

# **The Real Jesus**

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## Introduction

The best way to be able to spot something false, or counterfeit, is not to study all of the counterfeits, but to study the genuine article and know it so thoroughly that when you look at something, you can tell right away if it's real or counterfeit. We are going to apply that to learning how to spot someone who may be worshipping a counterfeit, "another" Jesus.

In this study, we are going to look at the Jesus Christ of our salvation and compare Him to the Mormon Jesus, the Muslim Jesus, the Jehovah's Witnesses Jesus, the Seventh Day Adventist Jesus, and the Catholic Jesus to see if those faiths worship the Jesus of our salvation, or "another Jesus," a counterfeit.

There are serious consequences for those who are preaching a gospel other than the one that Paul preached—the one that was revealed to Paul by Jesus Christ Himself. Paul said, "Let him be accursed."

Galatians 1:8-9

**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. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.**

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## The Importance of our Apostle Paul

Everyone knows the way to salvation. Jesus told us how to have everlasting life, in the most famous verse in the Bible: John 3:16.

### 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.**

Jesus told His disciples that no one would be able to come to God except by believing in Him.

### John 14:6

**Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Peter, speaking by the Holy Ghost in Acts chapter 4, tells the rulers of Israel that only by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, who was crucified by people of Israel, and raised from the dead by God, can salvation be found. There is no other way.

### Acts 4:8, 10-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

<sup>10</sup>Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that **by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead**, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. **Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**

This is where Paul becomes vital to helping us understand how to be saved. You may wonder, “What is it that we need to believe about Jesus to be saved?” It is not enough to simply believe that Jesus existed. The Jesus of our salvation, revealed the gospel of our salvation to the apostle Paul.

### Galatians 1:11-12

**But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I**

**neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

Paul tells the Corinthians that before they listen to anyone, that person must acknowledge that Paul's message is exactly what the Lord commanded.

1 Corinthians 14:37-38

**If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.** But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.

Paul calls it "my gospel." He endured many things to make sure the Gentiles obtained "the salvation which is in Christ Jesus."

2 Timothy 2:8-10

Remember that **Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:** Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also **obtain the**

**salvation which is in Christ Jesus** with eternal glory.

The gospel of our salvation, what we must believe about Jesus Christ to be saved, is clearly stated in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

Paul warned the Corinthians not to be corrupted by anyone who preached “another” Jesus from than the one who saved us. Paul called these people false apostles, who can appear to be apostles of Christ.

## 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-14

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so **your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.** For if he that cometh preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

<sup>13</sup>**For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.**

We will start with the Mormon Jesus. The Mormons identify as Christians, but the Mormon Jesus had a 'spirit birth' to an immortal mother. He is the older "spirit brother" of Lucifer.

### **The Real Jesus**

The Jesus of our salvation has always existed. He has always been with God and He has always been God. He had no beginning.

### John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him;** and without him was not any thing made that was made.

### Colossians 1:15-17

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: **For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:** And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

## **The Mormon Jesus**

The Mormons believe that God created Jesus before He created the earth, so mankind is older than this earth.

## **The Real Jesus**

The Jesus of our salvation created the earth on Day 3 of Creation.

Genesis 1:10, 13

**And God called the dry land Earth;** and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

<sup>13</sup>**And the evening and the morning were the third day.**

And Jesus created man on Day 6 of Creation. Earth is 3 days older than man.

Genesis 1:27, 31

<sup>27</sup>**So God created man in his own image,** in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

<sup>31</sup>And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. **And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.**

## **The Mormon Jesus**

Mormons believe that Jesus had younger “spirit brothers” and “spirit sisters.”

## **The Jesus of our Salvation**

The Jesus who saves us had no “spirit brothers” or “spirit sisters.” The Lord Jesus Christ is the

only begotten Son of God the Father. Jesus has always existed with God and as God.

John 1:14

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.

Jesus did have half-brothers and half-sisters in the flesh. Mary, Jesus' mother, had sons and daughters with Joseph, her husband, after Jesus' birth. Jesus had an earthly body just like ours. That's how He could have brothers and sisters in the flesh.

