

# Wolves in Sheepskin

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Matthew 10:8...freely ye have received, freely give.



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## PREFACE

\* My objective in this study course is to inform unaware Christians with a basic understanding of the spiritual condition of the times that we live in.  
The wolves among us are disguised with a cloak of deception; which is exposed by an understanding and belief of God's Word; which sheds light on the error of their beliefs and ways.

This study course will cover some of the basics of the spiritual condition of Apostate Churches, Cults, and the Occult influence.

\* It's not my purpose nor intent to demean, or bash any church or group, only to compare some of their teachings with scripture.

King James

2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

New American Standard

1 Timothy 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.

\* Observe the words of His Majesty, The Lord Jesus Christ:

Matthews 2:15 **Beware** of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17. Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

\* For a deeper analyses and study of this subject, the following books are an excellent source.

The Kingdom of the Cults..... By Dr. Walter Martin  
The New Cults..... By Dr. Walter Martin  
The Chaos of Cults..... By Jan Karel Van Baale  
Larson's book of Cults..... By Bob Larson

# APOSTACY

1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

2. speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own **conscience seared** with a hot iron,

\* The word Apostasy means to fall away or to abandon ones faith. For a person to abandon their faith, then it's apparent that they had embraced it at one time. The above scripture tell us why.

\* They gave heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons. ( Demonic influence )

2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

2. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

\* 2 Peter 2:1 Tells us how doctrines of demons have entered the church. False prophets ( false preachers, not every one that is in the ministry is of God ). Notice that they bring in destructive heresies. A heresy is a teaching that breaks away from the truth.

\* Not long ago I sat in a meeting of ministers and was appalled at some of the things that I heard. One minister in particular basically said that Jesus Christ wasn't the only way to God. This minister was a member of a large denomination. Several of these ministers were very educated ( college - seminary ) but very ignorant of God's Word.

\* Many main line denominations have rejected the Orthodox Christian doctrines that they once embraced and held dear to. Sadly, most of their members are not aware of the spiritual state of their church or denomination.

➤ As for Jesus Christ being the only way to God, observe the following Scriptures:

John 3:16-18, 36 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18. "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Verse 36. "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me.**

\* It is vitally important that Christians be rooted and grounded in good Christian doctrine, or else their faith can be undermined by false teachings

Ephesians 4:11-14 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12. for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

13. till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

14. that we should no longer be children, **tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness by which they lie in wait to deceive.

\* Many are tossed to and fro in their faith by the very people that they trust their spiritual well being to. Beloved it is your responsibility to examine what you are listening to, check it out with the Bible, if it is not in line with biblical teaching then reject it. If your church or denomination falls away from the Christian truth, then flee from it as a building on fire, it's your soul and the souls of your loved ones! Find out what they teach.

1 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4. and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

\* There are many church goers that want a little religion to sooth their conscience and will seek out preachers who preach according to their desires. One of the problems with these kind of preachers is that they are hirelings. They are employed by the church and do not want to jeopardize their jobs or careers. **Where is, the man of God?**

-- Simple English

John 10:12 A man who has been hired is not really a shepherd. The sheep do not belong to him. When he sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. The wolf catches them and scatters them.

13 The man doesn't care about the sheep, because he is a hired man.

- \* God calls and sets into the church as He chooses, not according to our will but His. The call of God comes from God not man.
- \* There is a Divine call to ministry and then there are those who are seeking a career. If God has not called someone, then that person is **not fit** for the ministry; regardless of how much education they may have received.

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Ephesians 4:11-12 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

- \* When the Lord Jesus Christ walked this earth, He handpicked his servants and He has not changed.

### Apostle Paul's Call

Acts 9:1-7 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2. And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4. And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5. And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and **it shall be told thee what thou must do.**

Acts 22:10 10. And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.

### **A Warning!**

New King James

James 3:1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

## Some characteristics of Apostate churches

1. Reject the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and an authority in our lives.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17. that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2. No longer believe Jesus to be the only way of salvation

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Acts 4:12 "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

1 John 5:11-12 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

12. He who has the Son has life; **he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.**

3. Infant Baptism

Mark 16:15-16 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

16. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

See the following: ACTS 10:1-48

Acts 10:47-48 "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

\* Notice that while Peter was preaching about Jesus they received the Holy Spirit, later they were baptized in water. ( Only born again Christians receive the Holy Spirit ) they became Christians before they were baptized in water. Water Baptism has nothing to do with regeneration. ( infant baptism - a doctrine of demons )

4. Salvation is earned by self effort - works etc.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

5. Salvation is only through their church

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 10:9-13 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

13. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

( Salvation is through Jesus Christ, not the church, a personal commitment to Christ. )

6. For the most part have rejected the foundational beliefs of Christianity such as:

A sample

The Virgin Birth

Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God

The Trinity

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Heaven

Hell

Sin

7. Reject God's Word and turn to Human philosophy as their source of teaching.

New King James

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

2 Timothy 4:1-2 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2. **Preach the word**; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable for** doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

8. Embrace the teachings of the world - such as:

Homosexuality

Genesis 19:4-5 Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom, both young and old, surrounded the house.

