

LITTLE KNOWN GOSPEL FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW: Critical Knowledge for Christians In the Time of Trump

By David Quigley



INTRODUCTION:

As the director of The Alchemy Institute, David Quigley is less well known for his degree in Comparative Religion from Duke University, one of the world's top centers at the time for the fact based study of the origins and meaning of the scriptures. So he is singularly well qualified to provide accurate knowledge of Gospel truth...and falsehood.

DISCLAIMER -PLEASE READ BEFORE CONTINUING!

This article is not about Alchemy specifically. The Alchemy Institute is not a Christian organization and does not preach or advocate for any particular religious organization or doctrine.

I'm writing this in the wake of the lies being told about Jesus in the time of Trump.

We are open to your feedback. And hope you will share its wisdom with friends and family. Especially any who are calling themselves Christians in this day and age.

These days many true Christians like myself find ourselves appalled by the apparent selfishness, racism and cruelty of the so-called Christian Evangelical movement. We are horrified by their embrace of the serial rapist, molester, and self-absorbed dictator Donald Trump. How, we ask, is he delighting his Evangelical followers by locking thousands of children in concentration camps who are legally seeking asylum in this country? All while trying his best to fatten up his billionaire friends at the expense of our government's obligation to help the poor, the sick, and the homeless, by gutting social welfare programs.²

What kind of Christians, one might ask, are these? This is of course the exact opposite of the compassion that Jesus tells us to observe if we wish to follow him.

It would be valuable to study from the point of view of a religious scholar like myself what Evangelical Christianity is all about, and how it got to this terrible slavish devotion to evil.

The words "Evangelical Christian" is based upon the Pentecostal gathering after Jesus's death and resurrection when his disciples spoke in tongues and all received the dramatic message "tell everyone the Good News!" (Gospel in Greek). It is there that the spirit of bearing witness, in word and action, to the living presence of Jesus began.

Good news? What good news? 40 days after His death, this bunch of terrified former fisher folk, farmers, and lowlifes, now sought after criminals, were still hiding out in some upper room. Seriously! Their so called "messiah", which means military leader/conqueror for God's chosen people, was dead. And his mission to free Israel from the Romans? Jesus had promised...they believed... to return in glory at the head of a heavenly army to destroy the Roman armies.

Remember the old Christmas carol? "Oh come, oh come Emmanuel"? This song was an ancient call to a dream of a divine military intervention. Emmanuel, sometimes called Messiah, was the promised General, the promised savior of the nation, leading a host of angels. But instead of being a conqueror of the Roman armies to free Israel, we get this: first that mess with the Temple staff. Shame! And then a crucifixion. In other words, zilch!! What could possibly inspire these frightened revolutionary outlaws, renegades hated by both Roman and Jewish authorities to share what good news?

It was embarrassing enough that this King/warrior/savior enrolled and hung out with revolutionary peasants who hated Rome, But He kept talking about forgiving your enemies! He even let Romans in on his teachings! WTF is that! In rural Galilee, the center of the Jewish insurrection!! He was crazy!!

The only news that could have saved their cause, as the Jewish Revolution marched its way to the complete destruction of Israel as a nation....

That this man had returned from the grave with a message about the soul's immortality.

And this the message was heralded by a host of angels and spirits, reminding the Apostles that their savior was a spiritual Guide. The soul could find forgiveness, unconditional love, and guidance by calling upon this messiah, this Savior from the Spirit World and his hosts of angelic friends

If you wonder why I am a Christian, This is why I have to believe...no other explanation works. I'm a research scientist of Religion. And I know he's back. He is still here. I know him. He has travelled with me for years as a healing guide and friend.

And He wanted me to tell you these messages.

I am, as it happens, one of those Evangelical Christians in the Pentecostal tradition. But Evangelical Christianity today? Their message is contaminated by some strange and evil beliefs that have nothing to do with my friend Jesus. Such as...



BLOOD SACRIFICE

The only Escape from God's Judgement

All "true" evangelical Christians are taught to believe that we are all sinners who have fallen short of God's rather extraordinary terms of human perfection. We are all then, according to this doctrine, doomed to eternal damnation. These terrible sins would include acting out our sexual desires, avarice, envy, etc. All of the normal human feelings and desires God built into us as a species. Slip up just once and indulge those God given desires and you will burn forever in Hell.

According to this doctrine, we have only one chance of salvation. God has sent his only begotten (born of a virgin) son to suffer a horrible torture and death so that his innocent death and suffering would convince God not to throw all of us failures into permanent damnation. Jesus' blood was shed to keep your soul from being cast into eternal damnation by a rage filled God.

It gets worse. Now you have to believe in this gruesome story and its full implications, in order to be spared by this monster... I'm sorry... God, from the eternal fire into which nearly all of humanity will be cast. You must burn forever in Hell, unless you believe the doctrine of Jesus' blood sacrifice. And according to this teaching, anyone who fails to hear about this amazing once in a lifetime deal...will burn forever also.

Waterboarding, the rack, burned at the stake, for all eternity just because you didn't catch this memo? An eternity of punishment because you Missed the meeting where this was discussed? Burning forever because you just can't figure out how this bizarre belief could possibly make sense to any loving God?

Wow. I can only think of a few souls who would deserve such eternal horrors for any reason.

But I recall Jesus telling us repeatedly in the gospels that the love...not the judgement ... of God is infinite. As is his forgiveness. What happened to His true teaching? And why for that matter did Jesus really die?

During a seven day solitary vision quest in 1975, I met Jesus. I'll admit, I was mad at him for this nightmare doctrine. Jesus, it turns out, was also furious. But He explained all of this to me and I've backed it up as a biblical scholar!!

Want to know his answer?

First, Jesus explained why he died and came back.

Although both survival after death and the doctrine of reincarnation were common among the esoteric Pharisee sect of scholars and rabbis which included Jesus, the soul's future after death remained dark and frightening for most Orthodox Jews. By returning from death Jesus was giving them a message different than a promised military victory. As a Messiah of peace and love for all mankind, he could not bring the revolution to Jews in this world, but he could issue to everyone in the world: Jew, Roman, Gentile, this message:

"I've been there to Death. I'm back. I am still with you. You can call on me anytime and trust that I will guide your life toward love! And I promise to make a place for you in heaven. There's plenty of room. Just believe in my Resurrection and love god and your neighbors and your soul

can then be assured of survival. That's a personal guarantee sealed not by my death, But by my return!!"

