	Is 48.9
Name of the Lord, strong tower,	Prov 18.10
You are safe	
This house were His name is	2Chrn 7.16
Church of God International	1Tim 3.15 1Thess 5.21
Be a member which is good	Eph 3.6 1Thess 5.21
Follow the head of the body	Col 1.18 Eph 1.22

Central Message

Keep his commandments	Mt 28.19-20
Jesus is the way to the Father	
by following his commandments	Jn 14.6 Col 2.6-7
To be saved have faith on the doctrines from the true preacher	
	Rom 10.14-15
“Dating Daan/ Old Path” the right way were salvation is.	
Baptism- for remission of sins	Act 2.38
to be born again	Jn 3.3-5
to receive the Holy Spirit	Act 2.38
to become member of the	1Cor 12.13
church, accepting the doctrines	Mt 28.19-20

GOD

There are many gods on heaven and on earth
Father, Son and the Holy Spirit

Father- greater than the Son
King of kings, Lord of lords in heaven
(the Son only on earth)
Not know all things (limited) only after man has decided
Not present everywhere (limited)

The Lord's Suffer is not literally practiced, it is spiritual
The bread and wine are the teachings they share on gatherings

MAN'S DEATH

Into the grave	Ps 88.5, 146.4 Act 2.29, 34
sleeps(soul/body)	Jn 11.11-14 1Thess 4.14
no knowledge at death	Eccl 9.5, 10 Jb 7.9-10
raised in the last day	Jb 14.10, 12 Jn 11.11-14, 5.28
souls also dies	Ezek 18.4
cleaves to the dust	Ps 119.25

HELL

will exist at the judgment day Mt 13.38-42, 16.27
Jn 12.48, 5.28-29

INDOCTRINATION

(For those who wants to be a member)



Commandments/ Laws

Mt 28.19-20 Mk 7.6-7

1. The teacher to be heard to be saved
2. Prayer
3. Evil part of man
4. Conduct toward brethren
5. Conduct toward outsiders
6. Conduct Prohibited
7. Clothing
8. Gathering
9. Giving
10. The Sower
11. Thanksgiving
12. Sin against the Spirit
13. Baptism

DOCTRINES

Section 1

We believe in the Almighty God, the Father, the Creator of the universe, in Christ Jesus, the Father's begotten son, a true and Mighty God, the only savior of mankind and the only way to the Kingdom of God in heaven (Acts 14:15; I Cor. 8:5-7; John 14:6; 14:1).

Section 2

We believe that only the Bible or the Holy Scriptures, composed of 66 inspired books, teaches the full wisdom of God for the salvation of man and that no other books should be used as basis for serving God and Christ Jesus (Romans 1:16-17; 2:16; Gal. 1:8-9; II Thes. 1:1-9; John 20:31; Isa. 34:16; John 5:39).

Section 3

We believe that the God the Father sent His son Jesus Christ, instrumental in the establishment of the CHURCH OF GOD INTERNATIONAL, INC., the congregation of the Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, etc; first planted in the city of Jerusalem, and later on scattered and preached by the Apostles in different places of Asia Minor (Matt. 16:18; Acts 8:1; Gal. 1:22; I Thes.2:14).

Section 4

We believe that the Gentile nations including the Philippines, are partakers of the promise, the ETERNAL LIFE, through belief in Christ Jesus and the Gospel and are not authorized by God TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN CHURCH, but are mere members associated with the same body or Church written in the Gospel by accepting and executing the doctrines written by the Apostles (Ephe. 3:6; Col. 1:18; I John

Jesus said He that believed and is baptized shall be saved. Repent and believe the gospel (Mark 1:15, 15:15-16). Baptism follows after repentance and faith in the gospel. It is evident in this

group in their 13 topics on indoctrination there is no gospel preached. They teach doctrines and baptize believers. This is man made. The way of the apostles is they preach first the Lord Jesus' death and resurrection (the gospel) to the Jews and the Gentiles before teaching the doctrines. Faith in Christ should first be developed in the believer to be saved. Christ's crucifixion and resurrection for our salvation is not proclaimed in their indoctrination.