5. They called to Lot, “ Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them. ( NIV )

Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind.  
( See Leviticus Ch. 20 )

Romans 1:26-27 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.

27. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. ( NIV )

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ( NIV )

\* Notice the Words of Jesus

Matthew 19:4-5 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,

5. And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

\* Because of sin as the result of the fall of man, people choose their life style - God did not make them that way.

\* God says many times through out Holy Scriptures that homosexuality is wrong. No matter how we dress it up, sin is sin.

2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

If you stand for Bible truth, you may be called old fashion, a Bible thumper, ignorant etc.  
Your stand may displease man but to be sure, it will be pleasing to God.

9. Substitute the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit, with human abilities and understanding.

Luke 4:14, 18-19 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

18. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath **anointed me to preach the gospel** to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,
19. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in **demonstration of the spirit and of power**;

5. That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

## CULTS

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

\* Many cults (on the surface) appear to be Christian until one examines their core beliefs. It is there, that you find that they hold to teachings that are contrary to Christian doctrines and beliefs. Many of these groups gather around a specific person and their misinterpretation of the Bible. The danger of these groups to the body of Christ is that they upset the faith of Christians, who are not rooted and grounded in the foundational teachings of Christianity.

\* Mention the word cult to some people and they have images of devil worship and strange practices. In truth many cults have acquired a certain community respectability, by their hard work and good deeds. The danger is not their deeds but the doctrines that they teach. While we can commend their good deeds, we cannot place our stamp of approval upon them as legitimate Christian churches.

\* Teachings that refute the Trinity, the Deity of Jesus Christ, the Virgin Birth, the Holy Spirit, Heaven and Hell ( to name a few ) are doctrines of demons ( 1 Timothy 4:1 ). We are to love the people and pray for them but we can not offer to them the right hand of fellowship, as the scriptures says:

2 Corinthians 6:14-15 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and **what communion hath light with darkness?**

15. And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

\* One of the deceptions of cults, is that they; many times use the same terminology as Christians but their meanings are not the same. An example of this, is the Way International's teaching concerning the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox Christian view of the Holy Spirit is that He is God, the third person of the Trinity. The Way teach that the Holy Spirit is holy spirit, which is the gift that God gives to men to replace man's spirit, which ceased at the fall of Adam. Their is a vast difference between the two teachings.

\* When talking with a member of a cult, they leave you with the impression that the two of you are talking about the same thing, even though they know better. That is deceitful and should tell us something.

- \* Most cults base their salvation upon their works and affiliation with the group that they belong to. As Orthodox Christians, we know that our salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ and by the work of His cross.  
Christians must not be ignorant of Satan's devices and if need be (JUDE 1:3 earnestly contend for the faith.)
- \* The best way to combat these groups, is to make sure that Christians are firmly rooted and grounded in God's Word. Sadly there are many that are tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine ( Ephesians 6:14 ).
- \* I once heard a Christian sister say ( concerning a certain cult group ) "Oh, they are such nice people". Nice is not under consideration, a rejection of Jesus Christ will send a nice person to Hell, along with those that follow them.

2 John 1:7-11 For **many deceivers are entered into the world**, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

8. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

9. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11. For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

- \* The mistake of many Christians is to invite certain groups into their homes and allow them to share their teachings; which almost always causes confusion, to the point of upsetting the faith of some. The scriptures says receive them not into your home.
- \* Most Christians are aware when it comes to cults such as the Davidians founded by David Koresh but are unaware of the ones that hold a respectable standing, in our communities; passing themselves off as Christian churches.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

## Some Earmarks of Cults

1. Center on an individual or an individual's misinterpretation of the Bible.
2. Adhere to the interpretations even if proven wrong.
3. Hold an individual's writings to be in equal authority with Scripture.
4. Add to, take away or change the Bible to suit their teachings.
5. Maintain that they are the only ones that are right.
6. Maintain that they have a new revelation.
7. Maintain that they alone, are God's chosen.
8. Must earn their salvation by works.
9. Attack the foundational doctrines of Christianity.
10. Lord over their members with an iron fist.
11. Encourage their members to break ties with families etc

\* The following groups are considered by many churches to be cults. In the following pages we will look at some of their teachings and compare them with foundational Christian beliefs.