This was the message brought by a horde of angelic spirits to the disciples at Pentecost. It is where they went from disciples to apostles!

Fast forward ten years. The tiny Jewish sect of Christianity is now struggling under persecution by Jewish authorities. But the imminent rise of open civil war with the Romans in that hotbed of insurrection, Galilee, has led to Roman legions bearing down on Israel and ready to destroy the entire country. (Yes they did). Blessed St. Paul, a cosmopolitan Roman citizen as well as a Jew, starts as a persecutor of Christians until he gets a wakeup call from the Man. Then he is guided to find a different audience for Jesus teachings, or those priceless teachings would go up in flames with all of Israel. Most Christians at this time still saw Him as a Jewish savior. So he defied the bosses of the Jerusalem cult. First he had to fight hard to stop his Apostle buddies from requiring a circumcision and conversion to Judaism for all Christian converts. But now Paul plans to bring Jesus and his message into mainstream Roman society. How?

Here's the plan:

The Passover feast in Jerusalem was a momentous finale for the week of Passover celebration. But the very idea of his disciples joining in a cannibalistic feast (his flesh, his blood) celebrating a grotesque human sacrifice had literally no place in this highly sacred ceremony. If the Jewish hero/prophet Elijah had heard this nonsense he would have turned over in his grave! NO. Worse. He would be sitting at the table, a place reserved for him at every Passover feast. And he'd be furious for such ugliness at this sacred meal. Human sacrifice is particularly loathsome to Judaism. So it's extremely unlikely that Jesus would have used that image.

But for The Cult of Mithras, the Son of God, popular with Roman soldiers throughout the empire, and no doubt familiar to Paul, this was ...their daily bread! Here's the initiatory process:

First the Roman soldiers would line up in a trench. Then a bull representing Mithras would be sacrificed and its blood would be poured all over the soldiers so they could be washed in the blood of Mithras and purified of sin.

Then the group would gather with the priest to partake of...you guessed it... the body and blood of their savior.

For most Gods in the ancient world, blood sacrifice was the gold standard both of worshipping Gods and freeing one's soul of sin to preserve their favor. For the Hebrew Yahweh, the ritual sacrifice of a sacred dove or innocent lamb could wash away the sins of your average Hebrew peasant. Only of course if properly performed by a priest. Provided one paid a stiff fee for the money changers and priests.

One problem: No lamb had sufficient blood apparently to wash away the horrific crimes perpetrated by the Roman Empire's legions, who murdered and enslaved entire nations for the Emperor. So yeah you needed a lot of blood. A bull would do.

And since your enemies have no such special salvation? Well since they are going to Hell as pagans and dark skinned minorities. Who gives a damn? Rape, murder, concentration camps collective enslavement? No problem!! After all,

We are washed in the blood of this glorious human sacrifice!

So the blood soaked mass murderers called the Roman army, could find instant absolution from sin by being washed in the blood of their savior.

So we see that the "new improved" faith, was now no longer a Jewish sect but a world class religion. Based on the cult of Mithras, it was the PERFECT religion for a ruthless, warmongering, and expanding empire. Forgiveness of sins for the perpetrators, dismissal of everyone not "saved" as pagans and tools of the devil. And once the locals were conquered and converted, generally at sword point, to Christianity, this doctrine of forgiveness and passivity would keep the conquered masses in line.

It was only a short step for the Emperor Constantine to realize that this was the perfect religion for the conquering empire. The legend of his conversion states that he saw a cross in the sky above a bloody battlefield, with the message:

"In this sign conquer!"

Exactly.

At this point the frequent efforts to persecute Christians ended. And the long and warmongering history of the Roman Church, had begun. With the perfect doctrine in place for the conquests of Empire. A doctrine that much later took the European powers into bloody wars of conquest all over the world, even making the Roman armies look like a Sunday school picnic!

No accident then that the history of Christianity is one of almost continuous bloodshed, Christians against Muslims, Heathens, Jews, and even against other Christians. Brutal conquest of the Americas, Asia, and Africa. The whole world drenched in the blood of fully “justified” Christian conquerors bringing “salvation” along with enslavement, cultural destruction, and death to the world’s indigenous peoples. From the burning of one million witches, to the enslavement of millions of Africans, to the Crusades in the Middle East. And all of their sins so conveniently washed away by Jesus’s blood, an industrial strength cleanser of truly monumental proportions.

This blood sacrifice doctrine is the result of the machinations of a creative genius, St Paul, in cooperation with Imperial authorities in later Centuries. And it helped spread the Gospel through Roman legions, as well as among their families, camp followers, and slaves throughout the Empire. Uh...thanks, Paul. Thanks, Constantine. You kept Jesus’ message alive. Sort of.

But is this Jesus’ teaching? Not so much.

Can the real Jesus Christ please stand up!?! What does He really say about getting “saved?” When his disciples asked him in the historical Gospels about life after death, he said this:

“In my Father’s house are many rooms. Which one will you end up in? Did you feed the hungry? Clothe the naked? House the homeless? Or not? Inasmuch as you do unto the least of these my brethren you do it unto me. Glorious heaven? Or lake of fire? Your choice.”

That’s his real message. (In Aramaic. It’s actually him talking, according to all the experts here.) The historical Gospels of Thomas, Matthew, and Mark, were written by his disciples in Aramaic. These men actually knew Jesus personally, and they are clear about this teaching. But not so the “Evangelical Christians” who were preaching instant salvation throughout the Roman world. They took their lead from the author of the Gospel of John, a Greek physician

and philosopher who wrote his "Gospel" in Greek a hundred years after Jesus life. Steeped in Roman culture and philosophy, he knew little about Jesus' original teachings.

Furthermore, Jesus regarded the blood sacrifices of lambs and doves in the Jewish Temple to absolve sin as a con game played on the people by the high priest class, to steal from the poor peasants of Israel. And he has noticed, long ago, that his death was coerced into being yet another blood sacrifice set up by another corps of pompous priests as a racket. ("Jesus, the innocent Lamb of God, a blood sacrifice for our sins.") But Jesus' opinion?

If you do this to the least of these my brothers, you do it unto me.

Jesus and his family were immigrants who fled to Egypt to escape tyranny and murder. Like thousands of immigrants today. They were not criminals. Imagine them arrested as criminals, and baby Jesus ripped from his mother's arms and jailed in an ugly cage. Never to see his parents again. Imagine young girls and women like Mary, sold into sexual slavery. of this done by our Christian nation...done directly to Jesus. And all of this done in Jesus's name.



