

Was Jesus Married?

Fred R. Coulter - November 8, 2003

One of the raging questions in the world today concerning Jesus Christ is, did Jesus have a wife? ABC News plans to run a special program Monday that entertains a book's theory that Jesus Christ had a wife. The world is so deceived and loves its little lies down to the very last little person, they haven't realized that they're beginning to set themselves up to accept greater lies. And whenever you have thinking based upon opinion rather than truth, based upon emotion rather than fact, you are dead in the water. That's called relativism. Each person's opinion is equivalent to truth in itself, though they are absolutely diametrically opposed and contradictory. That's the way the world thinks. That's the way the news is presented, isn't it? "Oh, that's your opinion. Oh, what's your opinion? Oh, why don't you call in on our - whatever news-dot-com is. Give us your opinion. We're running a poll. What do you think?"

Well, on some topics that may be worthwhile, but when it comes to God, the knowledge of God, that's the worst thing in the world to do. "Based on the novel..." And I read part of it which says, "This novel is based upon true facts, and the things that are presented here should be viewed as facts." "Based upon the novel *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, the prime-time television program explores whether Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene, thought by some scholars to have been a prostitute, the BBC reports..." Now what have they already done with this? They have already said Jesus is a sinner, right? They have already said that His character is impugned because He married a prostitute, when His mother was a virgin. I mean, you need to think about the consequences of some of the thoughts that go with this. "...ABC's Elizabeth Vargas told reporters the show was being put together 'as respectfully as we can'..." Well, let's show the dissection of people on television as "respectfully as we can."

"...But it already has drawn criticism from a Catholic leader who was among the religious leaders and reporters who screened it yesterday. Joseph DeFeo, the New York based Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, said ABC relied too heavily on...Father Richard McBrien of Notre Dame [University]..." So even the Catholics believe this, see. "...Who believes Mary Magdalene has been undervalued historically. DeFeo noted most of the people interviewed in the program believe the theory either plausible or are convinced it is true..." Don't bother with the facts. Not one scripture quote. Not one iota of understanding of the Bible, though they are religious experts. "...DeFeo asserted, according to the BBC, the facts themselves scream out that this is a crackpot theory." At least we got one sentence in there that's true.

"...Brown's novel contends Mary Magdalene fled Jerusalem with Jesus' child [in her womb] after His crucifixion. A secret society that included artists Leonardo Da Vinci passed the story on for centuries, Brown believes. Da Vinci left clues about the relationship in his art, the author thinks. Vargas, raised Roman Catholic, said ABC had

no proof that Jesus had a wife, but could not discount the theory either...” You see, they don’t believe that there are absolute truths. “...‘For me, it’s made religion more real, and ironically, much more interesting, which is what we’re hoping to do for our viewers,’ she said...” You know, so much for the truth. “...Vargas said when her parents learned about the program they said to her, ‘Oh my goodness, what are you doing?’...” [“Oh well, Mom and Dad, you just don’t understand. This is the modern age in which we live in.”]

Now the way that they present it is this. Have you ever heard of the book, *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*? That’s based on the same thing, that Mary Magdalene had a boy. Now if it was truly Jesus, now think of the consequences of this. If it was truly the son of Jesus, think about what the offspring could claim. And that this boy grew up to be a man, and of his descendants came the Monrovia-Habsburg dynasty line of kings in Europe. That’s the sum of the...it’s also mixed in with the Illuminati, and the Knights Templar, and the...not the Rosicrucians, but the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus were they have the heart and the rose and so forth.

Now then, this book that this woman wrote claims the same thing, follows the same theory, presents it a little differently; and says that if you look at *The Last Supper* that Leonardo Da Vinci drew, you look carefully at Christ. I think it’s the one next to him. I forget which one is right now. Let’s say the next one to him. You look very carefully, and what you really see is Mary Magdalene, with the long hair and the red ensemble. Now there will be people that believe that. Why? Because they don’t believe the Bible, that’s why. They don’t know what truth is. That’s why. They are not interested in truth. They are interested in strange sounding things. Because most of the world has a hatred and enmity toward God and Jesus Christ. This is a convenient excuse to tear Them down even more, eh? Without a doubt. So since they ignore the facts and the Scriptures, we are going to ignore them and show what the truth is.