Jehovah's Witnesses

Church of Jesus Christ latter day saints ( Mormons )

Catholicism ( Roman Catholic Church )

The Way International

The Occult

\* The above groups are but a small percentage of the vast majority of cults that appear to be Christian . I've chosen the above four because they are active in and around my home town.

## Some basic teachings of the Jehovah's Witnesses

### Concerning

#### **A. God**

1. Is not a trinity; the Holy Spirit is only an active invisible force.
2. Jesus Christ is not God the Son.

#### **B. Jesus Christ**

1. His Resurrection - only raised a spirit, was not resurrected physically.
2. The return of Jesus - returned in 1914 as a spirit.
3. Jesus - pre-existed as Michael the Arch Angel.

#### **C. Souls - Death - Heaven - Hell**

1. Soul of man - Man does not possess a soul
2. A person does not go anywhere at the time of death, A person lies in the ground until the Resurrection.
3. There is no Heaven.
4. There is no Hell.

## What the Bible Teaches and Christians Believe

### Concerning

#### **A. God**

Within the nature of the One eternal God ( Isaiah 43:10 ) there are three distinct persons ( Luke 3:21, 22 ) The Father ( 2 Peter 1:17 ), The Son ( John 1:1, 14 ), and The Holy Spirit ( Acts 5:3, 4 ). These three are one in unity and share equally in the divine nature.

#### Some traits of the personality of the Holy Spirit.

He has a Will

1 Corinthians 12:11 But all these worketh that one and selfsame Spirit: dividing to every man severally as he will.

He Speaks

Acts 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Phillip, go near, and join thyself to this chariot.  
Acts 10:19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, behold three men seek thee.

Acts 13:2 While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

He Grieves

EPHESIANS 4:30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

He Prays

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Had His Part in Creation

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Is Called God

ACTS 5:3-4 But Peter said Ananias why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep part of the price of the land?

4. While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

## **B. Jesus Christ**

### **1. His Resurrection**

Luke 24:36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

37. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

39. Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not **flesh and bones, as ye see me have.**

40. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

41. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

42. And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

43. And he took it, and did eat before them.

## 2. The Return of Jesus Christ ( Jehovah's Witnesses say that Jesus returned in 1914 )

Mark 13:32. But of that day and that hour **knoweth no man**, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? **this same Jesus**, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Revelations 1:7. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and **every eye shall see him**, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

I haven't seen Jesus have you?

## 3. Jesus - His Pre-Bethlehem Existence

\* At no time was Jesus ever an angel; In fact he created them.

New King James

Hebrews 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son"?

Revised Standard

Hebrews 1:13 But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet"?

\* Look at what God the Father said to Jesus

Hebrews 1:8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Jesus as the Creator

Hebrews 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

John 1:3,10, Vs.3. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

10. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, **who created all things by Jesus Christ**

## C. Souls - Death - Heaven - Hell

1. Soul of Man the Jehovah's Witness say that man does not possess a soul that is conscience after death.
  2. Death the Jehovah's Witness say that when a person dies they just lie in the ground until the resurrection.
- 

The Bible concerning - Souls - Death

### 1. Souls

Revelation 6:9-11 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

10. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

11. And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Matthew 17:3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

\* Moses died a physical death and Elijah was taken to heaven by a fiery chariot. Yet both talked with Jesus at the mount of transfiguration.

### 2. Death

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

7. (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

8. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Philippians 1:21-24 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

22. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know!

23. I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;

24. but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

## The Bible concerning - Heaven - Hell

### 3. Heaven

Luke 23:42-43 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

Simple English

Philippians 1:23-24 I am torn between living and dying. I have a strong desire to die and **be with Christ**. That would be so much better,  
24 but staying alive is more important for your sakes.

Where is Christ?

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

1 Peter 3:22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

### 4. Hell

Luke 16:22-31 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23. And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

28. For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

\* The man was aware of his surroundings, he was thirsty, he realized he had a family on earth and wanted to warn them about the place he was in. The Bible says hell was not prepared for man but for the devil ( Matthew 25:11 ), but because of his sinful condition, this fate awaits man as well.

The Bible says that it is not Gods will that any should perish but that all should come to repentance ( 2 Peter 2:9 ). God has provided a way of salvation for man and it is through his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 3:41-42 The Son of Man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them that do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 3:12, 25:41 Jude 1:7, and Revelations 20 ).

Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Mark 9:43 It is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell. into the fire that shall never be quenched: Where the worm dieth not. and the fire is not quenched.