The Virgin Mary Arrives Becoming the Seal of Blood Sacrifice

One problem with Jesus' teaching for the Greco Roman world was his problematic origin. Every legitimate Greco-Roman demigod and "Savior" of the day was the son not of a mortal man but of a god. So he had to be conceived by a virgin. It's the "origin story" they all needed. Well, in first Century Israel Jesus was hailed as messiah partly because he was supposedly of the lineage of King David, the first Jewish "messiah". That lineage is passed exclusively through the male line. So Jesus had to be the son of Joseph. Plus, had Mary announced to her highly orthodox Galilean family that she was pregnant by God, she would have been properly stoned to death for heresy. The Romans were the enemy. And this was the way of the enemy. So it's

obvious to any student of first century Judaism that the “virgin birth” was a nonstarter for all concerned. As long as Jesus was a Jewish Messiah.

So for St Paul and his assimilation committee, a quick change magic trick turned Jesus from Jewish military savior (that sure didn’t work out!) to a “Son of God born of a virgin impregnated by God, a God/man who alone mediates our soul’s salvation.”

Nice. Convenient. And so Roman!

So the writer of the Gospel of John wrote these words and placed them in Jesus mouth:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave us his only begotten son, (there’s that virgin birth thing) so that whoever believeth in Him (and of course his blood sacrifice) can be saved.” John 3:16

One hundred years after Jesus death, John was writing in Greek to an entirely Greco Roman audience who was quite familiar with the cult of Mithras and who would have understood precisely what this meant.

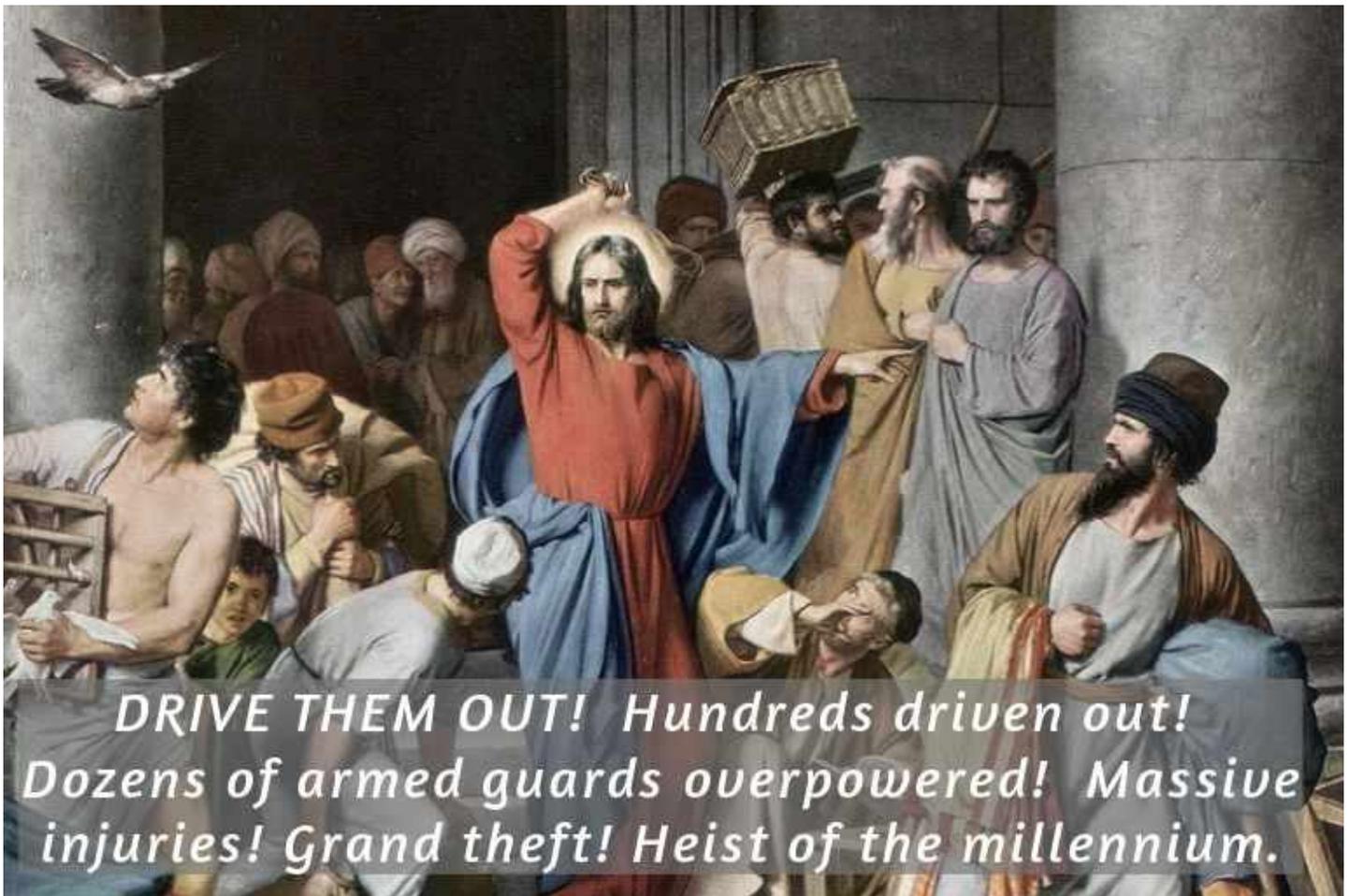
To Jesus and his contemporaries in the Judaic world (including John the beloved disciple, falsely credited with writing that much later non Jewish Gospel) such a doctrine would have been horribly offensive. Virgin birth, blood sacrifice, exclusive salvation offered by a unique God/man. It would have represented everything hateful to Jesus about the religious bigotry and Romanized evil that he spent his life trying to counter.

So with all of this background it should be clear:

Evangelical Christians are no friends of Jesus. They are hypnotized by a Roman Military Cult. No accident, therefore, that they now worship as their current Messiah a sociopathic monster that is this president/emperor. His policies: Molestation, rape, enslavement, and the building of concentration camps, military conquest of foreign lands, robbing housing and food from the poor, and environmental policies designed to rape and plunder the entire earth, for his billionaire buddies.

This should be reassuring of course: All of this is well within the tradition of Christian evangelicals throughout history who followed leaders who fought, conquered, murdered and enslaved in Jesus name.