Matthew 13:55-58

Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? **and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us?** Whence then hath this man all these things? **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. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

## The Mormon Jesus

Mormons believe that Lucifer was one of Jesus' younger "spirit brothers." He was "on the same standing" with Jesus but was subsequently cast out for rebellion.

## The Real Jesus

The Real Jesus is not on the same standing as Lucifer. Lucifer is one of the beings created by the Jesus of our Salvation.

### Ezekiel 28:15

Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. **Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.**

The Mormon Jesus is not the real Jesus. The Mormon's Jesus cannot save them. If they believe in their Jesus, they are lost.

Next, we will look at the Muslim Jesus. The Muslims do not call themselves “Christians,” and they do not worship Jesus. They do, however, believe in Jesus as a prophet of God.

“Muslims worship God (Allah) alone, without any intermediaries. He has no partners, associates, sons, daughters, or helpers. Worship is directed solely to God, for He is the only One worthy of worship. There is nothing greater than God.”

## The Real Jesus

The Jesus of our Salvation is the Son of God. He is addressed that way many times in the Bible. Jesus commended Peter for knowing that He was the Son of God and told Him that it was God the Father who had revealed it to him.

### Matthew 16:15-17

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And **Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.** And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not

revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Our apostle Paul called Jesus the Son of God.

Romans 1:1-4

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated **unto** the gospel of God, (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) **Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God** with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

1 Corinthians 1:9

God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of **his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.**

John, in the book of first John, tells Israel that God dwells in whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 4:15

**Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.**

The Jesus who saves us sits at the right hand of God, and acts as our intercessor with God the Father.

Romans 8:34

**Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

The Jesus who saves us is a mediator between God and man.

1 Timothy 2:5-6

**For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**

### **The Muslim Jesus**

Islam teaches that human beings are born without sin. To retain this state of sinlessness,

humankind must only follow God's commandments and strive to live a righteous life

## **The Real Jesus**

All men were sinners and were dead because of sins. The Bible is quite clear that the Law was meant to show us we needed a Savior, not to make us righteous. On our own, we cannot follow the Law to be righteous before God. We can only be righteous through Christ's righteousness.

### Romans 10:4

**For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

This applies to everyone. Everyone has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. You will not "become" righteous on your own by following God's commandments. You can become

righteous only by faith in Jesus Christ's righteousness.

### Romans 3:22-23

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

Paul tells us that if righteousness could come from following the Law, then Christ didn't need to die. You cannot be righteous without Christ's death.

### **The Muslim Jesus**

According to Aisha Stacey, The Islamic belief about Jesus' crucifixion is that He did not die to atone for humankind's sins. There was a plot to crucify Jesus but it did not succeed; he did not die but rather ascended into heaven.

### **The Real Jesus**

The Jesus of our salvation, had to die in our place to save us. The only gospel that saves us is to

believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

The Muslim Jesus is a man who is not God, and who did not die to save us from our sin. Their Jesus cannot save them.

Next, we'll look at the Jehovah's Witnesses Jesus. Jehovah's Witnesses say that they are Christian, but they are different from other religious groups that are called Christians. When you read the information at [jw.org](http://jw.org), you find that Jehovah's Witnesses have "another" Jesus than the Jesus of our salvation.

In an article entitled *Who Is Jesus Christ?*, Jehovah's Witnesses assert that "Jesus today is neither a man nor God Almighty. Rather, he is a mighty spirit creature, a reigning King."

## **The Real Jesus**

The Jesus of our Salvation is God. He is fully God and fully man. He is much more than a spirit creature. It is true that God is a spirit.

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

"The fullness of the Godhead bodily" dwells in Jesus—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### Colossians 2:6-9

As **ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through

philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. **For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.**

Jesus is fully God. Jesus told His followers that He and God the Father are one, in other words, the same.

### John 10:25, 29-30

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.

<sup>29</sup>My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. **I and my Father are one.**

Jesus told His disciples that because they know Him, they know the Father, and they have seen the Father.

### John 14:6-11

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. **If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also:** and from henceforth ye know

him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father;** and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? **Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me?** the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. **Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me:** or else believe me for the very works' sake.