Now let’s understand some things that are important that you need to realize. We can’t present everything in one sermon. So take note of this please: we have a whole series of “Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament,” a whole series. You can write in for that, or you can e-mail us with that. We also just finished a series on, “Who Was Jesus?” Very important to understand. And for those in the Church of God it’s also important to understand that that whole theory, that Jesus did not exist until He was conceived in the womb of the virgin Mary, is part of the satanic attack against Jesus; but in this case, within the churches of God - anything necessary to destroy the truth of God, to discredit Jesus Christ. Now another thing, if you don’t have our Beliefs booklet, you write in for it, or you can go out on our website and you can see it. And it tells about the nature of God under the section, “The God Family” and God the Father and Jesus Christ. So with all of that said, we are going to take a little short cut and bypass some of the important details. And we’ll assume that you want to know the truth so that you will write in for these things, or e-mail them. So we will begin with the very simple background, very simple explanation, and ask the question first, who was Jesus, before we can answer the question, was Jesus married? And furthermore, was He married to Mary Magdalene when He was in the flesh?

Now first of all we come to Genesis 1:1. So we'll start right there. If you want to know the beginning, that's the place to go, because this tells us a little bit about God. And it is through the Hebrew word *Elohim* that we will find out about God. And as the Beliefs booklet shows, *Elohim* is what the English word "God" has been translated from, the Hebrew word *Elohim*. "In the beginning God [*Elohim*] created the heaven and the earth." Now let's come over here to verse 26, because this tells us a little more; and this is borne out in great detail which we cover in these series. So if you want a little more detail be sure and request them, please.

"And God said, Let Us..." Now why didn't God say, "Let Me..."? If there is only one God, why did He not say "Me" instead of "Us"? Well the truth is, the Hebrew word *Elohim* means more than one. It is a plural noun, like parent, family, nation. We say of America, "One nation under God." But how many people? Nearly 340 million now. So likewise, the Hebrew word *Elohim* means more than one, and the Bible reveals that *Elohim* is two. And that brings up the whole thing concerning the Trinity, and things like that, which then you need also to investigate; and we have literature to answer that for you. Matter-of-fact, we have it right on the web site. So if you come to our website then you can check it out right there.

"...Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness:..." So this tells us about God. Human beings have been created in the image of God. So what we are reflects the reality of what God is. That's important to understand. We know Who God is. Now as I mentioned in this series, "The Prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament," you will see that all the way through, *Elohim* refers to the two of the one God family, the one Who became the Father and the one Who became Jesus Christ. Now let's come to Psalm 2, and we will see that the Lord God Who did the creating, as the New Testament shows, was the one Who became Jesus Christ. So the Lord God of the Old Testament, the one Who became Jesus Christ, was the God of the Old Testament. So isn't it ironic that those who don't believe in Jesus Christ, but believe in the Old Testament, are actually rejecting the one Who came to the earth, Who was the God they say that they believe in. Is that not astounding? Rather amazing, isn't it?

So again, let's read it here, Psalm 2, let's begin right here in verse 7. "I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* My Son; this day have I begotten thee." So there was a particular day and point in time, the specific time that one of *Elohim* was to become a human being. And it was not to be some sort of "special" human being that just sort of *ipso facto* appeared out of nothing. But because He was the Creator God He did something very special. Now we will see this in just a minute. Let's look at the prophecy of what it said He was going to do, or what would become of Him, in Isaiah 9. Because God wanted every human being to understand and to know this: that since He was Creator and gave life to all human beings, and made them in a very special way, and caused the reproduction of human beings through fathers and mothers - human beings, you see - He likewise was going to do the same. He was going to go through the same experience. And I think it's hard for people to believe that because they do not understand the spiritual significance of human beings, the spiritual side and significance

of that spiritual aspect of the human mind and heart, which God made akin to His, compatible with Him. So therefore, what He did is a great and astounding thing. And of course there is nothing impossible for God to do.

But here in Isaiah 9:6, it talks of - here is a prophecy of His birth. “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God,...” This is telling Who He was; these are names of God. He was God in the flesh. We’ll see that’s fully understood in the New Testament in just a little bit. “...The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of *His* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” (vs. 6-7). And there’s no way you can read into this with just an ordinary human being, or one of the, just the physical kings of the line of David. This was special. How special was it? Well let’s see.

Let’s come to Philippians 2 in the New Testament. And in the New Testament I’m going to be reading from the *New Testament Translation, A Faithful Version*. Let’s pick it up here in verse 5. Now this is a faithful and accurate translation of the New Testament Greek, being the Stephens Text of 1550. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” Now that’s an interesting statement in itself, isn’t it? It’s something that you have to let. Which means this: the mind of God is also compatible with the mind of a human being, correct? Have to be. Though some people act like chimpanzees, you cannot “let” the mind of a chimpanzee into your mind, can you? But you can let the mind of Christ be in you. And that means the way of thinking. Which means that your mind - which contains the spirit of man, which unites with the Spirit of God - is really quite a profound creation of God for the very purpose of recreating Himself.