The occupants of hell will be Satan, the antichrist, the false prophet, fallen angels, and all unsaved people. ( Revelations 20:10, 19:20, 20:15, and 2 Peter 2:4 ).

### **Notice**

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

### **1000 yrs. later**

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be **tormented** day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 20:14-15 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

## Some basic teachings of the Mormons (Church of Jesus Christ of latter day saints)

Concerning

### A. God

1. There is more than one God.
2. God the Father has a body of flesh and bones.
3. God the Father was once a man.
4. God the Father had sexual intercourse with Mary

When Mormons refer to "God the Father," they mean a resurrected man who became a God, who is married to many women and who begat the spirit of every person to live on this earth through physical relations with His wives.

By the phrase, "His Son, Jesus Christ" Mormons refer to the first-born of those spirits, a spirit brother of Lucifer (Satan—the Devil), who was born physically in Bethlehem as a result of a sexual relation between Heavenly Father and His own daughter, Mary. This Jesus was supposedly married to several women while He walked the earth. His atoning sacrifice is insufficient by itself to pay for all mankind's sins.

{\* God says Thou shalt not commit adultery, if Mary had sex with any one before Joseph then she committed adultery. The Bible says that God is not the author of confusion, would God break His own commandment and cause Mary to sin? Jesus taught that a marriage consisted of one man and one woman.}

### B. Jesus Christ

1. Jesus is the spirit brother of Lucifer ( Satan )
2. The death of Christ only brought release from the grave and universal resurrection.
3. Jesus was not born of a virgin

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## What the Bible Says and Christians Believe

Concerning

### A. God

1. There is only one God

Isaiah 44:6, 8 Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

8. Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Isaiah 45:5,6,18,21,22 I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

6. That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else. ( See Vs. 18, 21, 22 )

2. God is a Spirit ( God the Father was never flesh and bone ) The Mormons say He was.

John 4:23-24 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Luke 24:39-40 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

New King James

Jeremiah 23:24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him?" says the Lord; "do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord.

3. God the Father was never Adam or a Man

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

4. Mary was a Virgin ( she had no sexual intercourse until after Jesus was born )

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name, Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Luke 1:26, 27, 31, 34, 35 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto the city of Galilee, named Nazareth.

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgins name was Mary.

31 An behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, how shall this be, seeing I know not a man?  
35 And the angel answered and said unto her, the Holy Ghost shall come upon thee,  
and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

\* Mary became pregnant by a miracle of God **NOT** sexual relations. She remained a virgin until she and Joseph consummated their marriage and had other children.  
( See Matthew 1:25, Luke 2:7, Mathew 13:55 )

## **B. Jesus Christ**

1. Jesus was never a spirit brother of Satan - this erroneous teaching says that Jesus was an angel in His pre-Bethlehem existence.

\* Satan is a fallen angel; Jesus Christ in his Pre-Bethlehem existence was God the Son, the 2nd. Person of the Trinity.

New International

Colossians 1:15-16 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Hebrews 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

John 1:1-3, 14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. The same was in the beginning with God.

3. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 1:5-13 For **to which** of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son"?

6. And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

7. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

8. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

10. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

11. They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12. And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13. But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

## 2. The Death Burial and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

\* The Mormons say the death of Jesus was not sufficient to pay for man's sins; Man must also be obedient to the teachings of the Mormon church, do good works, and keep the commandments of God, which they say will cleanse the stain of sin.

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. Not of works, lest any man should boast. {You cannot earn a gift}

Hebrews 9:11-12 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12. Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Galatians 1:6-8 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7. Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

8. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Adding works to God's Grace is perverting the Gospel.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

\* Baptism, church going, good deeds etc. are things that we do after we receive Christ as our Savior. Our Salvation was purchased totally by the blood of Jesus Christ and we can add nothing to it.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

3. Jesus was born of a virgin. ( Mormons say God the Father had sexual relations with Mary and Jesus was the results of that copulation ).

\* How could Jesus be born of a virgin if the virgin had engaged in sexual union? The sexual union would have caused her to be a non - virgin.

\* The virgin birth of Jesus Christ was necessary because of Original Sin that passed upon the human race through Adam, Being born of a virgin, he never inherited original sin, and therefore was able to offer himself up as a sin offering for all of mankind.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name, Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Luke 1:26, 27, 31, 34, 35 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto the city of Galilee, named Nazareth.

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgins name was Mary.

31 An behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, how shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, the Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

# The Error of Catholicism

No, I'm not Anti-Catholic, in fact I'm not anti-anyone, when God called me to preach He said to me "preach My word" Endeavoring to do this, at times has put me at odds with the views of others, oh well, it's better to please God than man.