But there is just one problem... this has nothing at all to do with Jesus’ true teachings. It was not what Pentecost was all about. Nothing to do with the good news that Christians should be sharing about hope, faith, and love, sealed by the miracle of his resurrection.



The real story of the Moneychangers and the Temple What your Sunday school won't tell you

The most powerful illustration in the Gospels of Jesus's power and rage against those who are unrepentant and corrupt in their service to the upper class elite was his driving the money changers out of the temple of Jerusalem.

"Driving out." No, I don't think this is just Jesus having a stick and knocking a few heads, as is usually portrayed by the picture books.

The temple of Jerusalem was packed on this special holiday week with many hundreds of devout Jews. The money changers booths lined the walls of one of the largest and most

strongly-guarded temples in the world. These booths, not incidentally, had just recently been added to the temple precincts to squeeze still more money out of the peasants of one of the Roman Empire's poorest provinces. And these precincts were well guarded.

Imagine Jesus walking into Mar a Lago on a busy weekend. And driving everyone out. Security guards, local police, secret service, billionaires and supplicants, high government officials, and even waiters if they tried to resist. But this is worse than Mar a Lago. This is the largest Temple in the entire province. That Jesus actually did this is well documented in scripture and certainly explains the peculiar circumstances in which the temple administration tried him for apostasy. And hired a mob to make sure he wasn't pardoned by Roman Procurator, Pontius Pilate. Pilate was confused. He said "these messiah crackpots are everywhere. The guy is harmless".

Crackpot Messiahs from the Galilean hinterlands claiming divine power and authority were sufficiently common that several per decade came through Jerusalem. And they were mostly harmless. But Jesus? A real terrorist threat!

So one has to wonder...

How did he pull off what was essentially the heist of the millennium??

What extraordinary power did he exercise? Did he have help fighting what must have been dozens if not hundreds of angry devotees, priests, and officials.... not to mention dozens of armed guards?

And those money changers!?! They would not have gone quietly. Their coins scattered on the temple pavement and lost, their bodies no doubt bruised and broken, this would not go well for these poor victims of a leftist revolutionary mob.

Somebody call FOX news! This villain Jesus must be exposed for the corrupt usurper he is: Here's the story from FOX News, Jerusalem:

Tuckus Carlsonius: "Infamous terrorist Jesus Christ and the JC 13 gang have looted the Temple of Jerusalem during the sacred week of Passover in an unprecedented act of terror. Tonight we hear from an eyewitness and victim of their crimes...Ahmed Ben Epstein is one of Jerusalem's top merchants, a pillar of the Temple Establishment. Ahmed, this has been a disaster for all of Israel. My condolences for all you have endured. That's a mighty bad bruise over your eye. Was that..?"

Epstein: "Oh yes! From the attack. It was terrible. I've had to get stitches. My gold embroidered cloak was also ruined. It is irreplaceable...but so much worse, I had the cream of the latest crop of young girls! These gorgeous young sex slaves were slated for the harems of

Judea's finest citizens, and at age 11-13 they were the perfect "10s". Those JC 13 thugs just cut their bonds and set them free. What shameless immorality! I can't even calculate the losses. And our money changing business was one of the chief economic engines in all of the Temple complex. I don't know if the local economy will ever recover after this heinous terrorist attack."

TC: (Looking at the audience) "Yes! When will we take action to stop this terrorist JC 13 gang?"

In this terrorist assault on all of the billionaire class of Israel, we see Jesus' rage against both the priests who perpetrate the lies of salvation through blood sacrifice and his anger at the greed of the priestly and business classes, who ripped off the poorest peasants in the Roman back country by feeding on their Jewish faith...and their gullibility.

Now we all remember that Jesus is most merciful to the repentant sinner. But for those who are unrepentant? Like these boys? Not so much.

Donald Trump when asked in an interview if he had any moral errors to seek forgiveness for in his life, said "no." Among his hundreds of lies, this was probably an honest response. Unrepentant.

And his hordes of followers screaming for the wall? Calling his cages summer camps? Attacking journalists trying to reveal the horrors? Unrepentant.

But now we have to add another layer to Jesus' outrage. Imagine that all of this thievery, and spiritual manipulation and lies from these priests and money changers included rape, sexual abuse, enslavement of young girls, building cages for children ripped away from their parents, and the willful destruction of all life on our planet to feed the greed of the billionaires. And now imagine all of this is being ordered by the most Christian ally of the Evangelical Christian community and endorsed by his most Christian followers. In the name of Jesus.

Now do you begin to get how pissed off Jesus really is? Do you begin to understand what that means for you, Trump voters?

So, I've got a bit of advice for you Evangelicals voting for Emperor Trump:

When you get to hell, which is the cage you are headed for, please don't make the mistake of calling on Jesus for salvation.

He remembers what you did...

To him.

And in His name!

Of course while you are still alive it might be useful to remember that Jesus loves the repentant sinner. But just "I'm sorry"? It will, I guarantee, not be enough. You must join him in fighting against the evil represented by this "Evangelical" crowd, and the man they elected King. And join those Progressive Democrats with their strange names, colored skin and radical ideas about "Socialism." Funny thing is most of them are also Christian. Socialist Ideas began, in fact, for the first time in history, with Jesus and his disciples, who shared their wealth with each other and the community. Jesus was the first socialist.

They are trying to feed the hungry. Trying to house the homeless. To comfort the immigrants who seek asylum because our Government, under Hillary Clinton as secretary of state, destroyed their government and their labor unions, to turn these countries into slave states for United Fruit. They are trying to bring Christian values back to a country that once taught these values to the entire world. Call this "Socialism" if you want. I call it being "Christian." I call it following Jesus.

I have heard from some Evangelical sources that we should not politicize Jesus' message of personal salvation. This was the opinion of that great Evangelist Bill Graham. Sorry, Bill, that horse has already left the stable, to the terrible detriment of Jesus' teachings, and our planet. Besides, I don't recall Jesus being squeamish about politicizing his true message when the need arose. Remember?

So why do I still call myself an Evangelical Christian?

Good question. Especially since I am not only a New Testament scholar, I am a scholar and teacher of all world religions, frequently quoting ancient scriptures from Hindu, Buddhist, and Kabalistic sources. And like Jesus himself and his fellow Pharisees, I am fully versed in the reality of past life experience. (Did you know John the Baptist was the reincarnation of Elijah the Prophet? Jesus says it in Matthew. And this conversation is regarded as perfectly normal

by his disciples. And accepted by most early Christians... until it was excoriated from the faith and its proponents murdered by a Roman Emperor. Yes. That again.) I could certainly find a faith more ethical and accurate than the blood soaked Christian faith of today. But I remain a Christian. Why?