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...” Not only just the attitude that He had, but the way that He thought, the way that He loved God, the way that He obeyed God, and everything about the whole mind of Christ, you see. Verse 6, “Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but emptied Himself...” On that day that we read in Psalm 2, “This day I have begotten You...” And you can read that all about the account there beginning with John the Baptist and his birth, and the miraculous conception of Jesus’ birth, and so forth. “...Existed in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but emptied Himself and was made in the likeness of men, and took the form of a servant. And being found in the manner of man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 5-8, *AT*). Now that’s what Jesus Christ did to become a man, for the very purpose of saving the creation that He created.

Now let’s come to 1 Timothy 3:16 and let’s see how the apostle Paul wrote of this. See, the apostles knew this. They understood this. They wrote of it. But later, when philosophers and pagan priests got a hold of it to twist and turn it to create a religion, then they had to lie about it and change it. You see, one of the most hideous

things that can ever occur is for those who claim to represent the God, the Creator of heaven and earth, that they are His representatives, to lie. That's why people hate religion, and frankly, that's why God hates religion. We'll talk a little bit more about that later. But it seems as though this winter it's an unprecedented attack against Jesus Christ - publicly.

Now 1 Timothy 3:16 (AT), "And undeniably, great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, was justified in the Spirit, was seen by angels, was proclaimed among the Gentiles, was believed on in the world, was raised up to glory." Now that's Who Jesus was. Let's see how He revealed Himself to His apostles. Because in order to understand, was Jesus Christ married to Mary Magdalene, we have to understand Who He was. Now we understand that He was God before He became a human being. Now let's see how He manifest Himself to His disciples, His apostles, to begin to reveal it. Let's come to Matthew 16. Of course, He had to reveal it to them in different stages. And also, as He told them after He was resurrected, that He would reveal to them things that they were not able at that time to bear. So here, Matthew 16, and let's pick it up here when Jesus asked the question, "Whom do men declare Me to be?"

Matthew 16:13, "Now after coming into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus questioned His disciples, saying, 'Whom do men declare Me, the Son of man, to be?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.' And He said to them, 'But you, Whom do you declare Me to be?' Then Simon Peter answered *and* said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered *and* said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal *it* to you, but My Father, Who *is* in heaven'" (Matt. 17:13-17, AT) So to have the true understanding of Who Jesus really is and was, it has to be by revelation. Cannot be by intellect; it cannot be just - because many people read the Bible and they don't understand it, right? So it takes something more - revelation from God the Father. Then He said He would build His church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

Now we come to the last verse in chapter 16, verse 28 (AT). Then He says something quite astounding here. He says, "Truly I [tell] say to you, there are some of those standing here who shall not taste of death until they have seen the Son of man coming in His kingdom." Now verse 1 of chapter 17, because it goes right on. And here is an astounding vision that Jesus is going to give the apostles - Peter, James, and John - to show His true identity. Verse 1, "And after six days, Jesus took with *Him* Peter and James and his brother John, and brought them up into a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His face shined as the sun, and His garments became white as the light. [And] Then behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah..." (Matt. 17:1-3, AT). Now it says appeared because it's a vision, talking with them.

"And Peter answered *and* said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You [desire] will, let us make three tabernacles here: one for You, and one for Moses, and one

for Elijah.” Now why did He show this vision to them? Number one, because they knew that God spoke directly to Moses. They understood that. Number two, they knew that God spoke directly to Elijah. So that’s why the vision is with Elijah and Moses, to show that since God spoke to them personally, Jesus Christ was God in the flesh speaking to them, personally. Very important. Now when they came down from the mountain - we won’t go through the rest of it except to say that, verse 5, “But while He was speaking, a bright cloud suddenly overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the clouds said, ‘This is My Son, the Beloved, in Whom I delight. Listen to Him!’ And they were afraid.” And then come down here, after the vision stopped, verse 9, “Now as they were descending from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, ‘Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man has risen from *the* dead’” (vs. 4-5, 9 AT). They didn’t even know what the resurrection was about at that time. God had to reveal that a little bit later.

Now let’s see how else He is revealed as the Lord God of the Old Testament. And you might ask, “Well what bearing does this have on whether Jesus was married or not? Why not just deny that He was married to Mary Magdalene and let it go at that?” Because you have missed the whole important purpose and one of the main reasons that Jesus had to die. Not the primary reason, but a main reason. So we’ll understand that as we go along. But let’s come here to John 1, because this is talking about Who Jesus was so that we have that firmly established in the New Testament. Now John 1 is very eloquent in bringing out Who Jesus was and in particularly, the very fact that He was God.

