

Cracking the Da Vinci Code: Separating Fact from Fiction

“....a good read combined with bad history is not something to stake your life on...”

What is the plot of the book?

What makes the book so contentious?

“FACT: All descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate.”

Jesus

Da Vinci Code Viewpoint

- An enlightened human teacher/prophet who was made into God
- Married, had a child
- Did not perform all the miracles attributed to him/no resurrection
- His arrest, trial and death caught Him off guard
- Until the Council of Nicea in 325 AD, was viewed by His followers as only a mortal prophet

Biblical/Orthodox Viewpoint

- Son of God who came to give His life as a sacrifice for mankind (*John 1: 29*)
- His mission was intentional (*Matthew 20: 28*)
- His prophesied and helped fulfill his own execution (*Matthew 20: 18, 19*)
- Unequaled among world religious leaders (*Matthew 28: 18; John 14: 6*)
- Resurrected from the dead (*Matthew 28: 5, 6*)
- Apostles taught he was the Son of God unflinchingly, dying as martyrs

Mary Magdalene

Da Vinci Code Viewpoint

- Jesus intended her to establish His church, not the apostles
- She was to be worshipped as a goddess, restoring the concept of the “divine feminine”
- Mary’s womb, carrying Jesus’ offspring, was the legendary “Holy Grail”
- Pregnant at the time of the crucifixion with Jesus’ child, she fled to France
- Her descendants still exist in Europe, but are assassinated by...

Biblical/Orthodox Viewpoint

- Jesus delivered her from 7 demons (*Mark 16: 9*)
- A believer who traveled with Jesus and the disciples (*Luke 8: 1-3*)
- An eyewitness to the crucifixion, burial, and resurrection (*Matthew 27: 55, 56*)
- First to see Jesus after His resurrection (*John 20: 11-18*)

The Bible

Da Vinci Code Viewpoint

- The Bible is a product of man, not God, and has evolved through countless translations, additions, and revisions
- Pagan Emperor Constantine declared Jesus “God” for his own purposes and “edited” the Bible in 325 AD

Biblical/Orthodox Viewpoint

- The Bible is a product of God, not man (2 Peter 1: 20, 21)
- The methods of transmission, preparation and preservation are unparalleled
- The Bible was recognized as “complete” by as early as 150-200 AD

Da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa” and “The Last Supper”

Da Vinci Code Viewpoint

- Mona Lisa is smiling because she knows a secret....
- In “The Last Supper”, John is replaced by...guess who?

Vast Majority of Art Experts

- What??

Next Week: Can We Trust the Bible?