# A Different Jesus?

When, Who and What – Part 2 of 3

Before reading this, you need to have first read "Before There Was...!" Which is Part 1 of When. Who and What.

Sadly, many if not most, of today's Christians seem to be so overwhelmed with their focus on Jesus such that they seem to almost over look that it was THE HEAVENLY FATHER who sent Jesus (Yeshua) to the Earth so that He could be the Redeemer of the CALLED OUT ONES. This over sight seems to have inadvertently changed, what should be their proper religious focus? Let me give you an example: Instead of Jesus sitting at the right hand of the ALMIGHTY GOD in Heaven, as the New Testament says. They unwittingly seem to transform ALMIGHTY GOD, THE HEAVENLY FATHER into simply being the lesser individual, sitting at the left hand of Jesus. Yes! So complete and total is their devotion to Jesus; that everything else takes a secondary back seat, if you will, to Jesus and His Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Resurrection. Jesus has become their Supreme Deity and God! Jesus has become even more important to them, than His HEAVENLY FATHER THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE. What would it take to prevent someone's concept of Jesus, from being perverted and unwittingly believing that He succeeded in doing the very same thing for which Lucifer was kicked out of heaven for trying to do? (Lucifer tried to elevate his seat of authority above that of ALMIGHTY GOD). Yes, it seems as though some Christians, because they love Jesus so much, have inadvertently and without realizing it, transformed their concept of Jesus into someone who had done the same thing, only they believe that Jesus succeeded where Lucifer failed. These individuals have achieved something that can only be described as approaching or even entering, a form of alternate reality. where their concept of Jesus, is the focus of their worship! This has unwittingly transformed their Jesus into the equivalent of a Pagan Deity. This individual, however, has the same name as the **Real** Biblical Jesus. By doing this, they have created a very subtle and insidious form of Counterfeit. Yes, a Counterfeit form of the Real New Testament Jesus (Yeshua)!

How can this be? Many are asking themselves, (if they have not been run off, so far, by what they have just read). So to better answer this question, perhaps we should address in more depth some of the points touched on in the first paragraph.

To start with **ALMIGHTY GOD** the Creator of the Universe is the **ONE** who is to be our **ONE** and **Only GOD**.

Exodus 20:3 (NASB)

(3) You shall have no other gods before Me!

Many claim that one of the proofs that Jesus is God; is that in the New Testament, time and again, we see that Jesus is being worshipped. So let's take a look at this argument and see whether or not it holds up under investigation. To start with, we need to remember that the New Testament can only receive its validity from the Tanach or Old Testament. We do see that in the Tanach or Old Testament it does assert that **ALMIGHTY GOD** will send an **Anointed One** or

**Messiah**. However, the **Messiah** must stay within the bounds set forth in the Tanach or Old Testament. If the **Messiah** or the writings of the New Testament do not stay within the bounds set forth in the preceding **WORD OF GOD**; then one, the other or both, cannot be valid! With this in mind let's take a look at some of the places where it **appears** that Jesus is being worshipped.

When we read the New Testament the first time this occurs is in the book of Matthew when it says, that the WISE MEN or MAGI worshipped Jesus.

When you check Strong's you will find that the word <u>Worship</u> in this case is derived from the Strong's Greek root word #4352 προσκυνέω - proskunĕō (pros-koo-neh'-o) meaning:

# To kiss (the hand)

And it also implies, to bow or crouch forward, toward the person, while kissing the hand; showing a degree of respect and/or affection. It does **not** necessarily include RELIGIOUS WORSHIP! So it may, or may **not**, include RELIGIOUS WORSHIP. It was also the proper greeting for those of status, at that time and place.

This tradition continued even up to the 1800's and beyond. For example, in the past when a young man was at a social event or Ball, when he approached a young woman to greet her and perhaps ask her to dance, he would first take her hand and politely lean forward and kiss it; before engaging her in conversation. This was the proper form of etiquette, which was still in use at that time. It showed proper **respect** and **honor** as well as perhaps attraction and maybe even affection. Yet, this was **never** intended as a form of Religious Worship, nor was it ever miss-interpreted as such by the young woman or anyone else in attendance at the social event. The young man's kissing of the young woman's hand was the socially approved and even expected manner of showing **honor** and **respect** to the young woman.

