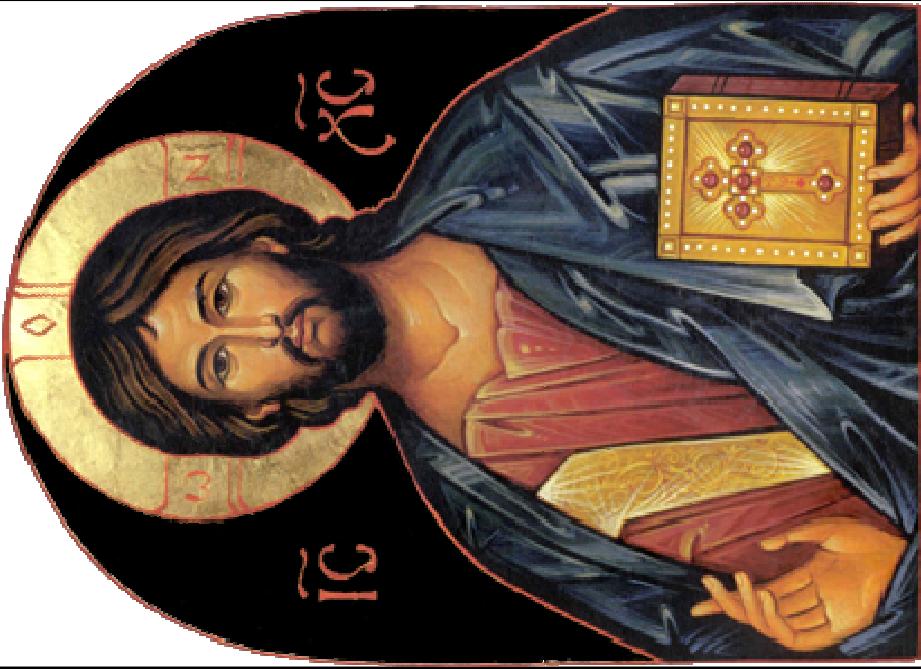




Why Must There Be One TRUE Religion

By His Grace Bishop Yousseff



- Christ's countless miracles.
- Miracles are a powerful confirmation because it authenticates the creator's authority over His creation.
- The prophecies included the city of birth, His method of dying, His betrayal, His resurrection, etc.
- 3. **The Resurrection of Christ**
 - The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. But did He rise from the dead?“
For the apostles, what was there to gain from preaching that Christ was risen from the dead if He really had not risen ?
If they did not believe in the resurrection, they would have known that what they were preaching was a lie. Do you know anyone who would knowingly die for a lie?
 - There was no financial gain; there was no social prestige; there was no political power to come as a result of their preaching the resurrection.
 - As an atheist, lawyer and journalist Lee Strobel did a two year investigation on the resurrection interviewing some of the great scholars on both sides. He finally concluded in his book The Case for Christ,
- The Holy Bible proves to be true historically and scientifically
 - The Bible answers the major questions all belief systems must answer.
 - Where did we come from?
 - What is the nature of the divine?
 - What is the nature of man?
 - What is the answer to the human predicament?
 - What happens after death?
 - How do we explain evil?
- 5. **The Duality of the World.**
 - On one hand, nature is beautiful and majestic. At the same time, we are confronted with storms, earthquakes, drought and epidemics.
 - Fame does not endure. Riches slip away between our fingers. Brief moments of happiness are followed by long periods of emptiness and aimlessness.
 - Dreams do not come true. A few minutes of joy are succeeded feelings of discontent. Youth is replaced by old age. Death is always waiting for people of every age.
 - There is some aspect of our nature which does not think and feel according to the laws of the physical world, but according to some other spiritual law.
 - This is why man can never be reconciled with the facts of destruction and death.
 - A clear and precise answer to this important question is provided by Christianity.
 - It affirms that there really does exist another and better world, called the kingdom of heaven.

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Introduction

Why do I not accept the popular idea that one religion or philosophical worldview is just as good as another?

- It is more reasonable to state that all religions are false than to say that more than one religion is true. So it follows that either
 - A) All of the major world religions are false, or
 - B) Only one religion is true.

The Exclusiveness of Truth

The law of non-contradiction

- The law of non-contradiction is the foundation for all logical thinking it states that "A cannot be non-A in the same time and in the same way."
- For example: It cannot be both raining and not raining at the same time and in the same respect. From this we can infer that all truth, by definition, is exclusive
- If Jesus Christ is the "only begotten Son" of God, then that honor cannot belong to anyone else.
- If the Truth acknowledges one being as supreme lord, then it will reject all other contenders for the throne.

Do All Religions Lead to the Same God?

- Let us examine the differences between Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity, with regard to their teaching concerning salvation.
- In Buddhism, salvation is through the elimination of all desire
 - In Islam, salvation is when our good deeds outnumber the bad.
 - In Christianity, salvation is a gift from God to humanity that is only attained by sound, loving and enduring faith in His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

What About Christianity

- Contrary to popular belief, Christianity at its core is NOT only a religion... (form of rules and rituals with the thought of pleasing god and earning his favor).
- Christianity is a way of life, a relationship to nourish.
- The key to understanding Christianity is in understanding its author, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Christianity stands unparalleled among the world's spiritual belief systems because its author is also unparalleled

The Uniqueness of Christianity

- Unlike Buddha, Mohammad, and others, Christ is alive today.
- Christians are capable of being united with He who died and rose for them. This relationship is not found in any other religion.
- The Author of our faith claims to be God incarnate, a claim that was never made by any other religious leader.
- God is perfect. Human Beings are imperfect.
- As a result mankind can only create imperfect religions.
- All man-created religions are imperfect and have common characteristics.
- This makes the one religion created by God unique, because it has characteristics only God could give it.

The Case for Christianity

1. The Reality of the Existence of Christ

- A large portion of the Bible is made of eyewitness accounts of people who were actually there.
- Christians do not depend on a single individual's revelation of the truth (as, for example, in Islam and Buddhism).
- That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life.- (1 John 1:1)

The Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, who was not a Christian, wrote in 93-94 A.D.: "At this time there was a wise man who was called Jesus. And his conduct was good, and [he] was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive; accordingly, he was perhaps the messiah concerning whom the prophets have recounted wonders." Antiquities of the Jews, XVIII. iii.3

2. The Divinity of Jesus Christ

- Christ's authority over the law, creation, sin, and death.
- Christ's sinlessness. No one could make this