The True Apostles Creed

Why I am an Evangelical Christian

You may recall that the birth of Evangelical Christianity at the feast of Pentecost called the apostles (former terrified fugitives) to preach to everyone the good news (Gospel) about Jesus' return from the dead.

In this moment of speaking in tongues we read about the wall between the living and the spirit world dissolved, and a legion of angelic beings descended into the very bodies of the apostles.

This process of bringing guides into our bodies is described in my book, Alchemical Hypnosis and is experienced by all my students.as a requirement of my course, including at times, profound shaking, speaking in tongues, channeling wisdom, even frequent healing of body and

soul. (Minus the dogma of exclusivity of course, we channel many guides, angels, and saint, including my friend Jesus, from a world of sacred beings. None are required to pass muster as “saved by the blood.”). This is my “day job.” My daily classes are literally filled with the power of Pentecost.

But as we see, for the sacred story of Jesus to survive to this day, more was needed. St. Paul inserted some bizarre elements. Like a cannibal feast called Holy Communion. How gross...

But wait!

My first discovery of Jesus’ presence (I was a confirmed skeptic at the time) was during a Communion Ceremony. As I ate that strange cracker I felt Him enter my body and was shocked. The heart of this Grinch grew three sizes that day. It was not being convicted of sin. Nor was it, yet, the discovery that I was a Christian. Jesus said to me in a voice that though silent, spoke directly to my heart.

“I am not your savior. Not your Divine Guide. But I would like to be your friend.”

Despite its pagan origins, Holy Communion remains a ritual for centuries dear to His heart and mine. And it made me a Christian.

The Catholic doctrine of Trans substantiation, however, states that communion is essentially a cannibal feast. The wine becomes His blood literally. The communion meal is thus the ultimate seal of the sacrifice of blood and flesh that saves our souls. In order for this ritual to be effective at sin removal, we must heartily believe that we are consuming His flesh. (Barf bag, anyone?)

But this is not Jesus’s way of understanding this ritual. Or mine. It was not the cloying taste of blood or meat that I experienced that marked that moment of ecstasy for me.

My experience of Holy Communion is more within the mainstream Protestant doctrine. Through the Protestant view, we don’t eat Jesus’ flesh at all. We eat a meal with him. We participate not just in Jesus’ death, but in his resurrection, which is the primary meaning of the ceremony. (In case you were wondering what the Protestants were protesting, this is it. That’s why all protestant churches hang an Empty cross. He is risen.)

His body?

When I eat the broken bread I remember his broken body. The terrible suffering he endured in order to teach this lesson. He loved us that much. He didn't give his life for our sins. He certainly knew that this all loving God wasn't running a protection racket with His blood, a monster who would throw most of his creation into Hell.

Some have even argued that Jesus faked his death with powerful yogic practices. Well, if he managed that while bleeding to death on a cross, under the watchful eyes of the Roman guards that would be proof enough of his phenomenal power! But either way he had to die in a very sensational and public manner in order to demonstrate his message for us through his public return!

With his body entering mine I also remember his promise of friendship and love. I bring his body into me not broken but renewed by the enormous gift of his resurrection, the true purpose of the whole drama!

I feel in me the strong arms of the shepherd that can lift up the fallen, the eyes that see truth, the legs that carry us forward into service, into struggle, even unto death.

His blood?

His blood is not spilled on the dirt of Golgotha for me. Golgotha was the city dump! We can leave it there.

His blood is a powerful transfusion of his heart into mine. His blood fills my heart. It's almost as if his love washes away much of the guilt and inadequacy that have haunted my whole life. Almost as if my shame, if not my sins, are washed away by the transfusion of his living blood. Not shed for me, but infused into me, I am transformed by his blood.

Thank you Mithras. Thank you Saint Paul. You not only saved the Faith and wisdom of Jesus from complete destruction, you have given us Christians a powerful way to connect with our friend Jesus not just twice a week in church...

But with every meal.

But the Virgin Birth? Mother Mary has no problem with you calling her a virgin. This is not about sex being a stain on a woman's purity. And neither She nor Her son have issues with our

freedom of sexual expression, except for the one law of love. (And you can take that to heaven my rainbow friends! (LGBTQ) For the record, Jesus' only judgement of these so called perversions, was this:

“Love God. Love your neighbor. That is the whole of the law.” Oh I forget. He also said to the moral purists of his day...his fellow Pharisees, “Judge not that you be not judged.” So Mother Mary being a “Pure” virgin forever (exactly how did Jesus get all those siblings?) Is definitely not the true story of the Virgin Mary.

But she kind of likes being a liberated woman. You see, in the harshly patriarchal tradition of Orthodox Jewry that dominated the Jewish world, a woman was just a vessel to bring forth children for the man who owned her.

But being a “virgin” meant in The Greco Roman world being a woman who “belongs to herself.” As opposed to belonging to a man. A concept previously unknown to the patriarchal state.

So St Paul's Assimilation Committee did Jesus, and all of us a big favor in making our faith so much more than an extinct Jewish sect. He gave us the amazing gift of communion, and the sweet liberation of the most important woman in all of Christian teaching, and thus he set the stage for liberation of every woman.

And as for the militancy of Christian Evangelism, I think we can be proud of how much the peace and love and healing of Jesus have been preserved in the Gospel story. By St Paul and his coconspirators the Apostles.

The myths and morals of Greco Roman or Norse gods would be little likely to pass muster as a moral compass for any civil society. But the life and teachings of Jesus still shine down through the centuries as the way to live and love.

But we must still cleanse mother church of the doctrines of blood sacrifice, exclusion, and hellfire for non-believers. That garment of Imperialism needs to be shed. It is crimson not with Jesus' blood, but the blood of millions of its victims. It never belonged to Jesus. Give it back to the Roman Empire.

Many Apostles died to bring us His teaching. We who call ourselves Christians must never forget.



Judas Iscariot. The most maligned hero in History

Another business Jesus would like to have sorted out is the very bad rap Judas Iscariot has carried for two millennia

As a member of the violent revolutionary sect the sycarii or zealots, Judas was extremely protective of Jesus and was also treasurer of the group. Sometimes he even appears in the Gospel as Jesus' most trusted disciple.

