

Scriptures are quoted from a modern language edition derived from the American Standard Version of 1901, which was prepared by 30 of the top American religious scholars. It is likely the most accurate Bible translation widely available.

In the year A.D. 70, something terrible happened to the City of Jerusalem. It was destroyed. But not in the usual way with the inhabitants fleeing the ruined city. The religious worshippers did not flee the city, but most of them died in it, and in the most nightmarish way. The details are so grim and gory, they will not be repeated here, but you can read about it in the histories. Those few that survived the end did not fare any better.

Why did this happen? How could such a nightmare befall the Holy City and the religious inhabitants within its walls? Because it was no longer the Holy City. God had withdrawn his protection and its enemies were now able to visit upon it their wrath and fury. Christendom may face the same fate in our day!

It is well to remember, the people of Jerusalem were the people of God, or they had been the people of God. When the city fell to the anger of Rome, they were God's people no more. Like Christendom in our day, they had rejected God.

Jesus had come to them as their savior and they rejected him, and by rejecting him they rejected his Father. Jesus told the parable of the Landowner who sent his servants to the miscreant tenants, who rejected them and killed them as the nation of the Jews had rejected and killed the prophets that God sent to them. And then the Landowner sent his own son, whom they also killed, just as God sent his son, Jesus Christ, to the nation of his people, and the nation killed the Son of God.

But why did they reject the prophets and finally God's own son? Jesus tells us through the pages of the Bible. Jesus told those religious men back then for whom the clock was ticking down to their annihilation, who were supposed to be the servants of God, that they had allowed their traditions to turn them aside from the truth of God's word. (Matthew 15:3; Mark 7:13) But they were deaf to his warning, and blind to the path of death and destruction which they were headed down. They were so sure they were the favored of God, that they could not see. They accused Jesus of being the one that was wrong. They accused Jesus of being a blasphemer, but they were the blasphemers,

because they rejected the teachings of God, and followed the doctrines of men.

It is exactly the same in our day. Churchgoers repeatedly say that Jesus is God. But Jesus never said he was God. Go to the four Gospels, or the entire New Testament, and look. Not once did Jesus ever say he was God. So why do so many religious people say something that is not found in the Bible? They are rejecting the Bible and following the traditions and doctrines of men.

Also, nowhere in the Bible does it say that Jesus is God. Because of this, there are some scriptures that devious men have mistranslated to make it seem that it does, and others where they have misconstrued what is said. To one who reads these Scriptures in the light of God's Spirit the gross deception is obvious and not surprising because Satan, the enemy of God and of his people, is the great Deceiver. He deceived Eve and led mankind into sin and death, and he is still avidly at work.

The unwary, and those who do not treat God's word aright, fall victim to Satan despite the warnings found in God's Word. *Beware that no one takes you captive through his philosophy and empty deception, after the tradition of men, after the principles of the world, and not according to Christ.* (Colossians 2:8)

There are many scriptures that testify to the fact that Jesus is not God. One famous example is Matthew 3:16, 17 which says: *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up directly from the water, and look, the heavens were opened to him. And he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove, and coming on him. And look, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* In this scripture, Jesus is on the earth and God, his Father, is in heaven, and God sends his spirit down to Jesus here on earth. They are clearly not the same.

On occasions, throughout his ministry, while Jesus was here on earth, he emphasized that God was in heaven, and after his resurrection while he was still here on earth, he told Mary Magdalene: *I ascend to my Father and your Father, and my God and your God.*

There are a handful of scriptures that those who claim that Jesus is God cite saying they support their claim. They do not! One of the most obvious is John 1:1, because most translations of the Bible translate it as *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* But that is not a literal translation of the original

language of the Bible. The literal translation is *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god.*

To refer to Jesus as a god is in no way improper. In Psalm 8:5 when it says that man is made a little lower than the angels, the word that is translated angels means *gods*.\* This also helps us to know why Thomas said what he did at John 20:28. What he said was an accurate description of Jesus after his resurrection. He was not saying that Jesus was the one true God that we worship, but that now Jesus was a mighty spirit, and no longer a mortal man.

It is well that before we accept any teaching or assertion that we examine closely what the Bible has to say. We have touched only the surface of a few things here, but the Bible has a whole lot more to say about these things. For that reason we urge you to look at the links below. They lead to much more in depth consideration and examination of God's Word the Holy Bible, so that we may follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Scriptures, if we allow ourselves to be one of his sheep and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. (John 10:27; Mark 4:2-8, 14-20; 1 Corinthians 3:7)

*\*Some translations incorrectly translate Psalm 8:5 as God. To suggest that man is only a little lower than God is blasphemous. In any case, the Bible in its quotation of that scripture at Hebrews 2:7 shows that it was referring to angels, since it uses the Greek word ἄγγελος, angel.*

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# JESUS

## IS NOT

# GOD

## **JESUS DIED FOR OUR SINS**

## **GOD CANNOT DIE**

**A LOOK AT WHY SO MANY BELIEVE THIS FALSE DOCTRINE**