

Mary Magdalene

A Present Day Attack on Historical Christianity

Dan Brown's book, The Da Vinci Code

25. Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and **Mary Magdalene**. 26. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," 27. and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. **John 19:25-27**

When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to **Mary Magdalene**, out of whom he had driven seven demons. 10. She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. 11. When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it.

– **Mark 16:9-11**

“Would the real Mary Magdalene please stand up.”

Finding the real Mary Magdalene.

Introduction:

Unless you live under a rock or have been trapped in a cave for three years you probably have heard of the recent best selling book, and now movie titled “The DaVinci Code.”

The novel, which is a novel, but purports to be based on historical fact.

What's all the brouhaha?

Dan Brown's book cloaks itself is a facade of scholarship and legitimate research when in fact he ignores and distorts history. The book is fiction, but fiction that is allegedly based on fact makes it a particularly dangerous attack on Christ and Christianity.

Dan Brown cleverly toys with America's fascination with mysteries and secrets. The book is a combination of Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) and the search for the lost Ark of the covenant, then we had Indian Jones and the Last Crusade, and its search for the Holy Grail, then there was National Treasure (2004) which plays on the legend of the The Lost Treasure of the Knights Templar.

Before we overreact lets keep in mind that there is a battle for the mind out there. There is a battle between good and evil, and a battle for truth and against lies. Let's not be too upset that the pagans got a good one over and made a lot of money in the process. Don't forget The Passover Plot, and The Last Temptation of Christ and Jesus Christ Superstar, what a fiasco that was. Let's not rush out and boycott movie theaters in a knee jerk reaction to Dan Brown's fantasies.

1. Dan Brown's Secret The Da Vinci Code

Was Mary Magdalene
Secretly Married to Jesus?
The Da Vinci Code purports it to be fact.

The Book

40 million copies, 44 languages, 90 spin off books, 150 weeks on NY
Times Bestseller list.z

The Alleged Facts

Front cover and preface alleges historical fiction, based on facts.
“Saying that Dan Brown’s book is about Christianity is like saying *Finding
Nemo* is about marine biology.” - Ken Boa and John Alan Turner

The 10 Boldface Lies

Catholic Response

2. Our Reaction

Romans 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! 21 Woe unto *them that are wise* in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

3. Ignorance and Silence of the Church

3 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. 4 For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord. – Jude 1:3-4

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. – I Peter 3:15

4. Attack on Christianity

Not the First time Christianity is Attacked

The Gnostic Gospels – Thomas, Judas, Mary, Philip,

The Passover Plot – 1965

The Last Temptation of Christ – 1988

Jesus Christ Superstar – 1970

The Da Vinci Code - 2003

I. The Attack on Jesus

"Constantine embellished those gospels that made him godlike."

Dan Brown's book cloaks itself as a facade of scholarship and legitimate research when in fact he ignores and distorts history. The book is fiction, but fiction that is allegedly based on fact makes it a particularly dangerous attack on Christ and Christianity.

Many Christians don't know history, their Bibles, or theology to refute his claims.

I. The Attack on Truth/Jesus

"Jesus is just a mortal man, not God."

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2. He was with God in the beginning. 3. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

John 5:18

For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

John 8:58

"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

John 20:28

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Matthew 1:23

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" --which means, "God with us."

Romans 9:5

Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Colossians 2:9

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

Hebrews 1:3

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Revelation 1:8 17-18

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.

II. The Attack on The Bible

"Nothing our fathers taught us is true."

2 Timothy 3:16 -17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17. so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

and

2 Peter 1:20-21

20. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

III. The Attack on Salvation

"The gospels were altered and the real truth is that Jesus married Mary Magdalene and had children."

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 4:12

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Ephesians 2:8

8. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- 9. not by works, so that no one can boast.

Titus 3:5

He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

Fact or Fiction

Dan Brown's fictional best seller, *The Da Vinci Code*, sat at the top of the best seller's list for weeks. Goddess worshippers and Christian haters around the globe have not only given it rave reviews, but offer it up as proof that Christianity is a lie. You might be wondering how a fiction novel can have such an impact. It can because **Brown makes the claim that the book is based on fact.** In bold letters in the front of the book Brown alerts the reader that what they are about to read, while being a fictional story, is based on historical fact.

If people knew their history, their Bibles, and studied their own religion thoroughly, we wouldn't need to be concerned about this book. However, many of the numerous **factual errors** and **boldface lies** in Brown's books won't be obvious to the general public.

Brown knows that the majority of readers will accept his conspiracy theories and distortions of history, because he knows most people don't know, for example, what the Gnostic gospels even are.

C.S. Lewis, in *Mere Christianity*, *Trilemma*, "Lunatic, Liar, or Lord"

Lewis's actual argument as expressed in *Mere Christianity*^[2]:

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic--on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg--or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

What will you do with Jesus? Neutral you cannot be. One day your heart will be asking. "What will he do with me?"

Helpful Web Sites

Daniel Henderson's Grace Church, Eden, MN

<http://www.davincipetition.com/>

Lee Strobel's Web Site

http://www.leestrobel.com/LS_DaVinciCode.html

Dialogue DaVinci

Sony Pictures Entertainment created this site in conjunction with Grace Hill Media

<http://www.thedavincialogue.com/>

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What do the Experts Say?

[How To Leverage The Da Vinci Code](#)

By: [Lee Strobel](#)

[The Big Question: Do We Protest, Boycott, or Engage?](#)

By: [Phil Cooke](#)

[Watching Da Vinci Code – Is A Dialogue Between Faith and Film Possible?](#)

By: [Robert Johnston](#)

[Who was Mary Magdalene?](#)

By: [Dorothy Kelley Patterson](#)