This is exactly what the Greek word προσκυνέω - proskunĕō (pros-koo-neh´-o) means!

If someone were recording the events, which took place between the young man and the young woman, at this social event or Ball, and did so in New Testament Greek, the kiss on her hand would be called  $\pi \rho \sigma \kappa \nu \nu \epsilon \omega$  - proskuněō (pros-koo-neh´-o).

So then, if someone later picked up the Greek document and translated it into English, and followed the same pattern as was used in the translation of the New Testament from Greek to English. It would say, in their English Translation, that the young man Worshipped the young woman! When in truth he was only being polite and showing *proper respect* to her! Yet, no doubt, most of those reading this English Translation would sincerely believe that the young man had elevated the young woman to the status of a god or goddess; believing that he had fully engaged in the Religious Worship of this young woman. And many of these same people would possible even claim that anyone who did not believe this, was just illiterate of what was written in the original Greek Text, which described the event!

Another example is when Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, came to see Moses. In the following passages of Scripture, pay close attention to what transpired and how it is stated.

# **Exodus 18:5-7** (NASB)

- (5) Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses in the wilderness where he was camped, at the mount of God.
- (6) And he sent word to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons with her."
- (7) Then Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and he bowed down and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare, and went into the tent.

**Notice**, it does **not** say that Moses worshipped Jethro! Yet, when other people did the exact same thing, for the same reason, when greeting Jesus (Yeshua); the translators will almost always translate it to say that they worshipped Jesus? Moses did not worship Jethro! Moses only worshipped ALMIGHTY GOD THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE and no other!

The translators of the New Testament, in an effort to prove, or at least support, what they had been taught would naturally want to support the assertion the Jesus was to be worshipped as God. So when this same behavior occurred toward Jesus, it would almost always be translated as though the person or people were "worshipping Jesus".

When we checked earlier, we found that the word <u>Worship</u> used in conjunction with the Wise Men or Magi and their interaction with the infant Jesus was derived from the Strong's Greek root word #4352 προσκυνέω and that its original meaning was:

#### To kiss (the hand)

As pointed out previously, it also empties to bow or crouch forward, toward the person, while kissing the hand; thereby showing **honor**, **respect** and/or affection. It does **not** necessarily include RELIGIOUS WORSHIP. So it may, or may **not**, include RELIGIOUS WORSHIP. It was the proper greeting for those of status, at that time and place.

Even though this is the origin of this Greek word, it like many words in most languages develops various nuances and/or additional meaning over time. To get a more complete understanding of how the authors of the New Testament may have understood and used this word, in the day and time in which they lived, a more in-depth source is needed. One of which is:

# THAYER'S GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICON of the NEW TESTAMENT

Coded with Strong's Concordance Numbers By **Joseph H. Thayer** Ninth Printing – August 2009

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Reprinted from the fourth edition originally published by T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, 1896, with *Strong's* numbering added by Hendrichson Publishers.

After starting out as *Strong's* does, explaining the origin of the word, it then goes on to explain how it was perceived and used both during and shortly after, the time of **JESUS** and **HIS DISCIPLES.** 

... hence in the N. T. by kneeling or prostration to do homage (to one) or make obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication it is used a. of homage shown to a man of superior rank: ...

**b.** of homage rendered to God ...

**Notice**, that the first and foremost of its uses would be (a.) which is the expression of respect shown to a man of superior rank! While its secondary and/or less common usage would be (b.) which is the showing of homage rendered to God, acknowledging God's superiority as a part of A THEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS FORM OF WORSHIP!