John 1:1. So John begins his gospel this way: “In *the* beginning was the Word,…” Now that takes us right back to the very first verse that we looked up in Genesis 1:1, doesn’t it? “... And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Now what does this tell us? This is proof that the Hebrew word *Elohim*, God, means more than one Person and reveals there are two. Now you can also write in for the sermon that I did, “How Did Jesus Christ Reveal the Father?” All of these tie in together. Because when you understand it, the Bible is the most magnificent book in the world, and reveals great and marvelous things about God. But if you don’t believe God you’re never going to understand the Bible. It’s that simple. It would be like this: if someone came up and said, “Here is a two million dollar bar of gold.” And you said, “Aw, no, that’s not gold. That’s lead. No, it can’t be gold. It’s got to be lead.” So you went down to the junk dealer and you said, “Well I’ve got this gold-looking bar of lead. How much will you give me for it?” “Well, I’ll give you forty bucks.” “Ok.” Now that sounds kind of stupid, doesn’t it?

Now you see, people will check out gold, won’t they? They will give it the gold test, won’t they? Make absolutely sure that it’s gold so they wouldn’t do something stupid like selling it for forty bucks for a bar of lead. But they don’t even have the decency to do that with the Bible, which is worth eternal life. Rather than prove the truth of the Bible, they take it and twist it, and turn it, and connive it, and create religions, and create doctrines, and create little followings, and create mass lies with which to deceive people. Now it’s very simple here. “In *the* beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in *the* beginning with God.” Now notice the

next verse: “All things came into being through Him,...” (John 1:1-3, *AT*). He was the one Who created the heaven and earth. He was the one Who said, “Let there be light.” He was the one Who brought forth the waters, and the fish, and the birds, and all of the creatures, and created mankind in His image.

Now notice, “...And not even one *thing* that was created came into being without Him.” So much for evolution. “In Him was life,...” Does any human being have eternal life in him, inherently by himself? No. “...And the life was the light of men.” To give knowledge and understanding of God. “And the light shines in the darkness [which this earth is covered with spiritually], but the darkness it does not comprehend it” (vs. 3-5, *AT*). It wants to believe fairy tales: Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene. And I’ll tell you about the final consequences of it at the end of the sermon here because it will be profound. Let’s go on.

Then it talks about John the Baptist, God sent him, he was not the light. Now verse 9 (*AT*), “The true light was that which enlightens everyone that comes into the world.” Now I need to give a full sermon on that again, which is, how involved is God in the creation of every human being, in spite of the mistakes of human beings through adultery and fornication and things like this? He is still creating human beings in His image, in spite of the sins of men. Now that’s profound to understand. So He is the one Who gives the light. That’s why every human being has the potential to receive the Spirit of God and be connected with God and to have the mind of Christ. And that’s what conversion is all about. It is not only to make you a better person, it is make you an eternal spiritual person at the resurrection. Far greater than most people have ever understood.

Verse 10 (*AT*), He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, but the world did not know Him.” Now can you imagine this: Henry Ford standing by his first car, everybody coming to see it. They all thought, “Well this is a marvelous thing.” Of course, some would come along and say, “Well that really didn’t happen that way. This wheel came together and this bearing came together and...” you know, it just sort of evolved. And here’s Henry Ford standing by his first car, and everyone says, “Who are you?” “Oh, I’m Henry Ford. I made it.” “No you’re not. You couldn’t be. I don’t believe that.” Oh they wouldn’t do it to a human being, would they? “You’re Henry Ford? You made this? Do you realize you are making the horse obsolete? You’re going to be a great man!” But God comes in the flesh, to His own creation, and they don’t even know Him. That is truly an amazing thing, isn’t it? Yes indeed.

Furthermore verse 11, “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him;...” So because of all that, He does something very different. “But as many as receive Him, to them He gave authority to become the children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name; who were not be gotten by bloodlines, nor by *the* will of *the* flesh, nor by *the* will of man; but *by the will* of God” (vs. 11-13, *AT*). So God has the power and ability to do something in everyone’s life beyond what you were, or are, or where you came from, to deal with you in a direct, unilateral basis in your life. And that’s what salvation is all about. And that’s what repentance and baptism is all about.

Now let's continue. "And the Word became flesh,..." There it is again. The Word was what? Verse 1 - God. God became a man. That's what it says. "...And tabernacled..." (vs. 14, AT). Now that means temporarily lived among us. Now that's amazing. You know, this is amazing. Let's come to John 5, and let's see something else, the power and authority that has been given to Him, and to no one else. John 5:19...