When Jesus pulled off his massive heist in the temple it is quite possible that Judas' friends in the Sycarii movement may have been involved. These powerful socialist revolutionaries hated the Jewish temple hierarchy as much as they hated the Romans, and wound up assassinating

many temple priests during the final year of Jerusalem's existence, in an orgy of rage, since all would soon be butchered.

In the 30s AD history notes these assassins were quite active. Two hundred robed worshippers suddenly throwing off their robes and brandishing their sicari, their short daggers after which the group is named, could have given Jesus a bit of much needed help. How else to empty a stadium quickly? And this sudden public attack from disguise in a crowded space was their modus operandi, according to the histories. Judas would certainly be implicated in this attack. But, whatever the truth, the church authorities were furious, and were searching everywhere for the Jesus gang of terrorists. So here's the story as Jesus told me, of Judas' "betrayal", from the ancient Gospel of Judas:

Jesus was discussing his plans to surrender to the temple authorities, when Judas interrupted. "No! Don't just turn yourself in! I'll talk to the Romans. I'll get them to hand over some silver denarii for me to lead them to you. I can probably get thirty. That will give your disciples some way to survive in an upper room until the heat is off. Remember, we ain't fishin' the Sea of Galilee anymore!"

"Meanwhile you wait up there in the garden. It's dark. It's quiet. You know, behind that old olive tree. When I lead those Roman troops out there, we spring the ambush! None escape alive!"

Jesus: "NO! NO! I have to go peacefully! It's part of the plan. I like the money idea, but frankly I can't let you do it, Judas! You are my most faithful disciple! And you will be treated as a villain for all of history! Spit upon! Hated As the betrayer!"

Judas: "So who else should you ask? Besides, didn't you always say, he who would be first must be last? Let me be your first disciple. Do I care what those people say? You know, Master, what is done this night. Why should I care about any other opinion?"

Of course it was Jesus' plan to go to the dark garden alone so as not to endanger any of the other disciples. And of course Peter the rock...rocks for brains anyway, insisted on keeping watch at the garden. Well, he falls sound asleep, then waking at the approach of a cohort of

soldiers, gets into a fistfight. Then he goes on to claim three times when questioned: “Jesus? Never met him!” With friends like Peter who needs disciples?

That cohort? Usually portrayed as a few security guards. I mean who needs more than that to get this quiet Prince of Peace?

Not exactly. A cohort would be the entire combat force of an urban fortress in the Roman Empire. In a peaceful province such a cohort might be only 600 heavily armed soldiers.

Peaceful? That wouldn't be Jerusalem. Historians estimate this cohort at 1000 men. Especially during the holidays.

1000 heavily armed soldiers to arrest one unarmed crackpot Messiah. Why? Remember that Temple business? Yeah...Now we see why the Roman army thought they needed 1000 soldiers to bring him down.

In any event, it was this powerful military ally of Jesus who willingly took the rap for his master's death. Vilified forever, while his courage and sacrifice not only pulled off the greatest publicity stunt in the ancient world, but used his 30 coins to keep the apostles alive till they woke at Pentecost.

Jesus assures me this is the true story. But it is also told in a number of the early gospels, including the Gospel of Judas, Found in the Dag Hammadi codex, and several others. These Gospels, core teachings of the Coptic Church, which scholars believe, may predate the “official”, Emperor approved sacred books, were written far away from the Roman Church and its Imperial Blood doctrine. Written by those Christian apostles who, instead of cozying up to Rome, tried to preserve the gospels true essence. Their flight to Egypt after the total destruction of Jerusalem included thousands of Jews and is well documented by the histories. If any of these Gnostic Gospels had made it to the Roman world, of course, they were burned. Like so many other true stories about Jesus, including the Gospel of Thomas, the earliest Gospel ever written, and clearly in Jesus own words, these books had to be destroyed by an avaricious Empire.

These heretical Gospels spoke about a Father/Mother God. About the sacred Feminine. About past lives and the need to clear our karmic debts. And most of all, they spoke about the greatest disciple in Jesus' motley crew. Mary Magdalene.



The Wife of Jesus

What Wife??

In one of the most extraordinary stories of the great detective Sherlock Holmes the local constable, utterly confused, asks Sherlock for a clue.

Sherlock Holmes responds, "take note of the barking of the dog in the night." Scanning his notes, the constable says:" But there was no barking reported."

"Yes. Interesting." Said the world's greatest detective. That single absent clue solved the mystery. Only a family member could have moved without arousing the dog's suspicions.

Sometimes these negative clues are valuable to the Bible detective as well. It seems that the 12 disciples tried to erase completely the memory of Jesus' favorite disciple, and wife, because...well...she was a woman. And worse. A liberated woman. In Jewish society women

were only receptacles for men's babies. They were and still are, forbidden to study the spiritual teachings of Judaism. They certainly would not be allowed to hang out with these male disciples. It must have irritated them no end to see Jesus always including her, allowing her to share his teachings. Even, Moses forbid, listening to her feminine wisdom. But in spite of their efforts to erase her from the Gospel, they left a few clues. The most important: the barking of the dog.

You see, we already know that the priests and Pharisees were always challenging Jesus. Trying to put him down, denying his teachings, on the basis that he was not "pure" enough in his doctrine and behavior. Almost every Chapter of the gospels reveals another challenge to his proper Jewishness.

But part of the "proper" behavior for a rabbi at the time was they had to be married by the age of thirty. And he had to consummate that marriage in the hope of producing offspring. This was black letter law. Especially for a Master of the Craft (A phrase often interpreted as "carpenter", it actually means "Initiated Teacher." My grandfather was a mason, but he was not a stone mason.) And the heir of King David would have had an absolute obligation to marry.

But strangely enough, no criticism is ever recorded of Jesus' single status, a sin that would have threatened his entire credibility with the Jewish faith. Never mentioned once. The barking of the dog in the night.

We also discover that it was Mary Magdalene who accompanied Mary the mother of Jesus, to wash and anoint his body in the tomb. Note that none of the apostles were there. Obviously the special and sacred task of a family member. Sister? No. Wife? Very likely.

And according to some of the Gospels from the Nag Hammadi scrolls, she was even his favorite disciple. And he selected her as his chosen successor to His teachings. No wonder the Jewish apostles tried to erase her from the histories. A wife? Totally kosher. Indeed necessary. A wife who was an equal to her husband? Not so much.