I realize that within the Church, the body of Christ, which is made up of many Christians from all over the world, from many different backgrounds and denominational views, that we have differences in doctrines, of which most don't make a difference, when it comes to being saved ( born-again ) and going to heaven. My purpose in writing this is not to tear down but to build up, by speaking the truth in love.

## But-

- \* There are doctrines that undermine the very foundation of our Christian faith and lead people away from Christ, instead of to Him.
- \* To be sure the Roman Catholic church teaches some good doctrine, such as the Trinity, Mary was a virgin, Jesus is the Son of God, etc.

## But-

- \* A closer examination of their teachings reveals many contradictions to the Word of God.

## Some Erroneous Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church

### Concerning

#### **A. Salvation**

#### Catechism

##### **1. Mary Saves**

*Taken up to heaven she (Mary) did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation..." Pg. 252, #969*

*"She (Mary) is inseparably linked with the saving work of her Son." Pg. 303, #1172*

##### **2. The Church Saves**

*"The Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism explains: `For it is through Christ's Catholic Church alone, which is the universal help toward salvation, that the fullness of the means of salvation can be obtained.'" Pg. 215, #816*

*"It is in the Church that `the fullness of the means of salvation' has been deposited. It is in her that `by the grace of God we acquire holiness.'" Pg. 218, #824*

### 3. Good Works Saves

*"Even though incorporated into the Church, one who does not however persevere in charity is not saved." Pg. 222, #837*

*To be saved, one must also perform works like baptism (See pg. 320, #1257), plus various sacraments (See pg. 292, #1129) and many additional works.*

#### **Salvation is Through Jesus Christ and Him Alone.**

John 3:16-17, 36 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

36. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

#### **Salvation is by faith**

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Romans 3:21-22 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Galatians 2:16 "knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Romans 10:9-10, 13 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10. For with the heart one **believes to righteousness**, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.

13. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 4:12 "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

#### 4. Baptism Saves

*"The Church does not know of any other means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude..." Pg. 320, #1257*

*"The faithful are born anew by Baptism..." Pg. 311, #1212*

*"Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, and are incorporated into the Church..." Pg. 312, #1213*

Water Baptism has nothing to do with being born anew ( born-again ) Water Baptism is something we do **after** we are born anew. When a person becomes a Christian (by faith accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior) only then are we to be baptized in water.

A number of churches teach the erroneous doctrine of baptismal regeneration which is not taught in God's Word.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Luke 7:48-50 And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

49. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also?

50. And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

**Apostle Paul** never made converts by water baptism but by preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

\* Notice the words of Apostle Paul

1 Corinthians 1:17-18 For **Christ sent me not to baptize**, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

18. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

\* These steps to Salvation can be seen in the book of Acts.

1. The Gospel was preached
2. People heard
3. People repented
4. People believed and turned to Christ
5. People were then baptized in water

\* God's Word

Acts 2:37-38 Now when they heard this, ( Peter preached about Jesus ) they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:35-37 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37. And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

\* Please read the following

Acts 10:34-48 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

36. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

37. That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

38. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

39. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:

40. Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.
43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.
44. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,
47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?
48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

**Notice** that while Peter was preaching about Jesus they received the Holy Spirit, later they were baptized in water. ( Only born again Christians can receive the Holy Spirit ) they became Christians before they were baptized in water. Water Baptism has nothing to do with regeneration.

\* Peter shares the experience with the Jewish Christians

- Acts 11:12-17 And the spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:
13. And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;
14. Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.
15. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.
16. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.
17. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God.

## Questions

1. Can babies hear and understand the Gospel?
2. Can Babies repent?
3. Can babies believe?
4. Can babies confess?

The Emperor Constantine (a professing Christian ) believing that water baptism washed away ones sins, introduced this to the Roman Empire. By 416 A.D. infant Baptism was made mandatory throughout the Roman Empire. The Roman Catholic Church embraced this erroneous doctrine and continues to propagate it, until this day.

## B. Mary

### 1. Born without sin

*“Mary is the most excellent fruit of redemption (SC 103): from the first instant of her conception, she was totally preserved from the stain of original sin and she remained pure from all personal sin throughout her life.” Pg. 128 #508 (See also Pg. 191, #722)*

\* Jesus is the only person that was born without sin and never had any personal sin. By being born of a virgin, Jesus never inherited the original sin that was passed upon the human race through Adam and Eve.

\* Mary was not born of a virgin, so therefore she had original sin. As we look at some of the teachings of the Roman Catholic church, concerning Mary; we will see a pattern that robs Jesus Christ of the Praise and Glory that He deserves.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man ( Adam ) sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned

\* Notice Mary’s words

Luke 1:46-47 And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
47. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Romans 3:10-12, 23 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11. There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

23. For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

\* Once again The Roman Catholic Church rejects the inspired Word of God and holds to the traditions of men.