(Turn tape)

...And let's see what Jesus told the Jews after He healed a man who had been there for a long time. We don't know how many years it was. But he wasn't able to be healed of the infirmity. So after he was made whole the Jews came after Him. And John 5:16, because the verses that follow are very important, because only these things could be spoken by God in the flesh. Verse 16, "And for this cause, the Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill Him, because He had done those things on [the] a Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, 'My Father is working until now, and I work.' So then, on account of this *saying*, the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, not only because He had loosed the Sabbath [not broken; He never sinned at all], but also *because* He had called God His own Father, making Himself equal with God. Therefore, Jesus answered and said to them,..." Now He's going to prove with these statements that He is equal to God, and that He was God manifest in the flesh. "...And said to them, 'Truly, truly I say to you, the Son has no power to do anything of Himself, but only what He sees the Father do. For whatever He does, these things the Son also does in the same manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him everything that He Himself is doing. And He will show Him greater works than these, so that you may be filled with wonder'" (John 5:16-20, AT).

Now notice verse 21(AT): "For even as the Father raises up the dead and gives life, in the same way also, the Son gives life to whom He will." That means He is God. Only God can raise the dead. Now then, furthermore, this shows that He is God because all are going to be judged by God. As a matter fact, very few people realize or comprehend or even understand that every human being everywhere is being judged by God all the time, every second of every day. Now that doesn't mean God is looking down in your life directly every day. You've got it all recorded in the spirit of your mind - everything you say, everything you do, everything you think. And Jesus said that in the day of the resurrection everyone is going to give an account for every idle word that has been spoken. Which means that you are being judged. Now, some to eternal life, some to a resurrection of a second life in the flesh to receive an opportunity for salvation, and some unto eternal death. But regardless of who you are and where you are, whether you believe or disbelieve, makes no difference to God because God is not going to go away if you don't believe He exists. Neither will you conveniently go away if someone doesn't believe you exist. You are still being judged.

Now verse 22, "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son;..." You can't do that unless He's God. "So that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. The one who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father,

Who sent Him. Truly, truly I say to you, the one who hears My word, and believes Him Who sent Me, has ever-lasting life, and does not come into judgment [that is, for death]; for he has passed from death into life.” He comes under judgment to life. That’s what his judgment is. Because it says in Romans 14 that all shall come before the judgment seat of Christ. Verse 25, “Truly, truly I say to you, *the* hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live. For even as the Father has life in Himself, so also has He given to the Son to have life in Himself;...” Those are declarations of God. No less. “And also has given Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of man.” Then He says further, verse 28, “Do not wonder at this, for *the* hour is coming in which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; those who have practiced good unto a resurrection of life, and those who have practiced evil unto a resurrection of judgment” (vs. 22-29, AT). And so He is the Judge, and only God can judge because God created. Jesus was God, God manifest in the flesh.

Now there are many other scriptures that we can go to in the New Testament to show this. And we know that especially in the book of John. Let’s go to just several more scriptures here in the book of John. Let’s come to John 14. Here again, He reveals that He is God in a little different way. John 14:6 (AT), “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life;...’” Now, only God can say that, right? What does the Bible say concerning man? “The heart [of man] *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jer. 17:9). So therefore, no man can say “I am the truth” except God manifest in the flesh. Now this is going to be important, because I am bringing out all of these things so you will understand about Jesus and whether He was married or not. Because the answer is going to be far different then you have ever imagined.

He says He is the truth, “...And the life;...” Of course, no man has life inherently in him by and of himself. It can only come from God. Let’s look at two more scriptures here. Let’s come to John 17:5. So I encourage every one of you to read and study through the whole gospel of John because it will reveal more to you about the fact that Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh than any other book of the New Testament. And when you understand that then you will understand why the enemies of Christ and of the New Testament, in creating their own perverted, corrupted New Testament, have done away with the entire gospel of John. It has been rejected as complete Christological fiction when it is the absolute truth of God.

Now John 17:5, “And now, Father, glorify Me with Your own self, with the glory that I had with You before the world existed.” That’s what it means in the Greek. Most translations have it, “before the world was.” But “before the world existed” is really more precise. Now let’s come to verse 20, “I do not pray for these only, but also for those who shall believe in Me through their word;...” Showing that the gospel is going to go on down to the return of Christ. “That they all may be one, even as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us,...” (John 17:5, 20-21, AT). And this verse contains the whole purpose of human life, the whole purpose of why Christ came to the earth in a summary. God wants human beings to become like Him;

and created us in a manner and way so that that can happen through the power of His Holy Spirit, which in itself is very mind-boggling.

“...That they also may be one in Us, in order that the world be believe that You did send Me. And I have given them the glory that You gave *to Me*, in order that they may be one, in the same way *that We* are one.” And that takes us back to what? To the beginning, does it not? “In the beginning God...” *Elohim*; “We,” to form the one God family. And Jesus is explaining here how then They have a plan. He is not explaining the plan, but He is explaining that They have a plan to bring those that are called into the God family to share the glory and honor that Jesus Christ has. It’s amazing how much is in the Bible, isn’t it? Now verse 23, “I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one; and that the world may know that You did send Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me” (vs. 21-23, *AT*). So there we go.