Jesus has assured me that the Dag Hammadi scriptures were correct. The apostles skewed Jesus' own teachings in order to further the myth that women were spiritually and mentally inferior. To this day women are forbidden to learn the secrets of the Kabala, the main body of Jewish philosophy. (Perhaps that's why Jesus and I get such pleasure in teaching the powerful kabalistic philosophy to co-ed classrooms.)

So what should this newly discovered Bible fact teach the Christian Evangelist?

That the wisdom of women must be honored. Their status, so long as intellectual inferiors, sex and womb providers for men, even slaves of mankind, must be restored to the equality they deserve. And human marriage as a bond between equals can be a great source of wisdom and compassion for us all. And should be the model for a spiritual and happy family life. As Jesus modelled for us two millennia ago. If we are going to live lives in imitation of Him, we now know a bit more about what actually means.

It may still seem utterly bizarre to contemplate Jesus as a married man. But we must once again fall back on the unassailable logic of Sherlock Holmes:

“Once all of the most obvious solutions have been disposed of by the evidence, then what remains, however inconceivable, must be the truth.”

The literature abounds nowadays about the unique personality and life of Mary Magdalene. Whether you chose to believe in Jesus' marriage to this erased hero of the Gospels or not, your soul's salvation is not in the balance.

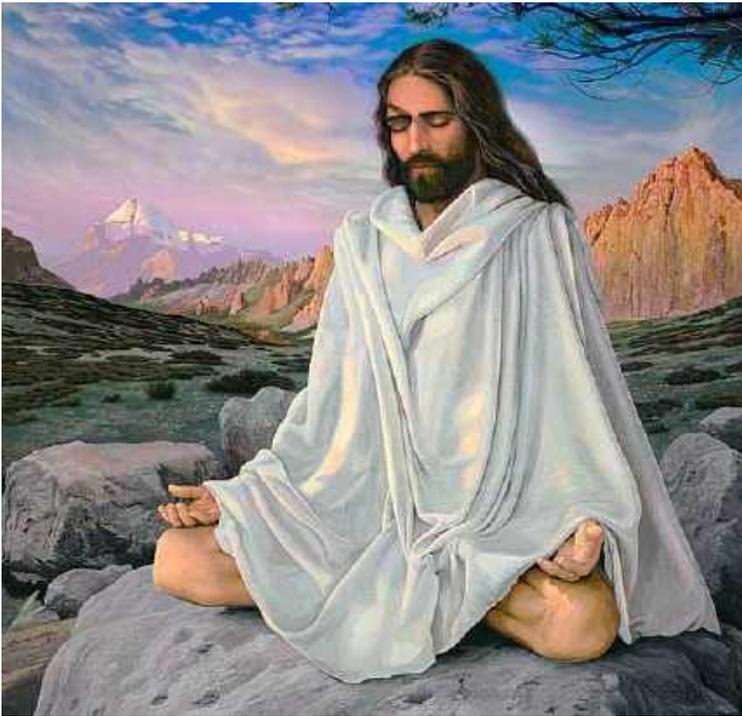
But if you fail to learn the lesson of women's rights, women's wisdom, and gender equality, your soul's future is definitely endangered. Take note, Republicans in Congress.

Together these recovered truths about the life and death of Jesus (the Dag Hammadi scrolls were only discovered and translated in the last 80 years) tell us how badly the truths of Jesus' life have been distorted. It is Jesus' hope and mine that from these ancient true stories we may restore the religion of Christ to its proper place as a fountainhead of love, wisdom, and freedom.

These teachings might well form the core of a new Apostle's Creed. One no longer in hock to the will of the Emperors.

For the record, my Alchemy trainings are and will always be, safe from all religious dogmas or required beliefs. We welcome all religious faiths, agnostics, atheists, anyone willing to let go of rigid religious dogmas.

The only core belief required is: Love God, (the force, higher power, and mother earth, whatever). Love your neighbor.



The True Philosophy of Alchemy

The secret teachings of Tibet

Okay, so now the Christian Quigley is out of the closet. But it is with great reluctance that I have been dragged aboard the Christian bandwagon. Because the actual philosophy of Christianity, unrelated to Jesus' actual teachings, is so contaminated by Imperial nonsense! As described above.

Blood sacrifice? Heaven for believers, hell for non-believers. Horrific! Unique son of God? A philosophy founded upon Imperial ambition. Ignorance and evil joined in unholy matrimony to

create this Philosophy. And frankly, no western philosophy is much better. I've explored most of them.

So my philosophy is the most beautiful in all the world of religions:

The Yogachara school of Mahayana Buddhism.

What's that?

Well listen up because this stuff is really important for our soul's evolution.

(And thanks to Roger Corless of Duke University for explaining this all to me in 1971)

I must however begin at the beginning. The Advaita philosophy is the basic belief system of all of Hinduism, Buddhism, and a string of religions in the East.

Advaita means "non-dualism" and is based upon two realities:

The physical world exists and appears to be dense, chaotic, and filled with notions of separateness. Since I am not you, I can use or discard or steal from you at will. This evil world is thus filled with evil actions. Life appears to end at death and is mostly meaningless.

Especially it seems meaningless or evil when we compare it to the heavenly realm of spirit, an utterly separate world.

This common theme among religious philosophies is called "dualism". Or for us simpler folks: "This world sucks! Swing low sweet chariot, and take me home!"

But according to Advaita philosophy, this ugly appearing world is not separate from the underlying universal consciousness which connects all of us together. This universal consciousness is known as the Atman in Advaita philosophy, the Buddhata to Buddhists, and the morphogenetic field or the Quantum field to the modern physicist .

Evidence of this connection is found in modern physics laboratories as well as in the equations of quantum physics. This quantum field is not a connection of energy or matter but of consciousness. (Look up Bell's theorem some time). Instead of being separated by a vast gulf, the spiritual and material worlds are linked together inseparably through this universal field of consciousness. For us country folks, that means:

This physical plane provides a perfect reflection of our spiritual lessons and challenges across our many lifetimes as an immortal soul. It is Not just a "veil of tears" and suffering while waiting for an afterlife of joy. Not a prison land of temptation, evil, and pain, to be escaped from. That is the meaning of the word "Advaita."

According to this philosophy the goal for us human souls is to transcend our ego attachment to the desires of this world which have ensnared our soul through many lifetimes of ignorance, selfishness, and pain. This is to be accomplished only through discovering a living master who

has escaped this world. And by surrendering to this Master, and following his every instruction for many years. Ideally while living in a celibate (no distractions from women) community and meditating daily. Only thus, says Advaita, do we release our centuries of accumulated Karma and enter the utterly transcendent state of “Nirvana” which means blissful extinction of the ego self into the sea of universal bliss.

