

The Jesus of the New Age Cults (Christian Science)

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I- Difference between World religions and cults? Does the size of cult/religion make any difference?

Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam are world religions, but their understanding about Christ classify them as antichristian religions. Bahai, Church of Latter Day Saints, Unification church, Scientology, Jehovah's Witnesses, Christian Science and Mind Science religions are called Christian, but they are not orthodox.

The Reformers called Catholicism a satanic false religion and the papacy the antichrist.

Believers must have an open attitude:

Armstrongism abandoned the founder's original theology and worked to identify themselves within the Evangelical camp.

Watchtower Society positioning itself to be considered historical Christian.

Christian Science losing popularity as principles are swallowed up with mind sciences.

Liberalism and modernism within Christian church is losing authority. Both have embraced evolution and New Age concepts. New Ageism is modern Hinduism, Eastern religion with western flavor. All have abandoned Bible as God's inspired Word. Like Universal-Unitarians before them they are gradually becoming skeptical non-believers.

II- What is the common denominator by which one can determine a false cult?

Since birth Christianity the perversion of the revelation of God in Christ Jesus has confronted Church.

Name some early cult problems. See article on Christology.

ALL had difficulty with incarnation, combining the divine with the human. Paul's *kenosis*: how much and what did Logos empty by becoming man? (Phil 2:5-10)

Common Truth binding believers together is the Person of Christ, His nature and work. If life giver is altered or lost then life He came to bring and give is also lost.

Galatians reminds us: "Galatians 1:6-9 R E A D this passage.

2 Corinthians 11:4: "For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which have not accepted, you may well put up with it." There were counterfeit apostles; prophets and teachers as "angel of light."

Gal: 1:8-9 ... Twofold problem: We must understand the nature of this “other Jesus” and then give biblical reasons why he/it is not acceptable and refute this “other gospel.”

Paul’s gospel: 1 Cor. 15:1---person and work Jesus foundation of gospel. Resurrection is the key.

“Other Jesus” in Paul’s day was “*gnosticism and Galatianism*, or legalism threatening the churches at Colosse, Ephesus, and Crete. Gnosticism motivated the epistles of John, Galatians and Clossians.

Gospel of John was the apostles final and most informative defense of Christ Jesus.

I. The Jesus of Christian Science and Mind Science is human rationalism. It is neither Christian or science.

Mary Baker Goverson Patterson Eddy revived *Gnosticism*. *She said,*

“The Christian who believes in the First Commandment is a monotheist. Thus he virtually unites with the Jew’s belief in one God and recognizes that Jesus Christ *is not God* as Jesus Christ himself declared, but is the Son of God (*Science and Health, 361*).

“The spiritual Christ was infallible; Jesus, as material manhood, was not Christ (Misc. Writings, 84).

“The theory of three persons in one God, which is, a personal Trinity or Triunity) suggests polytheism, rather than the one ever-present I AM. (SH 256)

“The Jewish tribal Jehovah was a man-projected God, liable to wrath, repentance, and human changeableness (SH 140)

“God is All-in-all. God is good, Good in Mind. God, Spirit, being all, nothing is matter...God: Divine principle, life, truth, love, soul, spirit, mind. (SH 113,115)

Virgin Birth: A portion of God could not enter man; neither could God’s fullness be reflected by a single man, else God would be manifestly finite, lose the deific character, and become less than God (SH 336).

“**Miracles**: The sick are not healed merely by declaring there is no sickness, but by knowing that there is none” (SH447) **CONFESSION**

“Sickness is part of the error that Truth casts out. Error will not expel error. Christian Science is the Law of Truth, which heals the sick on the basis of the One Mind, or God.(SH 482)

Atonement: “The material blood of Jesus was no more efficacious to cleanse from sin when it was shed upon “the accursed tree” than when it was flowing in His veins (SH 25).

One sacrifice, however great, is insufficient to pay the debt of sin (SH 25).

Blood of Christ insufficient win victory over Satan. Had enter hell itself and battle devil there. **Blood insufficient to fully overcome satan.**

Resurrection: “His disciples believed Jesus to be dead while he was hidden in the sepulchre, whereas he was alive, demonstrating within the narrow tomb the power of the Spirit to overrule mortal, material sense (SH 44).

Ascension: Jesus’ students, not sufficiently advanced to understand fully their Master’s triumph, did not perform many wonderful works until they saw him after his crucifixion and learned that he had not died (SH 46)...he rose above the physical knowledge of his disciples, and the material senses saw him no more.

Hell: The sinner makes his own hell by doing evil and the saint his own heaven by doing right (SG 266).

The olden opinion that hell is fire and brimstone has yielded somewhat to the metaphysical fact that suffering is a thing of mortal mind instead of the body; so, in place of material flames and odor, mental anguish is generally accepted as the penalty for sin (Misc. Writings 237).

Kingdom of Heaven: Harmony: the reign of Spirit; government by Principle; spirituality; bliss; the atmosphere of Soul (SH 587) Haven is harmony, infinite, boundless bliss. Heaven is the reign of Divine Science.

Existence of sin, Sickness, Death: Devil: Evil; **a lie; error;** neither corporeality nor mind; the opposite of Truth, a believe in sin, sickness and death; animal magnetism or hypnotism, the lust of the flesh (SH 584)

DEATH: An illusion, the lie of life in matter; the unreal and untrue, the opposite of life. Matter has no life; hence it has no real existence. Mind is immortal

Conclusion: Mind, inner man, spirit man, philosophy, divine revelation, absolute truth and freedom from flesh, soul, human, mortal thinking. Sin is mental error, wrong thinking. Faith is verbal confession, freedom from mental negativeness.

Affirms Bible is God’s word. Religion based on Scripture.

Theosophy, New Age mind science, Ascended Masters, related to the Rosicrucian’s, Baha’ism, Great I AM cults and various form of spiritism and spiritualism.

God and man are the two phases of the one eternal life and consciousness that constitutes one universe. Matter is God, God is man, and Man is matter is god. The mental or astral plane.