Now then, let’s ask the question, why did Jesus Christ not marry Mary Magdalene? That is the question. Because - I’ll just give you the answer in a little bit. Let’s go ahead with it. Let’s first of all talk about marriage, why we were made male and female. We know God made us that way. Now let’s come back to Matthew 19, and let’s see something about marriage. Of course today, because the world is a wicked and an adulterous generation, marriage is the last thing that people want, unless of course some of those who are pushing for same-sex marriage, desire to have it; which has perverted and twisted the whole meaning of being male and female, and the whole creation of God. And know for sure that God is not going to just passively sit by and let these abominations overwhelm the world.

Now let’s pick it up here in Matthew 19. Let’s just start right out here in verse 1, “And it came to pass *that* when Jesus had finished these sayings, He departed from Galilee and came to the borders of Judea beyond the Jordan.” That means on the east side of the River Jordan. “Then the Pharisees came to Him and tempted Him, saying to Him, ‘Is it lawful for man to divorce his wife for any cause?’” (Matt. 19:1, 3, *AT*). Well today you don’t even need a cause. They have what are called no-fault divorce, right? And besides, with live-in adultery, there’s no cause for divorce anyway. You just leave, come and go. Like so many animals, and degrade the human sexuality and the children that result of it.

Now verse 4 (*AT*), “But He answered them, saying, ‘Have you not read...’” And isn’t that true? As we’re going to see, maybe not today but later on...well we did today didn’t we? Here, this man writes a fictional book but he says it’s all true? Well if it’s all true how can it be fiction that Jesus married Mary Magdalene? See? “Have you not read...?” Well you see, that person never read. Isn’t it something, how many authorities get up and make great pronouncements about how many different things, and they have never read? Especially religious authorities. Like Jesus asked them many times, “Have you never read? Didn’t you know that the Scriptures say...?” In other words, He is saying, “You have the Scriptures right in your hands, you don’t even read it.” So likewise, how many have Bibles at home but they never open it up? If you never open it

up, you never read it, how do you know what's in it? How do you know whether it is the Word of God or not? Ok.

“...‘Have you not [never] read that He Who made *them* from *the* beginning made them male and female, and said, “For this cause [by the very fact of creation] shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh”?’” So before we answer the question, did Jesus marry Mary Magdalene, we have to see the purpose in marriage, right? Yes. ““So then, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let not man separate”” (vs. 4-6, AT).

Now that becomes important. Well what happens, the next question is the Pharisees have here, what happens if they separate? Verse 7, “They said to Him, ‘Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?’ He said to them, ‘Because of your hard-heartedness, Moses allowed you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it was not so.’” Now note carefully verse 9: ““And I say to you, whoever shall divorce his wife, except *it be* for sexual immorality, and shall marry another, is committing adultery; and the one who marries her who has been divorced is committing adultery”” (vs. 7-9, AT). No wonder Jesus called His society an evil and adulterous generation, as well as ours. Now that's a key important thing. And you will see that this will help answer the question as to why Jesus did not marry Mary Magdalene, nor any other physical woman.

Before we get into that, let's ask some questions. Number one, is God holy? Yes. Number two, is God righteous? Yes. Number three, is God Lawgiver? Yes. Number four, are all of His laws and commandments and statutes right and true? Yes. Why? Because they came from a holy, righteous God. Now what is the purpose in reiterating this? It's to give you a foundation thus: if God gives a law and a commandment which reflects His character, means that He Himself would not violate His own laws. Now that's why it's very important to understand when Jesus made the declaration, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill” (Matt. 5:17, *paraphrased*). And those who say that Jesus did away with the laws of God are lawless liars. He did not do away with them. Because the law is holy, and just, and spiritual, and good. Alright, let's ask another question: did Jesus ever sin? No. What is sin? The transgression of the law. That means that Christ was law abiding, correct? Without a doubt. And furthermore, beyond that, He did what? He gave the spiritual intent and purpose of the laws and commandments of God all through the gospels, but especially amplified in Matthew 5, 6, and 7.

Now why is that important? Because it has to do with the law of marriage, which if He were married, He would be bound by. Is that not correct? Since He is Lawgiver, He is bound by His own laws. Now let's answer the question: was Jesus married? Let's answer it. Let's go to Isaiah 54:5. And you are going to be astounded at the answer. He is talking to Israel, and He says here, verse 5, “For thy Maker *is* thine husband; the LORD of hosts *is* His name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel;...” The answer to the question is: yes, Jesus was married. Not to Mary Magdalene, but in a covenant marriage with the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. Now let's see where this

marriage ceremony took place. It took place at Mount Sinai. Let's come to Exodus 24. And the marriage covenant is right here.