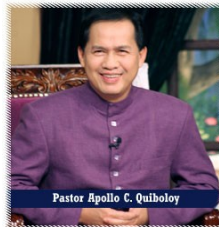
It is not to teach the doctrines first and be baptized. Nowhere in their 13 topics make one to have faith in Christ to be his Lord and Savior. Paul asked the believers in Galatians 3:1-2, "Did you receive the Spirit of God by obedience to the Law or by faith?... Is not Christ crucified clearly portrayed before you eyes?" There is nothing wrong with the commandments of Christ being taught. We are to obey it but wrong application of the commandments is not acceptable. The believer has to be in Christ first when he puts his trust in Him and is baptized. Then the commandments follow. The leader claims to have great knowledge of the Scripture but do not know the gospel truth. The truth is that Christ was sent by the Father from heaven to redeem man from his sins through his death and resurrection. Whoever shall repent and believe the gospel that is faith in Christ shall not see death but have eternal life. Salvation is not by the church or any group.

Satan has many ways in using religions to hide the gospel. We are saved by the gospel. If one does not understand the gospel he shall not be saved. In Iglesia ni Kristo, Satan hides the gospel by teaching doctrines and entering their church which is named church of christ. The group of Soriano falls into the same error denying the Lord. For them, to be saved is to keep the commandments of Christ and be a part of the church of god international (their group) according to them Christ built in Jerusalem. This is the kingdom of God where one must enter according to them. These teachings move away the trust and faith in Christ finished work of salvation on the cross.

It is God who puts you in the true Church (Acts 2:47). Salvation is only through the death and resurrection of Christ and that whosoever repents and believes the gospel shall be saved. Obedience to His commandments follows because he is saved (Acts 16:30-31, 20:20-21, 2:47, Ephesians 2:8-10). The true Church of Jesus Christ holds this gospel truth. These are the believers who heard the gospel, have repented and trusted Jesus for their salvation. These Christians are all over the world today.



KINGDOM OF JESUS CHRIST THE NAME ABOVE EVERY NAME



Leader/Founder
Apollo S. Quiboloy

Davao City, Davao,
Philippines

Claims and Teachings:

Apollo S. Quiboloy belongs to the group they call Oneness. Oneness believes that there is one God and that God is the Father alone. When God took the form of man He became the Son of God. Jesus is in heaven now as God the Father. Now he pronounced himself as inheriting the sonship.

He claims revelations from the Father:

"Jesus Christ is now the Father...is my Father."

"Jesus Christ is not the Son anymore."

God masterfully maneuvered the completion of his work through me...as an instrument in fulfilling His will."

"Do you know why the Lord suffered...underwent that cruel sacrifice on the cross? That was to produce me!"

"What Jesus Christ the Jewish Son of the Father failed to do... what my Father...failed to do among the chosen people."

"The model of being a Son of God now is me."

John 3:5...was fulfilled in me. I have become the Son...the Father's completion of salvation is already done in me."

God's Newest Son



Message from the Son: Apollo Quiboloy whose ministry is named *The Kingdom of Jesus Christ*

"...God the Father has given him" "This great opportunity of sharing to you the divine wisdom and revelations He has bestowed upon me as His Designated Son in these last days.

"Don't miss your visitation. Harken unto the voice of the Father now as He speaks through his son. Treasure each word and each moment for this privilege is graced only to those who are true children of God, chosen and handpicked by the Father to receive His revelation through His Son."

Apollo holds to the Oneness Pentecostal view of God, that denies the tri-unity of the Father, the Son and the Comforter. Along with this, he has a mix of Latter Rain teachings (ie. Manifest son of God- specifically- Him)

The idea he presents is that God the Father and Jesus Christ are one and the same Person. Ignoring the words spoken to Jesus, His Son from the Father in heaven (twice Mt.3:17; Lk.17:5) "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am pleased."

He Apollo himself is "the Son of God" and not just a "son" but "the Son of God." He quotes the verses that directly apply to Jesus Christ. He states publicly that he is the "sent one" of God and quotes John 7:29 and 8:18 which are reserved for Jesus Christ ONLY.

Their Website (www.kingdomofjesuschrist.org) says "I am the way the truth the life no man cometh unto the Father except by ME" Pastor Apollo C. Quiboloy servant son of God (meaning Him). Under a sign outside his church in Hawaii it says Rev. Apollo Quiboloy Son of God.