So, depending on which translation of Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6 and Jeremiah 23:6 you adhere to, will probably determine which definition you will choose to use, when translating this word (Strong's Greek root word #4352 προσκυνέω) whenever it is used in regard to other people interaction with Jesus. (The alternate translations for Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6 and Jeremiah 23:6 were discussed in some depth in "Before There Was...!". Which is part 1 of 3, in the series "When, Who and What".)

You need to remember that those to whom the Gospels were being written were Religiously Observant Jewish Believers in Jesus (Yeshua) as Messiah. They would have read Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6 and Jeremiah 23:6 in such a manner where the SON would be the one who is Preaching and Declaring Almighty God, to all who would listen. And therefore when reading προσκυνέω they would have used the first definition (a.) when the word was being used in conjunction with Jesus in the Greek Text of the New Testament. Realizing that these people were showing honor and respect to someone they believed to be a Religiously Righteous Man of a superior status. Who was (or would be when He grew up) DECLARING, PREACHING and TEACHING about Almighty God and how we were to serve Him; as well as how to treat their fellow man!

Whereas later when the Gentiles began to believe in Jesus as Messiah, many if not most, of the Gentiles would have the tendency to elevate Jesus up and out of the position of being only the Son of God (forgetting that a son is the creation of the parent, which would make Jesus a part (the very first part) of God's Creation). They would therefore tend to translate Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6 and Jeremiah 23:6 in such a manner as to elevate Jesus to, at the very least, to be equal to ALMIGHTY GOD THE HEAVENLY FATHER so that Jesus would be, to them, Co-Equal to His own Father. And some would even want to replace the FATHER IN HEAVEN with Jesus, making JESUS their Supreme Deity! These people will usually insist on using definition (b.) in what sometimes seem to be an almost desperate and perhaps even frantic effort to prove the Jesus is God!

You should also be aware of the differences in how some of the translations have chosen to translate this word; when translating the Greek root word #4352 προσκυνέω in the various places it is used when it is in conjunction with Jesus.

Greek #4352	KJV	NASB	NIV
Matthew 2:2	worship	worship	worship
Matthew 2:8	worship	worship	worship
Matthew 2:11	worshipped	worshiped	worshiped
Matthew 8:2	worshipped	bowed down	knelt before
Matthew 9:18	worshipped	bowed down	knelt before
Matthew 14:33	worshipped	worshiped	worshiped
Matthew 15:25	worshipped	to bow down	knelt before
Matthew 18:26	worshipped	prostrated	fell on his knees
Matthew 20:20	worshipped	bowing down	kneeling down
Matthew 28:9	worshipped	worshiped	worshiped
Matthew 28:17	worshipped	worshiped	worshiped
Mark 5:6	worshipped	bowed down	fell on his knees
Mark 15:19	worshipped	kneeling & bowing	falling on their Knee
Luke 24:52	worshipped		worshiped
John 9:38	worshipped	worshiped	worshiped

The **K**ing **J**ames **V**ersion only uses the (**b**.) definition in order to try and show that Jesus is a God. Whereas in the other two translations only us the (**b**.) definition about half the time.

Seven times in the New American Standard Version.

<u>Eight</u> times in the **N**ew **I**nternational **V**ersion.

The question is: Was the use of **(b.)** the second definition, the proper one each time it was used in translating the New Testament in both of these other two translations?

What would happen if we used the (a.) definition instead? How would this effect the understanding of what was actually transpiring? In order to better understand this, let's use the (a.) definition in the three occurrences of this word in Matthew chapter two.