Now after He gave all the laws and commandments to Israel, and Moses wrote them down, verse 3, he came and told the people. Because the covenant that the Lord God of the Old Testament - and we just read it didn't we? "Your Maker is your husband; The Lord of hosts is His name"? There's no question about Who He is, right? This is where it took place. "And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do." From which we get the marriage ceremony: "Do you take this man to be your lawful wedded husband...?" It's a takeoff from this. Or, "do you take this woman to be your lawful wedded wife...?"

"And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill,..." Now it's consecrated, here is the wedding feast. "...And twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood, and put *it* in basins; and half of the blood He sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant [which is the marriage covenant between Israel and God], and read in the audience of [all] the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient." I do, I do. "And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words" (vs. 4-8). That's the marriage ceremony.

Now let's see it reiterated again in the book of Ezekiel, chapter 16. So we see that the Lord God of the Old Testament, the one Who became Jesus Christ, was married to the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. And that's not just the Jews as they're known today. Let's pick it up here in verse 8. You can go back and read the other verses before and the verses after. "Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time *was* the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swear unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest Mine." That's what occurred that we just read of in Exodus 24. Israel became the wife, as a nation, of the Lord of hosts of the Old Testament.

Now their relationship was always a difficult one because Israel always played the whore. So we will read some of that here. Let's come to Jeremiah 3; and did so by not obeying God, by not loving Him, but by going after the other gods of this world. And then we will see what God had to do. And then we will analyze and see how God obeyed, even what we read in Matthew 19. He lived by His own laws. Now Jeremiah 3, and let's pick it up here in verse 6. "The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen *that* which backsliding Israel hath done?..." Now Jeremiah was sent to the Jews. Israel, the ten tribes, were already carried off into captivity long before, well over a hundred years before. So He is recalling that. "...She is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot." Not only

physically in whoredoms, adulteries, fornications, homosexualities, and all the things that God says is sin, but she also went after other gods of Baal and Ashtoreth and so forth.

Now Jeremiah 3:7, “And I said after she had done all these *things*, Turn thou unto Me. But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw *it*. And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce;...” Now what did Jesus say in Matthew 19? When you give a bill of divorcement you are not to marry another, correct? So when He gave her a bill of divorcement He didn’t run out and seek another nation to enter into covenant with. Because even though the divorce had occurred He was still bound to Israel, and Israel was still bound to Him. “...Yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot [whore] also. And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto Me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD. And the LORD said unto me, The backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah” (vs. 7-11).

Now those are amazing things to say, isn’t it? Amazing things. This is something. Now let’s come over here to verse 20. “Surely *as* a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have you dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD.” So that’s why He put her away. Now this presented God with a problem, a marriage problem. Since this was a physical covenant based upon physical promises, and the whole purpose of marriage is that you marry until death do you part, how was it going to be that God could free Himself from that marriage which He had with ancient Israel, to marry the church? Because if He did not free Himself or release Israel from that marriage, then He could not enter into a marriage covenant with anyone else. Because that’s His law, is it not? And God keeps His own law, does He not? Without a doubt. Now God had a choice. In order to make it a legally terminated marriage, the two choices were this: number one, cause all of Israel to die. He made a covenant with all Israel and their offspring. Cause all of Israel to die, which would be millions, and millions, and millions, and millions of people. Or, God had to die. One of the two. Now God, being merciful and desiring to save Israel, took upon Himself that He would die. That’s a primary reason as to why He came in the flesh, so that His death would end the covenant, that marriage covenant that He had with Israel.

Now let’s go to Romans 7, please, and let’s see where Paul clearly explains this. So as we’re turning there, let’s understand something very important, which is this: Jesus Christ was married as the Lord God of the Old Testament to the twelve tribes of Israel in the covenant that He made with them at Mount Sinai. In order for Him to live by His own laws and commandments and statutes and judgments, which He does, God became a human being for the purpose of dying. Which, number one, would pay for the sins of all mankind; number two, would release Israel from the marriage covenant that He established with them. Hence, He could also marry another. And we will see who that will be in just a minute.

Now Romans 7, Paul explains this. Very rarely have you ever heard this, if ever. Now people have read this but they haven't understood it. Verse 1, "Are you ignorant, brethren, because I am speaking to those who know the law, that the law rules over a man for as long [a time] as he may live? For the woman..." Now why does he go to the woman? Why doesn't he go to a thief? Why doesn't he go to a murderer? Because he is making a point concerning the Old Covenant and the New Covenant, the first marriage and the betrothal and the later second marriage. "For the woman who is married is bound by law to the husband as long as he is living; but if the husband should die, she is discharged [released] from the law of [that bound her to] the husband" (Rom. 7:1-2, AT).