Jesus is also fully man. He is known as “the man Christ Jesus” who gave Himself as a ransom for all.

### 1Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all,** to be testified in due time.

The man, Jesus Christ, gave the free gift of grace to those who were dead.

## Romans 5:1

But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and **the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.**

### **The Jehovah's Witnesses Jesus**

Jehovah's Witnesses do not recognize the existence of the Holy Ghost. "Since God's holy spirit is not a God, not a member of a trinity, not coequal, and is not even a person,..."

### **The Real Jesus**

Jesus Christ's teachings prove, absolutely, that the Holy Ghost is the third member in the Trinity, and co-equal with Jesus and God Almighty! Jesus told His followers that they would be forgiven if they spoke against Him, as the Son of man, but they would not be forgiven for speaking against the Holy Ghost—not in this world, or the one to come! It seems that the Seventh Day Adventists have picked the wrong person of the Trinity to ignore!!

### Matthew 12:31-32

Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: **but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.** And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: **but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.**

The Jesus of our salvation called the Holy Ghost “the Comforter” and said that the Holy Ghost’s role was to teach Jesus’ disciples all things, and remind them of the things that Jesus had taught them.

### John 14:25-26

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. **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.**

In John chapter 16, Jesus tells His disciples that He must go away or the Comforter will not come.

Then Jesus tells His disciples that the Holy Ghost, whom He calls the Spirit of truth, will speak what He hears from Jesus, will show them all things to come, and glorify Jesus Christ.

Jesus told them that the Spirit of Truth (the Holy Ghost) will not speak of Himself. This may be why the Seventh Day Adventists do not believe He even exists.

#### John 16:7-14

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; **It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.** And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. **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. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.**

Here is a passage where Jesus equates the 3 persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghosts and commands that the disciples baptize in all 3 names!

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and **teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Jesus had told His disciples, before He ascended, that they should wait in Jerusalem to receive power when the Holy Ghost came upon them.

Acts 1:4-5, 8

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that **they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the**

**Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.**

**<sup>8</sup>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 Bible tells us that the Holy Ghost gave commandments to Jesus' disciples after Jesus' ascension.

### Acts 1:1-3

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, **after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:** To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Our apostle Paul continually wrote about the Holy Ghost and His vital role in our salvation. Once we believe the gospel, the Holy Ghost (Spirit) dwells in our hearts.

### Romans 8-11

So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.** Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if **the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you**, he that raised up Christ from the dead **shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**

We become God's temple, where He dwells.

### 1 Corinthians 3:16

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that **the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?**

The "earnest" of the Spirit, means that we are sealed by the Holy Ghost, and redeemed forever. Nothing can change that.

## 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; **Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.**

The Holy Ghost indwelling our hearts means that we are sons of God and heirs with Christ.

## Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. **And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.** Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

We are sealed by the Holy Ghost until the day that Christ meets us in the clouds—called the redemption of the purchased possession (us.)

### Ephesians 1:12-14

That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, **ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise**, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until **the redemption of the purchased possession**, unto the praise of his glory.

Paul advises the Ephesians not to grieve the Holy Spirit of God. That means being kind to one another and forgiving one another because we have been forgiven (past tense.)

### Ephesians 4:30

**And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: **And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**

Until then, the Holy Ghost helps us with our infirmities and takes our prayers to God as they

ought to be prayed, so every one of them can be answered in God's perfect way.

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.

Besides all of these verses, there is one in the book of first John which specifies that there are three persons in heaven, the Father, the Word (who is Jesus Christ based on John 1:1,) and the Holy Ghost and that these three persons are one. This is a very clear definition of the Trinity.

1 John 5:7 (KJV)

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

We will look at the Seventh Day Adventist Jesus. The Seventh Day Adventists consider themselves to be Christians because they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Official beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church states:

“Since returning to Heaven, Jesus serves as our Advocate and Intercessor. He stands between us and Satan, and also connects us directly to the Father...This intercessory ministry of Christ Jesus our Lord is what makes our salvation possible.”

“Just like the yearly Day of Atonement was to cleanse the earthly Sanctuary, the Heavenly sanctuary also needs to be cleansed.”