On his website it explains-September 13, 2003 eighteen years after powerfully declaring the revolution in the spirit and in the hearts and minds of the children of God, Pastor Apollo was ushered into his private ministry- the reign of the Father through the Son."

The Official Turning of Power from the Father to the Son, "Pastor Apollo received a message from the Father that all power in heaven and earth; and the riches, wealth, prestige and authority will be handed over to him as the son."

According to Quiboloy's teaching, it was necessary that the Son of God to appear in the flesh of a Gentile. On his website it is asked **Are you Jesus Christ in the Gentile body?**

"More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ came in the flesh to testify to all that God can dwell in a human body, in the life of a man. It is here now. The life that lived in Israel before is now here. He is now using a Gentile body."

*If He was able to come to the Jewish people, He can also come to the Gentile people. **John 5:23** says, "That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which hath sent him." My works bear witness of me. And the Father Himself, who sent me, has borne witness of me."*

On his website his answer to **What is the role of the Son?**

"If you're appointed as the Son, you're like the ruler of the house. You are the president of all the children of God who are born in the Spirit, because the Kingdom of God is the nation of God."

On his website- **When God called you, were you aware that your ministry would become that of the Son?** "As I grow in the spirit with the Father, He reveals many things to me from time to time. He appointed me the position of feeding His people His words, the spiritual bread. **Luke 12:43-44** says, "**Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.**" The meat in due season are

the revelations that would be revealed as time passes. You don't learn everything in just one sitting. Slowly, God will reveal everything until everything becomes clear in your mind."

On his website **When did you realize that your ministry would be the ministry of the Son?** *The Book of Jeremiah 1:4 states how the Word of the Lord came unto Jeremiah. That is also how the Word of the Lord came unto me. What happened to the prophet Jeremiah also happened to me.*

"When He had directed me, I did not know back then what His plan for me was. While growing up in the spiritual learning, you still wouldn't know what would become of you. I was being led into something. I did the things that I was being led to do. Then, I began to understand that I already have a calling."

One of the works this new "Son of God" claims to exhibit is the spirit of obedience, but obedience to whom may be the question. To Him of course, they obey his word and how He uses the Bible.

" the complete essence of the message of the Spiritual Revolution, which is the message of the Son of God.

"The purpose why Jesus Christ came is for us to become co-heirs and children of His Kingdom. The purpose of Spiritual Revolution which Jesus Christ started is to topple down the old spirit of disobedience and receive the new spirit of obedience to the will of God. John 3:5 states that if you want to enter the Kingdom of God, you must be born again in the Spirit. If you're born again in the Spirit, you become a child of God. It's not enough to remain just a servant. A servant will not abide in the house forever, but only the children will abide in the house of the Father forever."

God's Kingdom has Arrived on Earth

With Quiboloy as the new Son of God (Messiah) the new Jerusalem will arise in Davao because as he previously stated "the church age had ended." On one TV program he said "... it is also the same in the days of the son in the Gentile city now is the fulfillment of his salvation" (Kingdom of Jesus Christ program on LeSea, Dec.26, 2004) "As Noah has finished so have I finished the work of salvation" In his invitation for salvation he said "Become one of the 3 million...enter the ark of salvation, the new Jerusalem." (Kingdom of Jesus Christ program, LeSea Dec.26, 2004)

Under the title on his website- THE KINGDOM OF JESUS CHRIST The Name Above Every Name--

"Centuries after centuries have passed and the revelation of truth has progressed until the Kingdom of God has grown to its fullness. From Jerusalem , the truth extended to the farthest reaches of Asia particularly in the far-flung area of Tamayong, at the foothills of Mt. Apo , Davao City , a historical place wherein Pastor Apollo C. Quiboloy was born, anointed and trained by God in the spirit."

"The holy Bible says in the book of Exodus that wonders have taken place in the mountains. The Ten Commandments were given by God to Moses on a mountain. World's greatest sermon was preached on a mountain. Greatest prayers were prayed and answered on mountains. Christ was transfigured on a mountain. And as prophesied in the book of Zechariah, Christ will make His future return on a mountain".