Now the reason He uses "husband" instead of saying that "if the wife died the husband is free to marry," he didn't use that. He used the husband, and if he died, because the husband, Who is the Lord God of the Old Testament, was the husband to Israel. So rather than have all of Israel die, which would be millions, one would die, Who was Christ. Then she is released from the law. "So then, if she be married to another man, as long as the husband is *still* living, she shall be called an adulteress;..." And what was Israel called with all of her sins? An adulteress, right? She ran off and married other gods. "...But if the husband should die, she is free from the law *which bound her to the husband*; so now she shall no longer be called an adulteress, even though she has become *married* to another man. In exactly the same way, my brethren, you were also made dead to the *marriage law of the Old Covenant*..." And that's what it means. And that's why I translated it that way. "...By the body of Christ; in order for you to be *married* to another, Who was raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit to God" (vs. 3-4, AT).

Now let's see how the apostle Paul explains it in 2 Corinthians 11. Now just as the covenant with Israel was a marriage covenant, so the covenant with the New Testament church is also a marriage covenant, as Paul explains here. 2 Corinthians 11:1, "I would that you might bear with me in a little nonsense, but indeed, bear with me. For I am jealous over you with the jealousy of God, because I have espoused you to one husband..." When you're baptized and receive the Holy Spirit, that is a betrothal. Not yet married, engaged. "...So that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" (2 Cor. 11:1-2, AT). Which, we will see in a minute, is at the resurrection because that's when the marriage is going to take place. And that's why there are many parables in the Gospels about the bride, and the bridegroom, and the wedding, and the wedding feast, and so forth. Then he goes on showing that they were in danger of committing the same sins of ancient Israel by following after other gods, and ministers, and doctrines.

Now let's come to the Ephesians 5, and let's pick it up here in verse 22, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is also the head of the Church, and He is the Savior of the body. For even as the church is subject to Christ, in the same way also let the wives be subject to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your own wives, in the same way as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; so that He might sanctify it, having cleansed it with the washing of the water by the word, and that He might present it to Himself as the glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any

such thing; but that it might be holy and without blame. In the same way, husbands are duty-bound to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. No man ever hates his own body, but nourishes it and cherishes it, even as the Lord does the church: For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this reason shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and the two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I am speaking in respect to Christ and the church” (Eph. 5:22-32, AT). So Christ is going to marry the church.

Now let’s come to Revelation 19 and see when that takes place, which will then be at the Resurrection. Since Christ was married to ancient Israel and He died and released Israel from that covenant, He now enters into a new covenant for those in the New Testament church, who then will become part of the bride of Christ. Now let’s read it here, Revelation 19:7. This is after the resurrection. “Let us be glad and shout with joy, and let us give glory to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And it was granted that she should be clothed in fine linen, pure and bright: for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints” (Rev. 19:7-8, AT).

Now then, the reason that Christ did not marry Mary Magdalene was because He was married to ancient Israel through the covenant that He established with them at Mount Sinai until He died. Now if He would have married Mary Magdalene He would have committed adultery, which would have been sin. So therefore, you would have no Savior. If He conceived a child which Mary Magdalene, gave birth to, as the *Holy Blood*, *Holy Grail* and this *Da Vinci Code* brings out, His offspring could claim that he was the son of the Son of God, and claim superiority over every other human being. And if there is a line of kings which eventually will come down to that, could it be that at the end time the Antichrist is going to come from that very line, and claim that he is the son of the Son of God? And could it be that this one will be the very Antichrist spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2, and the book of Revelation? So that’s why Jesus Christ never married Mary Magdalene.

(End Tape)

Was Jesus Married?

Scriptural References

1. Genesis 1:1, 26
2. Psalm 2:7
3. Isaiah 9:6-7
4. Philippians 2:5-8
5. 1 Timothy 3:16
6. Matthew 16:13-17, 28
7. Matthew 17:1-5, 9
8. John 1:1-5, 9-14
9. John 5:16-29
10. John 14:6
11. Jeremiah 17:9

12. John 17:5, 20-23
13. Matthew 19:1, 3-9
14. Matthew 5:17
15. Isaiah 54:5
16. Exodus 24:3-8
17. Ezekiel 16:8
18. Jeremiah 3:6-11, 20
19. Romans 7:1-4
20. 2 Corinthians 11:1-2
21. Ephesians 5:22-32
22. Revelation 19:7-8

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