

Another Jesus?

(A Different Gospel - Works vs. Grace)

by Mike Carrillo

- **II Corinthians 11:3-4** "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled (tricked, deceived) 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 (believe him and be deceived)."

As I minister the gospel of Jesus Christ from the word of God, I often run into conversations dealing with false teachings about another Jesus or a different gospel, which really isn't another, but there are some who pervert or corrupt the true Jesus or true gospel, and as a defender of the faith (Philippians 1:17 - "I am set for the defense of the gospel") I would like to defend and present the true gospel and the one and only Jesus of the Bible - the one true God of the Bible.

- **Ephesians 4:4-6** "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."
- **I Corinthians 8:5-6** "For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many), but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and **one Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom are all things, and we by Him."

The Bible teaches that there is only one Lord Jesus, but again, as I minister the gospel, I am often confronted with someone's false belief about who Jesus really is, and we are not talking about the same Jesus. There is in reality no other Jesus, and there is not another gospel, but there are false religions and false teachings that pervert the true gospel and corrupt the simplicity that is in Christ.

- **I Timothy 4:6** "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of **good doctrine**, whereunto thou hast attained."

So, being a good minister I must stand up for the truth and good doctrine, and expose this false "other" Jesus and this false "other" gospel, as you've read in God's word, there is only one Lord and one faith. The Bible teaches that **Jesus is the Son of God, and He is also God manifested in the flesh** (He became a human being - John 1:1-14, I Timothy 3:16). The Jesus of the Bible is God Himself who came to earth to die on the cross for the sins of the world. This Jesus is the Jesus of the Bible, and He has a gospel message (I Corinthians 15:1-4) and a simple plan for salvation. This message of salvation stands alone, separate from all other "forms" of salvation. It is salvation as a free gift, by grace through faith, and not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9). But these other religions or cults, who claim to be Christian, are not, nor do they serve the Lord Jesus of the Bible. **They have corrupted the simplicity of Christ's grace** and through deception have turned it into "another" gospel by adding some kind of works or good deeds, or the works of the Law, to God's simple plan of salvation by grace. They have created "another" gospel, "another" plan of salvation, and "another" Jesus.

- **I Timothy 3:16** "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."
- **John 1:1 & 14** "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.**" "**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."

In the book of Galatians, the Apostle Paul spoke specifically on this topic of works vs. grace, and Paul tries to explain how deceivers or workers of the Law are bringing damnable heresies, corrupting the grace of Jesus Christ.

- **Galatians 1:6-9** "I marvel that ye are so soon removed (or deceived) from Him that called you into **the grace of Christ** unto another gospel (of works); which is not another; but **there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ**. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you (grace only - not by works), 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.'"
- **II Corinthians 11:13-15** "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming (disguising) themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into (disguised as) an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

You see, when you add the Law or add works to grace, it is no longer grace - it is another gospel. This is what Paul is talking about here: they corrupt and pervert the true gospel of grace, and it becomes very troubling.

- **Romans 11:6** "And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."
- **Galatians 2:16-21** "Knowing that a man is **not** justified by the works of the Law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even **we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the Law**; for by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. But if while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid! For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the Law am dead to the Law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness comes by the Law, then Christ is dead in vain.
- **Galatians 3:1-3** "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently (clearly) set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit (grace), are ye now made perfect by the flesh (works)?"

Are we made perfect by doing the works of the Law in the flesh? Absolutely not! That is another gospel, and another Jesus. Do not be deceived. Salvation and justification from the true Jesus of the Bible is extremely simple and easy - it is a free gift. I pray that you can see clearly that there is only one true faith, one true Jesus, one true gospel. Jesus who is God in the flesh (I John 4:1-3), with a simple gospel of grace through faith, not of works. You don't work for or to maintain your salvation - that's not the gospel of the Bible. You cannot lose your salvation, that is, if you truly are saved in the first place. You just **RECEIVE God's free gift** of eternal life in His Son Jesus Christ.

- **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."