In these last days, God has once again chosen a mountain where He could let His children live. *As our beloved Pastor Apollo had said in his fellowships, Tamayong, the site of the Covenant Mountain and*

Prayer Center, then was a place you would never wish to live in. It was nothing but a place of uncivilization. That was Tamayong before. But an extreme twist has happened when God manifested his divine providence to His chosen Son. Tamayong, the place that you would never want to live in before has become a haven closest to heaven. It has become a pilgrimage for the children of God.. (website-WHAT IS THE COVENANT MOUNTAIN AND PRAYER CENTER)

Here we have a NEW Mecca of sorts that he claims is directed by God himself. Calling it the "seat of God's governance on earth...a haven closest to heaven..." He likens it to Mount Sinai or The Mount of Transfiguration.

On the website he is asked ***What is the difference between you and Jesus Christ?***

"The only thing that is different between Jesus Christ and me is that Jesus Christ was God Himself in the flesh. He was the firstborn of the brethren. His Father, the One who formed Him in the womb, was a Spirit. He was clothed in human flesh because He was born of a woman. My father was flesh; my mother was flesh. I was born from the fallen Adamic nature. The Adamic race which is the object of His love. His love was manifested through redemption and salvation".

While he admits that Jesus Christ was God Himself in the flesh, he is claiming equality with him when he says he is the newest Son of God on earth. Newer in this sense does not mean equal, it means ANOTHER, in place of Christ.

On his website it says- ***Son of God: fulfillment of the Old and New Testament***

*"The life of Jesus Christ is in me. If there will be another book that will be included in the Holy Scriptures, it will be the book of the fulfillment of the Old and New Testament. **This fulfillment happened in my life when God called me.***

The purpose of the Old and New covenant is to save us from sin, while the purpose of the Old and New Testament is for the Lord to produce a new man from the fallen Adamic race.

"Kingdom Youth" statement:

Pastor Quiboloy is True... **he is really the Son Of God in these last days.** Many people didn't know because they have the mentality of religions and denomination and that's the old paradigm... **I want to let the Whole World know that THE MESSIAH that we've been waiting for is already here!** Those that are not children of God will not going to believe it, but we people of God believe that the deliverer is in our midst...Come and enter now into the KINGDOM OF JESUS CHRIST (the name above every name). Your Salvation is here... hear the Father's audible voice, his anointed and appointed SON...PASTOR APPOLO C. QUIBOLOY.

Apollo Quiboloy teaches we as children of disobedience, we should surrender to God in repentance. God shall take that seed of the serpent and put the seed of the Son. He uses the name of JESUS CHRIST THE NAME ABOVE EVERY NAME but forgot the gospel truth that all the CULTS are GUILTY OF. Through this they indirectly deny

the gospel truth that Christ came to die for our sins for our atonement and salvation. God calls all to repent and have faith in Christ to be saved and not repent alone. They only teach repentance to enter into the Kingdom of God and they forgot Christ crucifixion as the ultimate payment for our sins.

This false prophet claims that the Father finished the work of salvation in him but the truth is it is finished by and in Christ (John 19:30, Hebrews 9:26-28, 10:10-12). He is Christ in the Gentile body. Repent of your sins and believe the Son (Apollo S. Quiboloy) and you shall be saved and he is the way the truth and the life. Jesus attributed these words to Himself alone (John 3:36, 14:6).

Christ will not come again visibly as Christians believe all over the world because according to him Christ is here already, himself (Quiboloy). Jesus said many shall come in my Name and shall deceive many. A. Quiboloy is a false prophet. He has the spirit of the anti-christ— which means literally a substitute for Christ. How can he be saved and his followers if they don't have faith in the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ who died once and for all at the cross for our redemption. The leader and the followers were deceived by Satan by believing into a lie. The big lie was Apollo Quiboloy is now the Son of God and he is to be believed as the way. Salvation in Christ alone was hidden. The plan of Satan is always to move people out of their pure devotion and faith to Christ alone. For salvation is through repentance and faith in Christ as the only Lord and Savior to the glory of God the Father. The gospel was hidden by the Satan by exalting Apollo Quiboloy as the appointed Son of God and the Christ in the Gentile body.



SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

HISTORY

Founded by William Miller from US. First called Adventist, believing the Second Coming of Christ. Predicted to come at 1844. His prophecy failed and called the Great Disappointment. Study of Scripture he found that the Seventh day is Saturday or Sabbath. Then they were called Seventh Day Adventist.