### **The Real Jesus**

It is Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection to pay for our sins that makes our salvation possible! Jesus does not continue working in some heavenly temple getting rid of our sins, and waiting for the sanctuary to be cleansed. The writer of Hebrews tells us that after offering Himself, one sacrifice forever, Jesus sat down on the right hand of God, and He is currently waiting until His enemies are made His footstool.

#### Hebrews 10:12-13

**But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of**

**God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.**

Jesus said, when He died, “It is finished.” That means there is no more to do, for us or for Jesus!

John 19:30

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished:** and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

It is only Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection that makes our salvation possible. Our forgiveness is final. Jesus is not working to maintain it, or still getting rid of our sins.

### **The Seventh Day Adventist Jesus**

The Seventh Day Adventists teach that their souls cannot exist without their bodies.

“... When we die, we stop breathing and we rest. Nowhere in the Bible does it say the soul is separate from the body.”

## The Jesus of our Salvation

Jesus taught that the body and the soul are separate. It is much worse to have your soul destroyed than your body.

### Matthew 10:28

**And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul:** but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

We can be certain that our soul is immortal and as soon as we leave our bodies in death, we will be present with the Lord Jesus Christ.

### 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: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) **We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.**

Paul was allowed to go to heaven and return to earth, so we know that the following account is

true. It is much better to depart your body and to be with Christ, than it is to stay in your flesh. From this passage, we know that we will exist separately from our bodies.

### Philippians 1:21-24

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, **having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.**

The Seventh Day Adventist Jesus is the son of God, but it is his intercession with God on their behalf that is responsible for their salvation, not his death, burial, and resurrection. He is still getting rid of their sins and waiting to cleanse the tabernacle.

The Seventh Day Adventist believers do not go to be with their Jesus upon their deaths but, instead have to sleep in their graves until he comes again. They cannot be saved by their Jesus.

## The Catholic Jesus

Catholics consider themselves Christians. Their official beliefs are laid out in great detail in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC.) CCC 1257 states that “The Lord Himself affirms that Baptism is necessary for salvation.” Also stated, “The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude;...”

## The Jesus of our Salvation

Our apostle Paul tells the Corinthians that Jesus Christ sent him to preach the gospel, not to baptize people. That means baptism is not a required part of preaching the gospel. For effect, Paul tells them that if baptism saved people, the crucifixion was not necessary! God forbid!

### 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.** For the preaching of the cross is to them that

perish foolishness; but **unto us which are saved it is the power of God.**

The gospel that saves us, from the book of 1 Corinthians, does not include baptism.

#### 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

### **The Catholic Jesus**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church #982, states, “There is no offense, however serious, that the Church cannot forgive.”

## The Real Jesus

The Jesus of our Salvation paid for everyone's sins, for all time, when He was crucified, buried, and resurrected after 3 days. All men have already been forgiven because of Jesus' payment for our sins. There is nothing that the Church can/needs to do. Everyone received forgiveness from Jesus Christ. It was a free gift.

### Romans 5:18

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one **the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.**

Everyone has been forgiven, but not everyone is saved. Salvation can only be received when a person believes in Jesus' saving work and accepts the free gift.

### 1 Timothy 4:9-11

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation. For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, **because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of**

**those that believe.** These things command and teach.

There is nothing that a person has to “do” to be saved or to keep that salvation. Believing in the one person, Jesus Christ, who saved everyone is all that is required.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For **by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves:** it is the gift of God: **Not of works,** lest any man should boast.

## Summary

You may have been surprised, when you read the first part of this study, how few people really believe God and are saved.

The second part of this study really focused on all of the people who think they are Christians because they believe in “a” Jesus, but their Jesus did not and cannot save them!

It is shocking to learn how many religions/faiths are basing their salvation on something other than the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ for their sins. They are worshipping “another” Jesus, something that our apostle Paul warned us against.

There is no way to know what percentage of today’s Christians know the true Jesus of our salvation. All we can do is to make sure that we know the Jesus that saved us from our sins, and tell others who may not know, especially friends and family members, about Him.