

Words of *Truth & Reason*

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CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

IS ONE GOD AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

Around the world, men have so many difference concepts of God, we sometimes wonder which is true? They cannot all be right... are they all wrong? Is there ONE true God?

Bumper stickers suggesting we “COEXIST” with all beliefs about God, put all beliefs on an equal plane. This is foolish and illogical. If God, as some say, is a force then “He” is not a being. If God is a being then He is not a force. Both ideas cannot “coexist” and be true. What is right?

The Bible reveals the true God. There is only one kind, or type, of God—an all-powerful being (Genesis 17:1; Deuteronomy 6:4).

There are three beings who are equally recognized as God (Genesis 1:26; Matthew 28:19; John 1:1; Revelation 1:8).

Instead of letting man decide who God is, allow God to tell us who He is. He has done that in the Bible. If we do not seek, know, and submit to Him, our future is hopeless (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9). Are you interested in learning more about the true God? Are we mistaken? If so, please contact us!

Inside This Issue:

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- Is one book as good as another?
- Is one Jesus as good as another?
- Is one interpretation as good as another?

Author & Editor: David Halbrook

IS ONE BOOK AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

The intricacies of nature teach us that someone created this world (Romans 1:20). But where do we go to find out who the creator is and what the creator has said?

In the Dhammapada (Buddhism), you’ll be told to find light (truth) within yourself. So, unless YOU are the creator, that is no help.

In the Koran you’ll be told to follow “Allah” and to hear his prophet Muhammad.

In the book of Mormon you’ll be told that the Bible is missing many “precious things” (Book of Mormon, 1 Nephi 13:28).

In publications of the Watchtower Society (“Jehovah’s Witnesses”) you’ll be told that the Creator created Jesus Christ and that without Watchtower publications you will not progress along the road to life (The Watchtower Dec. 1, 1981, p27).

The Bible says *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth* (Genesis 1:1). The Bible identifies three beings, the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Spirit each as God (read Ephesians 4:6; Hebrews 1:8; Acts 5:3-4).

So, is one book as good as another? Can all of these books “coexist”? Clearly not. Read and follow the only book that contains PROOF that it is from God—the Bible. If you wonder what the proof is, contact us.

IS ONE JESUS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

In 2 Corinthians 11:4, Paul warned that some might preach “another Jesus.” Does that happen today?

Some preach that Jesus is not fully God. This is another Jesus. Jesus Christ is called “God” and “LORD” (Jehovah) by the Father (Hebrews 1:8-10).

Some preach that Jesus is just one of many ways to heaven. This is another Jesus. Jesus Christ said, *I am the way... No one comes to*

the Father except through Me (John 14:6).

Some preach that Jesus never condemned people. This is another Jesus. Jesus Christ came to save but when men refused to listen, He warned of coming condemnation--*the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.* (John 12:48).

Some preach that Jesus saves men today by faith alone. This is another Jesus. Jesus Christ often taught salvation by faith but **never** salvation by faith alone. The Bible says that faith alone is **dead** (James 2:20-26). Jesus said, *He who believes and is baptized will be saved* (Mark 16:16).

One Jesus is NOT as good as another—beware of those who preach another Jesus!

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
(John 14:6 NKJV)

You are invited to:
Sunday AM
Bible classes: 10:00AM
Sunday AM Worship:
10:45AM
Sunday PM Worship:
5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible
Classes & Worship:
7:00 PM

IS ONE INTERPRETATION AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

*Has someone ever misunderstood your words? How important is it to **understand** the words that someone speaks? How important is it to understand what God has spoken?*

Many people claim that “one interpretation of the Bible is as good as another.”

When parents give instruction, is “one interpretation as good as another”? If a parent said to be *in bed* by 10:00 could the child, dressed for bed while watching TV at 10:05, say “I interpret that to mean *ready for bed* by 10:00”? Are all interpretations equal?

Did God allow Adam and Eve to have their own interpretation of His instruction about eating fruit? Clearly not.

When God speaks, He expects us to understand. There are not “many ways to understand” God’s word. Either we understand or misunderstand. God assures us that we can and must understand (Ephesians 3:3-4; 5:17).

For example, Jesus said “the two shall become one flesh” (Matthew 19:5). If one interpretation is as good as another, may I interpret this to mean that two males can become one flesh?

We need to understand what God has said about marriage, salvation, baptism, inheriting sin, tithing, etc. Do **you** know and follow God’s answer on these subjects? You can, by diligent study (2 Timothy 2:15). If we can help you in your study of His word, contact us!

Questions from this month’s articles:

1. Why is not possible for all beliefs in God to “coexist” when determining truth?
2. What does it mean to preach “another Jesus”?
3. Why is it not reasonable to believe that all religious books are good and equally true?
4. When God speaks, what does He expect from us?

* Mail your answers to church of Christ—Quail Valley 4104 East Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501

* Email your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

* Do you have other Bible questions we can help you with? Write or call us (870 793-6700; 569-4491)