Note: I'd like to point out that these false religions or apostate churches all have church buildings, and they use the Bible (or a "Bible" of their own creation), and they sing songs and worship their god, and preach "a" Jesus Christ, but do not be deceived - it is another Jesus Christ. To them, Jesus is not God in the flesh, and they have added "works" to grace, corrupting it, and have turned it into "another" gospel. Let's look at the "Jesus" and "gospel" of some of the more well-known "works religions" that call themselves Christian:

1.) Jehovah's Witnesses - The Jesus of the Jehovah's Witnesses is not God in the flesh. They teach that Jesus is a created being, and was once Michael the Archangel. They vigorously deny that He is Almighty God come in the flesh (I John 4:1-3), but say that He is some kind of "lesser" god. Their so-called "gospel" or way of salvation is by selling "Watchtower" and "Awake" magazines and books by going door-to-door or standing on the street corner, and they are judged by how many hours a month they put in, and how much money they bring in for The Watchtower Society. Theirs is a religion of works and fear, and they have no assurance of eternal life, but are always wondering if they will escape destruction at the battle of Armageddon. They are always wondering if they have "done enough" works, or if the elders will come knocking on the door.

2.) Mormons - The Mormons are similar in their works religion, but they have added their idolatrous temple rituals and ordinances, as well as adhering to all the rules of their religion, and tithing ten percent of their income to "the church" (the elders will come knocking on their doors, if they fall behind in their giving). The Mormon's teach that Jesus and Lucifer were spirit brothers, and that Lucifer rebelled and became Satan, but Jesus remained faithful to God, and "earned His way" to become our Savior. It gets a little trickier when you ask them if they believe Jesus is God in the flesh, because hey! we can ALL become gods in their religion if we're "good Mormons"!

3.) Roman Catholics - On the surface, the Roman Catholics teach the incarnation and deity of Christ, that He is God in the flesh. However, in practice, we see a "different Jesus" from the true Jesus of the Bible. The Roman Catholic "Jesus" is a stern and angry Jesus, and they teach that you must appeal to Him through His mother, Mary, who will pacify and placate her son, as a good mother would do. They also must go to confession to a priest, and cannot confess their sins directly to God. This is heresy, as the word of God says there is only one mediator between God and man, and that is Christ Jesus, the God-Man (I Timothy 2:5). No priest is needed as a mediator and no so-called virgin Mary "goddess" as a mediatrix. Theirs is a religion of works, with sacraments, giving money to the church, pilgrimages, lighting candles, and bondage to priestcraft.

4.) Unitarian, Religious Science, Christian Science, Unity and Others - All the New Age-type "Christian" religions and liberal Protestant denominations have stripped Jesus Christ of His divinity, and only revere Him as a "prophet and good teacher", and do not believe He shed His blood on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, or even that He arose bodily from the grave. Many of them, if they believe in the resurrection at all, will say that Jesus arose "spiritually" or some such nonsense. They pick and choose which teachings of Jesus they like, such as "love one another" and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" and so forth. They teach a religion of "good works" in that you try to live a good life, be kind to others, and do the best you can. They may not even believe in sin, so there is no "plan of salvation" other than to be a good person and follow the teachings of Jesus, that is, whichever ones you decide you like. Never mind the fact that Jesus Himself did not teach (hence "His teachings") that we could pick and choose from what He taught, and that He never gave us the option of calling Him merely a prophet, a good man, or a teacher of moral values. **Jesus Himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me"** (John 14:6).

- **I John 4:1-3** "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try (test) the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (is God in the flesh) is of God: and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of anti-christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."
- **Mark 13:22-23** "For false christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things."
- **II John 7-11** "For many **deceivers** are entered into the world, **who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh**. this is a deceiver and an anti-christ. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: for he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."
- **I Timothy 4:13** "Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."
- **I Timothy 4:15-16** "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting might appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."
- **II Timothy 2:15** "**Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**"

The people caught up in a works religion are seeking to establish their own righteousness, rather than **humbly admitting to God that they are sinners in need of the Savior, Jesus Christ**. There tends to be much **pride, self-righteousness**, judgmental attitudes, and legalism in the works religions, because they are trying to work their way to God, and it leads to looking down on others who "haven't made it as far as they have" in whatever works, keeping of ordinances, doing of sacraments, or keeping of religious rules and regulations their religion teaches.