MAN

At death, not know anything	Ps 146.4 Eccl 9.10,6,5 Ps 115.17, 6.5
the soul sleeps	Jn 11.11-14
resurrected at the last day	Jn 5. 28-29, 11.23, 24, 19.25-27
righteous not yet in heaven	Act 2.29, 34 1Cor 15.22, 23, 51-55
	1Thess 4.16-17 Phil 3.20-21
wicked not in hell, in the grave	Mt 13.38-40 Rev 20.5, 9, 14, 15

LAW/COMMANDMENTS

10 Commandments binding	Mt 22.37-40, 19.17 Js 2.10
on Christians	Jn 14.15, 15.10
Kept forever	Ps 119.152
Christ came not to delay	Mt 5.17-19
Tells us what sin and	1Jn 3.4 Rom 7.7
not transgress	
Keep the Sabbath	Ex 31.18, 20.8-11 Is 66.22-23, 58.13-14
	Lk 4.16 Ezek 20.12, 22.26 Is 8.16, 20
	Mt 15. 3,9,13 Act 17.2, 16.13, 13.42,44
Pork, blood, food, herbs and	Gen 7.2 Lev 11.9, 11.3, 6-7 Is 66.15,17
wine prohibited	Act 15.29 Deut 29.18 Prov 20.1 Lk 21.34
	(1Cor 10.31 2Cor 6.17)

SALVATION

Central Message:

Faith in Jesus Christ in His death	Mt 1.21
on the cross	Act 16.30-31, 3.19 Ijn 1.9
Keep the commandments (Keep the Sabbath)	
No salvation without it	Eccl 12.13-14 Rev 14.12, 22.14 Js 2.10
Belong to the true church	Rev 14.12 Act 2.41,47 Mt 12.30, 25
	Jn 10.1,7,16 Eph 4.5
Baptism door to the church	1Cor 12.12,13
Keeping not all this is	Prov 28.9
unpardonable sin	Jn 14.21,26, 16.8,13
Especially the 10 Commandments	
If not followed he will be lost	Mt 12.31 Js 4.17 Heb 10.26

HELL

Only Second Death	Rev 21.8 Mt 10.28
No hell now, not in torment	Mt 13.38-40
Annihilation, destruction, burned by fire	Ps 145.20, 37.20, 21.9 Mal 13.38-40, 16.27 Jn 12.48, 5.28-29
After which no fire left	Is 47.14 Ps 37.20,10
Results of fire are eternal not eternal fire	Jde 7 Rev 20.10,9

JUDGMENT DAY

All shall appear	2 Cor 5.10 Act 17.31 Dan 7.9,10
Jesus advocator of the righteous	1Jn 2.1 Heb 4.15,7.25 Rev 20.15 Phil 4.3
Judged according to what is written according to our works	Rev 20.12 Mt 12.36 Eccl 11.9 Rev 22.11-12

Today the Adventists are no longer considered as cults because they believe salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ and not by the Ten Commandments.

This group began teaching that to be saved you must keep the Ten Commandments, keep the Sabbath and enter their church. But now among its leaders and people they have shown strong convictions that salvation is by grace alone through faith in Christ not of works, which we have done.

They still keep the Ten Commandments as a way of life and worship on the Sabbath and not on the first day of the week as observe by Christians. What is important here is whom they trust for the salvation of their souls. The basic truth is that if you hold the true gospel as the apostles of Jesus Christ have taught you are not cast out or damned.

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF THE CULTS AND THEIR TEACHINGS

Cults have the cloak of Christianity but deny its saving power in Christ. The most central and noticeable character of all the cults we have studied is that "they deny in their teachings the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ to be enough for man's forgiveness and salvation and one should hear this gospel, repent and believe to be saved." This gospel truth is hidden, lacked and not preached by them.

Below are the lists of errors that are common among these cults.