\* Please take notice of God’s Word

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

\* Concerning Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made **him who had no sin** to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

## 2. Mary remained a virgin for all of her life

*"Mary remained a virgin in conceiving her Son, a virgin in giving birth to him, a virgin in carrying him, a virgin in nursing him at her breast, always a virgin." Pg. 128 #510*

\* God's Word says

Matthew 1:25 And **knew her not till** she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Matthew 1:25 He did not have sexual relations with her, **until** she gave birth to the little boy. Joseph named him Jesus. ( Simple English Ver.)

Mark 6:1-4 And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him.

2. And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?

3. Is not this the carpenter, **the son of Mary, the brother of** James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not **his sisters** here with us? And they were offended at him.

4. But Jesus, said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.

Matthew 13:55. Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

56. And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?

57. And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

58. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

\* The above scriptures are talking about Jesus.

### Apostle Paul

Galatians 1:19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James **the Lord's brother.**

Is the inspired Word of God correct or not? Something or somebody is wrong!

### 3. Mary the Intercessor-Advocate

*"Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix." Pg. 252, #969*

\* Once again these teachings cannot be validated by Holy Scripture.

\* The following can be validated.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and **one mediator** between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus**; ( How many is one?)

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore **He** is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since **He** ever lives to make intercession for them.

Romans 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have **an advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Ephesians 2:16-18 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

17. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.

18. For through Him ( Jesus ) we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Once again; His Majesty The Lord Jesus Christ does not receive the proper recognition and honor that is rightfully His.

#### 4. Prayer to Mary

*“By asking Mary to pray for us, we acknowledge ourselves to be poor sinners and we address ourselves to the 'Mother of Mercy,' the All-Holy One... May she welcome us as our mother at the hour of our passing to lead us to her son, Jesus, in paradise.” Pg.644, #2677*

*“From the most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been honored with the title of 'Mother of God,' to whose protection the faithful fly in all their dangers and needs...” Pg. 253, #971*

\* Traditions of men, not validated by Holy Scripture

Luke 11:1-4 And it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

2. So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

3. Give us day by day our daily bread.

4. and forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

\* All prayers in Scripture were addressed directly to God by the individual.

Notice the Words of His Majesty the Lord Jesus Christ

John 14:13-14 "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son.** ( not Mary )

John 14:26-27 "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you;

27. "for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God.

John 16:23-24 "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, **whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.**

24. "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

The Lord Jesus taught us to ask our Heavenly Father in His Name ( This glorifies the Father in His Son.)

## 5. Mary - Queen over all things

*“Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things.” Pg. 252, #966*

*\* Jesus Christ has been exalted as Lord over all things not Mary.*

*\* Another tradition of men that takes away from His Majesty, The Lord Jesus Christ.*

Philippians 2:8-9 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

9. Therefore **God also has highly exalted Him** and given Him the name which is above every name,

10. that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11. and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

1 Timothy 6:15... which He will manifest in His own time, **He who is the blessed and only Potentate**, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

1 Peter 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him

Revelation 5:11-13 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,

12. 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!"

13. And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

\* Where is Mary in all this praise and blessing?

\* In conclusion to the subject of Mary:

Mary was blessed among woman ( Luke 1:28 ) but not above woman. She rejoice in God her Savior and would be appalled at the attention and reverence that has been inappropriately bestowed upon her, by men ignorant of biblical truth, entrenched in superstitious tradition.

### C. Purgatory

*"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. " Pg. 2658, #1030*

*"The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent." Pg. 268-269, #1031*

\* What the Bible says about Purgatory - Nothing.

What the Bible does say about the cleansing of our sin.

Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

1 John 1:7-9 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

8. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Isaiah 53:11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

When a Christian sins and confesses ( acknowledges ) his or her sin to God, the blood of Jesus cleanses that person from that sin. Purification is being worked out in the Christians life, by the Holy Spirit and Word of God.

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, **now** are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1 John 2:1 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.

The Holy Spirit will convict the believer of personal sin, to repent and confess the sin so that he or she can have the sin remitted by the blood of Jesus Christ, through the work of His advocacy. ( Thank You Lord Jesus! )

The doctrine of purgatory takes away from the glory of Jesus and His shed blood.

