



DUPED?

QUESTIONING THE LOGIC
OF POP SPIRITUALITY



Part 6: Jesus – Christ or Copycat?

Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.

~ *The Apostle John, 2 John 1:7*

They must find it difficult, those who have taken authority as the truth rather than truth as the authority.

~ *Gerald Massey,
Poet & Amateur Egyptologist*

There is, as far as I am aware, no evidence that the death and resurrection of Jesus is a mythological construct. The faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus retains its unique character in the history of religions.

~ *T.N.D. Mettinger
Professor at Lund University, and member
of the Royal Academy of Letters, History,
and Antiquities of Stockholm*

The general religious environment of first-century Jewish Palestine would not have provided a natural environment for birthing a legend/myth centred around a recent, Torah-trumping, cruciform-messianic God-man...

The fact that this story originated and was accepted while Jesus' mother, brothers, and original disciples (to say nothing of Jesus' opponents) were still alive renders the legendary explanation all the more implausible. In our view, it is hard to understand how this story came about in this environment, in such a short span of time, unless it is substantially rooted in history.

~ *Paul Rhodes Eddy & Gregory Boyd,
The Jesus Legend: A Case for the Historical
Reliability of the Synoptic Jesus Tradition*

The evidence for the existence of Jesus is stronger than the evidence for the existence of every other world religion founder.

~ *Edwin Yamauchi
Professor of History at Miami University*

Contemporary New Testament scholars have typically viewed the arguments against the existence of Jesus as so weak or bizarre that they relegate them to footnotes, or often ignore them completely.

~ *Robert E. Van Voorst
Historian*

My word to the viewers of such a film in a Jesus haunted culture which is Biblically illiterate is the advice of my grandmother long ago—"don't be so open minded that your brains fall out."

Check everything carefully, especially outlandish historical claims, even if you can't do more than read Wikipedia entries. You will discover that Mr. Joseph (the maker of Zeitgeist) is like that ancient emperor – he may have thought he was wearing the latest fashion, and was intellectually well clothed in the robes of truth, but in fact, this imperialistic film maker has no clothes. His myths are easy to deconstruct.

~ *Ben Witherington III
Historian & Theologian*

He who marries the Spirit of the Age – the Zeitgeist – will soon find himself a widower.

~ *William Ralph Inge
Cambridge Professor and Author*

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

~ *2 Peter 1:16 (ESV)*