

**QUESTION: What is "kabbalah"? I need to know where it came from and what it is. I know it is witchcraft, but some people were telling me it was what Jesus practiced!**

**ANSWER:** Kabbalah is a man-made religion that came out of Judaism, and it is heavily involved with so-called secret, mystic "truths" (the occult). It is not known exactly when it began, but it became very popular in the Middle Ages, especially in France and Spain. The word "kabbalah" means "**tradition.**" The god of kabbalah is called "En Sof" (the Endless, Infinite One), and they believe that the spark of divine goodness exists in everyone (same as New Age teaching today). Kabbalah also teaches that "En Sof" did not enter the world directly, but through a series of ten emanations called "sefirot," and that only through the sefirot, which make up inner reality, can God be understood and can people move toward God.

- **Colossians 2:8-10** "Beware lest anyone **cheat you through philosophy** and empty deceit, according **to the TRADITION of men**, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (in bodily form); and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."
- **Matthew 15:3,6 & 9** "But He answered and said to them, 'Why do you also transgress the commandments of God because of your **tradition?**'" ".....'Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect (null and void) by your **tradition.**'" "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

That someone would try to say that this is what Jesus practiced is ridiculous, and only shows their ignorance of Jesus' own teachings, as well as the rest of Scripture. Anyone who reads even one of the gospel accounts of Jesus' life and teachings (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) will soon see that Jesus taught something entirely different from Kabbalah. **Jesus taught that He is the ONLY way to God**, not that there are several ways, or "ten emanations." **Jesus warned AGAINST letting man-made doctrines and traditions** get in the way of God's word. Jesus taught that God the Father has given ALL authority to Him, and that **no one can know God** the Father unless He, **Jesus**, reveals Him to them. Jesus is the **ONLY begotten Son of God**, and He has declared (explained) God to us.

- **John 14:6-9** "Jesus said to him, '**I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.** If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you KNOW Him and have seen Him.' Philip said to Him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has SEEN Me has SEEN the Father;** so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"
- **John 1:18** "No one has seen God at any time. **The ONLY begotten Son** who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."
- **Matthew 11:27** "**All things** have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and he to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."
- **Matthew 28:18-20** "Then Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, '**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe ALL things that I have commanded you....'"
- **John 14:23-26** "Jesus answered....., 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.** He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in

My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

- **John 5:17-23** "Jesus answered..., 'My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.' Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, **making Himself equal with God**. Then Jesus answered and said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.'" (Vs. 23) "That **all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father**. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."
- **I John 5:20** "And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know HIM who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is **the true God** and eternal life."

Someone might try to say that Jesus performed His miracles through some kind of occult, magical powers, such as Kabbalah. Let us see what Jesus had to say about that. Jesus said that the works He did were done by the Father Himself working through Him, and by the anointing power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus also taught that **ALL men are lost SINNERS who need Him as their Savior**. Nowhere in the Bible does it teach that we all have a "divine spark of goodness" within us, or that we can find our own way to God and eternal life through enlightenment.

- **John 14:10-11** "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but **the Father who dwells in Me DOES the WORKS**. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves."
- **Acts 10:36-43** "The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through **Jesus Christ - He is Lord of all** - that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how **God** anointed **Jesus of Nazareth** with the **Holy Spirit** and with power, **who went about doing good and healing** all who were oppressed by the devil, **for God was with Him**. And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree (cross). Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be **the Judge of the living and the dead**. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."
- **Luke 19:9-10** "Jesus said....., 'Today **salvation** has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and **save that which was lost**.'"
- **I John 5:11-13** "And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; **he who does not have the Son of God does not have life**. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may **KNOW that you have eternal life**, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."
- **I John 4:14-15** ".....He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that **the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world**. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God."