#### D. The Interpretation of God's Word

*"The task of interpreting the Word of God authentically has been entrusted solely to the magisterium of the Church, that is, to the Pope and to the bishops in communion with him." Pg. 30, #100*

John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then** are ye my disciples indeed;

32. And **ye shall know the truth**, and the truth shall make you free.

Sad to say but the majority of Catholics know very little about the Bible; therefore they know very little about spiritual truth. For centuries Roman Catholics have been held in spiritual darkness by the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Holy Spirit will give the believer spiritual understanding from God's Word.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13-14 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

14. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

( Living Bible )

1 John 2:27 But you have received the Holy Spirit and he lives within you, in your hearts, so that you don't need anyone to teach you what is right. For he teaches you all things, and he is the Truth, and no liar; and so, just as he has said, you must live in Christ, never to depart from him.

Ephesians 4:11 And **he** ( God ) gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

The priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church is a fabrication of men: God gave the above Apostles-Prophets-Evangelists-Pastors-Teachers for the work of the ministry. As you read the book of Acts ( an account of the work of the Holy Spirit through the church)

You will not find a ministerial priesthood. Read it and see for yourself.

## E. The Pope - Vicar of Christ

*"For the Roman Pontiff, by reason of his office as Vicar of Christ, and as pastor of the entire Church has full, supreme, and universal power over the whole Church, a power which he can always exercise unhindered." Pg. 234, #882*

*"The Roman Pontiff... as supreme pastor and teacher of all the faithful..." Pg. 235, #891*

\* Where does it say that in the Bible?

\* What the Bible does say.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

(New King James )

1 Corinthians 12:28 And **God has appointed** these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

\* Does the Bible say anything about a Pope - No.

### **Let us look at Peter the so called, first Pope**

1 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ,

Matthew 8:14 And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, **he saw his wife's mother** laid, and sick of a fever.

# Peter had a wife

Acts 10:25-26 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

26. **But** Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

# Peter would not accept praise.

Galatians 2:11-13 But **when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed;**

12. for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision.

13. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

14.. I said to Peter before them all, .....

Peter was not infallible.

If Peter was supreme and infallible; how could Apostle Paul have rebuked him?

Acts 3:6 **Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."**

Peter never lived in luxury.

*"The Pope enjoys, by divine institution, supreme, full, immediate, and universal power in the care of souls" Pg. 246, #937*

\* The head of the church is Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:23 "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the church

Jesus said Matthew 23:9 "...call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

\* The Pope accepts the title Holy Father. Only God Himself is to be called Holy Father.

\* The Lord Jesus calls God The Father "HOLY FATHER".

John 17:11 "Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. **Holy Father**, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

## F. The Mass

*"In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner." Pg. 344, #1367*

*"When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, she commemorates Christ's Passover, and it is made present. As often as the sacrifice of the Cross by which Christ our Pasch has been sacrificed is celebrated on the altar, the work of our redemption is carried out." Pg. 343, #1364*

*"Every time this mystery is celebrated, 'the work of our redemption is carried out' ..." Pg. 354, #1405*

What Catholicism teaches is that each time the Mass is performed, the work of Christ on the cross is repeated.

The doctrine of Transubstantiation teaches that when the priest holds up the wafer and says "This is my body" it becomes the actual flesh of Christ. When he says of the cup of wine, "This is my blood" the wine turns into the blood of Jesus.

- \* Jesus was sacrificed one time for our sins; He doesn't have to be re-sacrificed continually.
- \* The doctrine of The Mass, Transubstantiation, and The Eucharist is an addition of men to the finished work of God, thereby polluting the truth. These doctrines make it appear that the Church has something to do with our Salvation; which the church uses to lord over its people and hold them in bondage to their whole system of belief, thereby leading their people astray.
- \* Jesus shed his blood and died on the cross - one time - for our redemption.

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered **one** sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 9:28 so **Christ was offered once** to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Luke 22:19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: **this do in remembrance of me.**

## G. The Sacraments

*"The Church affirms that for believers the sacraments of the New Covenant are necessary for salvation." Pg. 292, #1129*

*"There are seven sacraments in the Church: Baptism, Confirmation or Chrismation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony." Pg. 289, #1113*

The Seven sacraments are nothing more than good works which are an addition to the Finished redemptive work of Christ. This only glorifies men and takes glory away from His Majesty The Lord Jesus Christ.

\* Works do not earn Salvation, they follow Salvation.

Catholicism has "the cart before the horse"

Luke 23:42. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

- \* Why did Jesus promise the crucified thief Paradise? ( heaven )
- \* Was it because he had done good works?
- \* The answer is Faith: he put his trust in Jesus Christ.
- \* This is the Bible way of Salvation.
- \* Jesus confirmed this when he promised the man paradise.

