



# DUPED?

QUESTIONING THE LOGIC  
OF POP SPIRITUALITY



## Part 7: Pastor on the Hot Seat

Why can't more Christians and Christian leaders humbly look for connection and unity with outsiders rather than division and sectarianism?

~ Steve from Ottawa

Can we really use the fact that Jesus' teaching is rooted in Jewish culture as proof that he actually existed? Why couldn't someone create a compilation of the pagan stories and put them into their own culture?

~ Cathie in Brampton

Bruxy has mentioned that Jesus' teachings give us good evidence for his existence because they don't have pagan parallels and they are thoroughly Jewish. Couldn't someone argue that this only proves that those who conspired to "create" a Christ could have also created their own separatist doctrines?

~ Dave in Victoria, BC

Why couldn't Jesus' teachings (as revolutionary as they may be) just be a part of that fiction? The teachings of Jesus did have to come from somewhere, but (to play devil's advocate) why couldn't that somewhere have been from the "story tellers" minds rather than a real person.

~ David in Toronto

Why does Paul not spend more time directly referencing Jesus' teachings in his letters? It seems to me that he should have said quite frequently "as Jesus said.....". Or should we simply accept the apostle's teaching as a continuation of Jesus' teaching?

~ Brian in Oakville

If Christ's teaching was entirely unique to a first century Jewish context how do we combat the idea that much of it, most notably, the golden rule, is just common sense, innate ideas passed on through the evolution of societies?

~ Lauren in Oakville

Jesus myth theorists often draw parallels between Christianity and paganism based on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Is this true and why do we celebrate Christ's birthday on the 25th of December, or at all?

~ Dwayne from Waterloo

Is the virgin birth a critical doctrine? Is it essential that we believe in a virgin birth? Does Christianity stand or fall on this teaching?

~ George in Oakville

Should we be using the term at all seeing as it can be so polarizing and seeing as it is widely regarded as more an eastern religious/new age practice than Christian?

~ Brian in Oakville

Could the current interest in trying to disprove the life of Jesus stem, in part, from a fundamental Christian belief in the historical accuracy of the gospels?

~ Jon in Brampton