# Matthew 2:2, 8 and 11

- (2) Where is He who has been born **King of the Jews?** For we saw His star in the east, and have come to **Honor** Him."
- (8) And he (Herod) sent them to Bethlehem, and said, "Go and make careful search for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, that I too may come and **Honor** Him."
- (11) And they came into the house and saw the Child with Mary His mother; **KNEELING DOWN** to express **Honor** and **Respect** to Him (as King of the Jews); they opened their treasures, and presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

As was indicated earlier, whenever we read in the New Testament that the WISE MEN or MAGI worshipped Jesus it is the word προσκυνέω - proskunĕō (pros-koo-neh´-o) that is being used. It becomes quite evident that the WISE MEN or MAGI intent was to show honor and respect, in the proper manner for their day, time and culture by bowing or kneeling, in honor and respect, to the one born as King of the Jews? It is also quite evident that the WISE MEN or MAGI were acknowledging that they understood His future importance and His destiny, without engaging in RELIGIOUS WORSHIP. Though realizing that God had sent Him, they were not worshipping Him instead of, or along with, the HEAVENLY FATHER? With just a little background study it becomes quite evident that the original authors of Matthew were intending to convey that the MAGI or WISE MEN had actually knelt or bowed in respect, instead of worship! Remember, to bow is the proper and customary greeting in many Asian countries, not only then, but also even still today.

Perhaps we should also look, to see how the use of the (a.) definition would also affect the proper understanding of Matthew 14:33. When we do so, it is as follows:

# **Matthew 14:33**

(33) And those who were in the boat, **HONORED** Him, saying, "You are certainly God's Son!"

It should be remembered that these men could acknowledge Him as the **SON OF GOD** with all due **HONOR** and **RESPECT**, without breaking the **FIRST COMMANDMENT!** Without engaging in the **RELIGIOUS WORSHIP** of Him; if however, they had been worshipping Him they would have broken the **FIRST COMMANDMENT!** Again, as we have pointed out before; a son is the creation of the parent! This makes **JESUS**, as the **Son of God**, a created entity! Part of God's Creation, which can be seen below in Proverbs 8:22-31.

In the following passage of Scripture the <u>Creator of the Universe</u>, <u>Almighty God</u>, is the one who created the individual who would later be sent to the earth as a man and become the known to us in the New Testament as Jesus (Yeshua)!

# **Proverbs 8:22-31** (NIV)

- (22) "The LORD <u>brought me forth</u> as the first of His works, before His deeds of old;
- (23) I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning, **before the world began**.
- (24) When there were no oceans, **I was given birth**, when there were no springs abounding with water;
- (25) <u>before</u> the mountains were settled in place, <u>before</u> the hill, **I was given birth**,
- (26) <u>before</u> He made the earth or its fields or any of the dust of the world.
- (27) <u>I was there</u> when He set the heavens in place, when He marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,
- (28) when He established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,

(29) when He gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep His command, and when He marked out the foundations of the earth.

- (30) Then <u>I</u> was the craftsman at **His side**. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in His presence,
- (31) rejoicing in His whole world and delighting in mankind."

The Book of Proverbs is a collection of unrelated proverbs, assembled into a single book. To show where one proverb stops and the next begins the Hebrew codex used for translating most of the English versions of the Bible, has the Hebrew letter **5** placed at the end of a proverbial section to indicate where one stops and the other starts. Proverb chapter eight has a **5** at the end of verse 21 (just before the beginning of verse 22) and at the end of verse 31. Showing that it is un-connected and un-related to the proverbs both before it and after it!

One can show proper **HONOR** and **RESPECT** toward a Heavenly Angel, without engaging in RELIGIOUS WORSHIP of the Angel and breaking the **FIRST COMMANDMENT**. So too is the case here in the following, even though Jesus (Yeshua) was now resurrected from the dead and destined to sit at **HIS HEAVENLY FATHER'S right hand!** 

#### Matthew 28:9

(9) And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them, and they **KNELT DOWN** with their hand on His feet (remember how Moses greeted Jethro, his father-in-law) showing **HONOR** and **RESPECT** to Him.

# **Matthew 28:17**

(17) And when they saw Him they **BOWED** to Him, but some were doubtful.

# **Luke 24:52** (NASB)

(52) And they h returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

In the New American Standard Version it omits the portion of the verse which is in the King James Version and in the New International Version where it is translated as "they worshipped Him". The New American Standard Version in a footnote (h) it states: h "some mss. insert worshiped Him, and", indicating that enough manuscripts do not have this part of the verse, to make it questionable as to whether or not it should be inserted in Luke 24:52.