Ephesians 2:8. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9. Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**You cannot earn a gift.**



John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

# The Way International

## Concerning

1. God is not a Trinity
  2. Jesus is not God the Son
  3. The Holy Spirit is not God
  4. Gift of holy spirit is a replacement for man's lost spirit
  5. Tongues is evidence that a person is born again
- 

The Way International denies the Trinity doctrine and teaches a doctrine of God similar to the Arianism of the Jehovah's Witnesses. They correctly believe that there is only one God but wrongly conclude that God is limited to one Person. They believe that only the Father is God, denying the deity of Christ and the third Person, the Holy Spirit.

## What the Bible Says

New King James

1 John 5:7 For there are three who bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

\* Jesus Christ is God the Son - 2nd. Person of the Trinity

John 1:1-2 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Titus 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Philippians 2:6. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

( Living Bible )

Philippians 2:6 who, though he was God, did not demand and cling to his rights as God,

( Revised Standard )

Colossians 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation;

( New King James )

Colossians 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

\* Jesus Christ forever existed before Bethlehem

John 6:38 For **I came down from heaven**, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, verily verily. I say unto you. **before Abraham was, I am.**

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

God shares his glory with no one, only God can partake of Gods glory ( Isaiah 42:8 another reference to the divinity of Jesus Christ ).

Hebrews 1:8-9 But unto the Son he saith Thy throne O God is forever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

\* Jesus Christ the Creator

John 1:3, 10 All things were made by him and without him was not anything made, that was made.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men to see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

( See also Colossians 1:16 and Hebrews 1:1-2 )

\* The Holy Spirit is God - the 3rd. person of the Trinity

Is Called God by Apostle Peter

Acts 5:3-4 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

4. Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

Ephesians 4:30. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

1 Corinthians 12:11. But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, **the Holy Ghost said**, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto **I** have called them.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were **forbidden of the Holy Ghost** to preach the word in Asia,

\* The Gift of the Holy Spirit, is the in-filling or baptism of the believer, by the Holy Spirit Himself.

( New King James)

Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

New King James

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "**Repent**, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

\* The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was promised in the Old Testament as well as the New.

Joel 2:28-29 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

29. And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

John 7:37-39 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

38. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

39. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 15:26. But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be **baptized with** the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 1:8. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Way International says that speaking in tongues is evidence that a person has been born-again. ( Are saved )

### **Question?**

What about all the people in the world, who for one reason or the other, have lost their speech? ( cancer-war-birth defects etc. ) The Bible says that God is no respecter of persons and that Salvation is for all. If speaking in tongues is evidence of Salvation, then what does this mean to these people?

As for speaking in Tongues:

Tongues is a biblical truth, a true manifestation of The Holy Spirit, that many Christians have experienced, even today. The tongues of the Way is not authentic.

The term, "occult" comes from the Latin *occultus* or "hidden." the word is used of secret or mysterious supernatural powers or magical, religious rituals. It is an attempt to tap into and use supernatural power or knowledge apart from the God of the Bible. Occultic practices can be seen in a variety of forms such as astrology, seances, palm reading, tarot card reading, ouija boards, etc.

At the this present time we are bombarded daily with advertisements for the psychic hotline, horoscopes, palmreaders, tarot card readers etc. These people offer ( for a sum ) to reveal the future, to speak with departed loved ones etc.

The Bible explicitly speaks against such practices and not to be partaker of them, in any fashion. I can understand ( to a point ) why non believers would do such things, but never a believer.

BUT!

Believers ( Christians ) do.

Let us examine what the Bible ( God's Word ) has to say about it.

### **The Old Testament.**

Leviticus 19:31 Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God.

( New International )

Leviticus 19:31 "Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. **I** am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 20:6 And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

( New International )

Leviticus 20:6 "I will set my face against the person who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute himself by following them, and I will cut him off from his people.

New International

Deuteronomy 18:10-11 Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft,

11 or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.

## The New Testament

Acts 16:16-18 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17. The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

To be sure, many people who dabble in the occult, are nothing but fakes; but then there are those that are possessed by demonic spirits. The girl above was such a person.

\* Notice that Apostle Paul spoke directly to the spirit that was controlling her and commanded it to come out of her in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 19:13-16 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.

14. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so.

15. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

16. And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them,

\* Another case of a person possessed with demons ( evil spirits ). In reading of the Gospels, we see Jesus casting out evil spirits often.

Notice what the early Christian did with occult type books.

( New King James )

Acts 19:19 Also, many of those who **had** practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver.

By looking at the Old Testament as well as the New, we find that God does not approve and condemns any involvement with Occultic practices.

I've heard people say "Oh, it's just for fun" apparently God doesn't find it amusing.

John 14:15 Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."