- **Romans 10:3-15** "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**. For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, that the man which doeth those things shall live by them. But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, 'Say not in thine heart, who shall ascend into heaven? (That is to bring Christ down from above); or who shall descend into the deep? (That is, to bring up Christ again from the dead). But what sayeth it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart; that is, the word of faith, which we preach; that **if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved**. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, 'Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed.' For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord (Jesus) shall be saved**. How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!'" **Acts 4:10-12** "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 before you whole..... Neither is there salvation in any other; **for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**"

Only the Lord Jesus Christ can save you. You cannot call on anyone else to save you: not saints, nor Mary, nor the Pope, nor Buddha, nor Mohammad or Allah, nor Confucius, nor Joseph Smith or Brigham Young, nor Mary Baker Eddy, nor any other "Jesus" who is not God Almighty in the flesh. All these are false gods, false christs, and false prophets.

- **II Corinthians 11:13-15** "For such are **false apostles**, deceitful workers, transforming (disguising) themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed into (disguised as) an angel of light**. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

This study was needful for me to put together as a labor of love, as I have loved ones caught up in false gospels and false religions with another Jesus. It was long overdue for these truths to be told out of the word of God. It is also for my undying love for the truth - Jesus is the truth! For the love of doctrine, for the love of the true gospel, of the true and only Son of the Living God, my Savior Jesus Christ Himself, God in the flesh, who loved me enough to die on the cross for my sins, to redeem me by His precious blood, and through His loving grace. That alone has saved me, as my faith rests on the finished work of Christ. I beseech you, study the word of God for yourself! Do not be deceived! What is the biggest challenge to us as Christians today? Is it rampant immorality? Is it divisive social issues? Is it increasing hostility towards God? Those are dangers for sure, but I would venture to say that our biggest threat is religion. **True Christianity is not a religion, it is a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.** Religion is man trying to work his way to God. True Christianity is believing that God came down to mankind in the person of Jesus Christ, because we could never be good enough to reach God by His perfect standards. Religion draws people away from the truth, away from the gospel, into religious heresies, damnable deceptive teachings. Some religions openly oppose Christ, but others are very subtle, sneaky and crafty, and they use language that sounds Christian, giving their "faith" a familiar sound. They mention Jesus, use a Bible, and hold a church service that looks and sounds a lot like us, but close biblical examination will expose their false gospel and their false Jesus. They preach another Jesus, and add their own twisted and unscriptural brand of thinking to what should be the simple truth of God's word. If such groups look and sound Christian, how can we know if they are preaching another gospel or another Jesus? Here are some false teachings to watch out for:

- 1.) If they teach salvation through anything other than the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Many groups say they believe in salvation through Jesus Christ, but they ADD ON some kind of works you must do. (John 19:30, Acts 4:12, I Cor. 15:1-4 & 12-22, Eph. 1:12-14, Eph. 2:8-9, Acts 16:30-31, John 17:3-4, Heb. 12:2, Romans 10:9-10).
- 2.) If they refuse to teach and believe that Jesus is the eternal, almighty God come in the flesh (read the Gospel of John and the Book of I John).
- 3.) If they give more importance to the word and "wisdom" of man, and traditions of men, than to the word of God (I Corinthians 2:12-13). A sure sign that a group is a "cult" is if they have their own "scriptures" or "prophet" or "pope" whose words they consider as important, if not more so, than the Bible.
 - **Matthew 15:3,6b & 9** "But He answered and said unto them, 'Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?' ".....Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition." "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."
- 4.) If their leaders do not provide Christlike guidance through careful biblical instructions (I Timothy 4:6, Jude 4).

There are those who want to lead you into another gospel and another Jesus. Learn God's word so that you won't be deceived!

- **I John 5:20-21** "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, **that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.** Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen."

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September, 2005, while at Soledad State Prison