

## Speaking Truth In Love

The apostles *warned* that many would deny the deity of Jesus (Acts 20:28-30; 2 Pet 2:1). John dealt first-hand with these false teachers known as “Gnostics” (1 John 1:1-5; 2:18-19; 22; 4:1-3; 4-6; 5:20-21). They taught that to be saved one must have a higher level of knowledge than Scripture could offer about the nature of God, Christ, the human spirit and flesh. To get a wider acceptance for their writings, they gave them titles like: “The Gospel of Peter ... Thomas ... Judas ... Mary”.

The DaVinci Code borrows heavily from Gnostic philosophies, and also from ancient propaganda and forgeries to formulate its fictional record about Jesus.

Inaccuracies include:

- Mary Magdalene is the Holy Grail in the DaVinci painting. **Answer:** It is not the actual cup Jesus used, but the content of the cup that is important (Matt 26:27-29). Scripture does not link Jesus to Mary Magdalene in a familial sense.
- Constantine convened the council of Nicea (325 AD) to elevate Jesus. **Answer:** The apostles’ writings (before 100 AD) confirmed Jesus as being coequal to God (Jn 1:1, 14). Also, first century Christian’ writings like the Didache prove that the apostles’ testimony was believed.
- The Priori of Sion knew the truth about Jesus. **Answer:** The existence of this secret society is based on a document placed in the French archives during WWII. The document promoted anti-Semitism; it was proven a forgery in a court of law.

These issues were settled centuries ago. The DaVinci code is nothing but old lies recycled for a new audience. May we heed the words of John the beloved disciple!

*“For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds” (2 John 1:7-11).*

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Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.