Innumerable schools of Buddhism, as well as numerous eastern guru cults, are based on this philosophy.

Traditional Buddhist and Hindu teachings go by many names in many languages but most are based on this understanding.

Not so the Yogachara school of Mahayana Buddhism.

First Mahayana Buddhism’s goal is quite different than earlier schools of meditation. The defining feature of Mahayana is that the practitioner deliberately makes a holy vow that isn’t the usual poverty, chastity, and obedience required of Buddhist monks.

“I promise not to enter nirvana until every other sentient being in all of creation can go with me.”

That’s kind of a big job.

So he has to leave the monastery for some portion of his life and work in the world to help ordinary people to get to enlightenment. He doesn’t get to just hide out in a monastery.

Mahayana monks are free to marry in many orders, using their married life as a chance to grow toward enlightenment while helping lift others as well. They also assume roles as teachers, servants, healers, political activists, spiritual teachers. Remembering every day: “Because I got to carry all of you clowns with me into heaven or I’m not getting there!” they have to live in the world.

Many Mahayana monks however are still seeking the guru disciple relationship as an important foundation of their evolution.

The yogachara philosophy? Not so much. Many contemporary students of Buddhist philosophy say that yogachara denies the existence of the world we experience. Well, that sort of philosophy wouldn't last long. Instead the truth the ancient masters explain is that this physical world is a secondary manifestation of the great underground river of karmic deeds and consequences that is the alaya vijnana.

The karmic deeds of our past are seeds (Bijas) we planted in this great river of universal consciousness, some yesterday, some hundreds of years ago. These deeds for good or ill bear fruit which arise before us as the lessons, challenges, and heartbreaks of our daily lives. Most of us simply endure these experiences without any understanding what seeds from past lives we planted are bringing these lessons forward. Or even knowing there are such lessons, or what those lessons are supposed to be.

And especially in the West where the blindness of Western religion to past life karmic realities leaves us completely at a loss to understand the sources of our life circumstances. We wind up wondering, like the Biblical Job: "How could there be a loving God when he does that to me!" How many times have we heard this before? How often have we said it? Yeah. Lots. Well, we can finally stop blaming God.

Imagine waking up every day with no knowledge of who you were or what you did before you awoke. "Who's that person sharing my bed? There's a guitar in the corner. Do I play it? Why is my leg broken? Someone saying she's my mother is on the phone. Do I have to go to work? Where? I can't remember..."

Most of us, thank God, don't suffer this kind of confusion until we hit the depths of dementia. But everyone born and raised in western religious or atheist culture grows up just this ignorant of their thousands of years of past lives. Past lives which have brought them all of their present abilities, challenges, and traumas. Pretty stupid really. To ignore the vast river whose current carries us onward. Worse, to pretend that it doesn't exist.

Many of us therefore are happy to surrender our rudderless existence in the incomprehensible currents of life to any guru or Religious faith who can give us a promise of "Salvation."

Most people would rather believe a wrong answer that is easy to understand, than the truth, which is considerably more complicated.

And may require changes in their lives.

But the true practitioner of Yogachara Buddhism, rather than surrendering to a guru or cult, uses active meditation, called vijnana, to swim upstream in this great river of karmic deeds and consequences and clear the karma and learn the lessons that our ten thousand year old soul has to teach us. This means we should not count on a guru, or a human sacrifice to save us from our soul's purpose. We have to learn to swim.

We actually have to pick up the textbook which is our karma and start learning the lessons and performing the actual deeds of giving and serving in the world required to erase that karma. That is called turning through your own efforts the wheel of dharma, which means "right action".

The great Wheel of Dharma on the Indian flag is this symbol. It is no accident that this wheel in all the ancient images as well as the modern flag, resembles the wheel of a sailing ship. Take the wheel of your destiny and turn your ship toward home. Don't just be a passenger and give the wheel to someone else.

Take responsibility for your Soul and its path through the millennia. Learn the lessons of past mistakes. Learn to flow with rather than against the river of your karmic path. Receive guidance from both inner and outer teachers. But with no surrender to any guru required...or recommended.

That is Yogachara philosophy.

In the language of Alchemy that means using the alert trance to enter the collective unconscious to work with the higher self to learn from our past lives, both our successes and our mistakes, and discover and serve our karmic destiny.

That is Yogachara philosophy.

The Yogachara philosophy didn't survive for long in its native India. More aggressive cults, including a newly nationalistic Hinduism, then the bloodthirsty Imperial faiths of Islam and British merchantilism ran these folks up into the Himalayan Mountains. Where they became...Tibetan Buddhists!

So in case you're wondering why I'm always wearing Tibetan clothes and spouting Tibetan philosophy. Yeah.

The great reincarnated masters of Tibet, especially the current Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet for nearly 500 years, are strangely different from other gurus in the Advaita tradition.

They don't talk up how enlightened they are.

Or how sinful and lost you are.

They don't wave a book of essential doctrines at you.

Nor do they insist that you surrender your will to them.

They just encourage you on a path of self discovery.

A path which they claim they are also still on.

As the Dalai Lama once said:

“(Tibetan) Buddhism is not a religion. It's a set of practices anyone can use to help us find happiness.”

This is the modern lotus of wisdom that is Yogachara.

Now here's the kicker:

Ancient documents from the Tibetan monasteries reveal that a Saint Isa arrived from the far west to study the ancient mystical arts there around the first century. Jesus' own name Yeshua in Aramaic, would have been a strange name to the Tibetans. Isa was close, but it was no Tibetan name. Although quite young, Isa was a brilliant student who impressed all of his teachers with his great wisdom and compassion. While he embraced all the teachings of Yogachara philosophy, he was critical of the caste system in Tibet. Annoying his hosts no end. Yeah... It isn't just the name of this guy that sounds awfully familiar. It gets stranger...

He was especially interested in learning those arts of deep meditation which approached death. A common but advanced meditation style in Tibet. Then he left with the statement that he had to go back to his homeland to perform an important mission from which he would not be returning. He was supposed, he said, to give his life for his people.

“Jesus was a carpenter.”

No...he was a master of the craft. The mystical craft of Yogachara.

Yogachara philosophy. Jesus’ real teaching. Who’d have guessed?

These teachings might well form the core of a new Apostle’s Creed. One no longer in hock to the will of the Emperors.

THE END