- **Satan through the guise of religion and a false church hides the gospel by exalting the leader, the name of the church and their new found unbiblical and unsound doctrines**
- **the Bible is not enough for them**
- **they have new revelations contradicting the original written word**
- **these revelations comes from spirits, they where given new books and new teachings from their leaders**
- **by these they begin to deny Christ as the only Lord and Savior, Christ's death and resurrection is not sufficient for redeeming man from his sins**
- **by substituting with obedience to their doctrines corrupting the Scriptures**
- **the gospel is not clear to them, they believe that the word of God is the gospel which are composed of doctrines they concocted erroneously from the scriptures**
- **but the word of God clearly shows us that the gospel is about the Son of God who died on the cross and resurrected from the dead for our salvation and forgiveness**
- **Jesus becomes a small god, a man, a prophet, some accepts He is divine but denies He is enough for salvation**
- **they all teach in order to be save you have to enter and belong to their group**

- **their leader is the only messenger of God today**
- **They do maintain that God is the Father, some deny the divinity of Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God and all deny the deity of the Holy Spirit**

WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY TO THE CULTS:

"If we or an angel from heaven preach another gospel contrary to what you have received let him be accursed..."

Galatians 1:8-9

"Do not believe every spirit, but test every spirit whether they are from God, because many false prophets have come out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God"

1John 4:1-2

"But the Spirit explicitly says that in the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,"

**1Timothy
4:1**

"For many will come in my Name, saying I am the Christ and will mislead many."

Matthew 24:5

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; No one comes to the Father but through Me."

John 14:6

I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.'

Revelation 22:18-19



OCCULTISM

OCCULT

Occult comes from the Latin word "occult". It carries the idea of things hidden, sacred and mysterious.

CHARACTERISTICS OF OCCULTS



1. Deals with the things hidden or secret.
2. Deals with operation of events beyond human power.
3. Deals with super natural presence of demonic forces.
4. Deals with satanic and demon worship and influences.



OCCULTS

Astrology, fortune telling, magic, spiritism, palmistry, card reading, superstition, hypnotism, witchcraft, parapsychology, amulets, mediumship, incantations and satanism.

Why people get involved

1. superstition
2. offspring curse
3. fortune
4. due to incurable diseases
5. curiosity
6. conformity
7. dissatisfied with religious experience
8. power of satan draws and blinds
9. ambitious to powers
10. no faith in God
11. looks for experience
12. searches the way
13. have not known God
14. not know the truth
15. not know God's word
16. poverty
17. family curse
18. transfer of spirits
19. spells

WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY REGARDING THE OCCULTS:



“When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, you shall not learn to imitate the detestable things of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who call up the dead.

For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD; and because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you.

You shall be blameless before the LORD you God.”

Deuteronomy 18:9-13

“But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them- I place no other burden on you.”

Revelation 2:24

“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and SORCERERS and IDOLATERS and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Revelation 21:8

INVITATION

Dear friend:

GOD LOVES YOU ...

We can end the search. God looked down and searched for man. He has sent His Son Jesus Christ and reached out for us.

May the God of heaven and earth and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ enlighten you with these truths. Come to Jesus by faith and believe that He died for you and rose from the dead for your redemption and forgiveness. Confess and receive Him now as the Lord of all and Savior and you shall be saved and receive eternal life.

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other Name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved... – JESUS CHRIST...”

Act 4:12, 10

HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?

The Bible says, “but for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is called the second death.” Revelation 21:8

Jesus revealed Himself as the Son of God from heaven and He took the form of a man, came down to earth to bring us the true will of His Father.

He said, “I came as the Light to the world, anyone who believes in Me shall not remain in darkness.” John 12:46. “The Son of Man came to save that which was lost.” Matthew 18:11 “For Christ also died for sins once and for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.” 1Peter 3:18

“He who believes the Son has eternal life.” John 3:36. “And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life, he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.” 1John 5:11-12



“that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. For the Scripture says, ‘WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; for ‘WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.’”

Romans 10:9-13

Friend, do you want to be saved from the penalty of sins and from hell? You need to have the Son of God. He wants to save and dwell in you. He came from heaven, suffered, died on the cross and has risen from the dead to pay for our sins and for us to have eternal life.

This is what you should do:

- **Ask forgiveness from God for all of your sins. Mark 2:5**
- **Repent from all of your sins and forsake them. Luke 13:3**
- **Call upon the Lord Jesus in prayer and receive Him as Lord and Savior. Romans 10:9**

Follow this prayer:

Heavenly Father, I’m coming before You. Forgive me from all of my sins. I believe that Jesus is Lord. He died and resurrected for our sins. Cleanse me with the blood of Jesus. Lord Jesus, I receive You as my Lord and Savior. I receive now the eternal life and forgiveness of all my sins. Lord fill me with Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus Name. Amen.