Another point of controversy in the New Testament is that Jesus was called Lord! Some people assert that this proves that he is being worshipped as God!

#### John 9:38

(9) And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he BOWED to Him.

However in Hebrew the word אדני (Lord) when pronounced in one manner is used for the equivalent of <u>Sir</u> in English. As we see in Gen. 18:12 and 1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 3:6 where Sarah is calling Abraham Lord, its meaning is the equivalent of <u>Sir</u> in English. But when pronounced another way, it refers to God. Those who want to worship Jesus, as God, will usually insist that in John chapter nine verse thirty eight, that they are calling Jesus, Lord-God; rather that the English equivalent for the word <u>Sir</u>. At this point no doubt many are saying, "But this was <u>not</u> written in Hebrew! It was written in Greek". In the Greek Septuagint the Hebrew word word is translated into Greek, as the Greek word κύριος (Strong's #2962). Which is also the same Greek word used here in John 9:38 as well as 1<sup>st</sup> Pet.3:6 where Sarah is said to have called Abraham Lord. Showing that in the **Jewish Culture** the Greek word κύριος (Lord) was used in the same manner as the Hebrew word **Note** (Lord).

Going back to the topic of Worship, some will ask: "Is there any word in New Testament Greek that <u>only</u> means **Worship**, as in Religious Devotion?" The answer is "<u>Yes</u>"! That word is the Strong's Greek root word #4576 σέβομαι – sebomai (seb'-om-ahee), which means:

To Revere (as in Devout Religious Worship).

This word can be found being used in several different New Testament verses.

# Matthew 15:9 (NASB)

(9) 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY **WORSHIP** ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINE THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.' **σέβονταί** (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

# **Mark 7:7** (NASB)

(7) 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY **WORSHIP** ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.' **σέβονταί** (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

# **Acts 16:14** (NASB)

(14) And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a **worshiper** of God, was listening; and the LORD opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

<u>σέβομένη</u> (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

# **Acts 18:7** (NASB)

(7) And he departed from there and went to the house of a certain man named Titius Justus, a **worshiper** of God, whose house was next to the synagogue.

<u>σέβομένου</u> (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

# **Acts 18:13** (NASB)

(13) Saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the Law."
σέβεοθαι (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

# **Acts 19:27** (NASB)

(27) "And not only is there danger that this trade of ours fall into disrepute, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis be regarded as worthless and that she whom all of Asia and the world **worship** should even be dethroned from her magnificence."

<u>σέβεται</u> (Strong's Greek root word #4576)

There is no doubt that all of these verses are referring to **Devout Religious Worship**. Unlike the Greek word προσκυνέω - proskunĕō (pros-koo-neh´-o), which originally meant to kiss (the hand)? And may, or may **not**, go along with Religious Worship. However, we have seen that the authors of the New Testament **only** use the Greek word προσκυνέω in referring to the proper form of etiquette used in showing **respect** and **honor** to someone of status, and nothing more! Because **IF** the Authors of the New Testament had wanted to show, in the original Greek text, that these people were actually worshipping Jesus, they would have used the Greek word σέβομαι – sebomai (seb´-om-ahee), which can only means **To Revere** (as in Devout Religious Worship). But instead, when it came to the interpersonal relationships of different individuals with Jesus, the authors of the New Testament did **not** use the Greek word, which can only mean worship! Which if you stop and think about it; would only occur, if the author of the New Testament intending to make a clear distinction, in order to show that they were **not** worshipping Jesus!

Understanding this sheds a whole new light on the record of what was actually occurring in the Greek text of the New Testament. Without this understanding the average person cannot properly understand what is transpiring in the **New Testament**. Because of the manner in which the **New Testament** was unfortunately translated, in almost every case. When it comes to the accurate understanding of what was really transpiring within the pages of the **New Testament**, one cannot forget that the **New Testament** must always adhere to the standards and requirements set forth in the preceding **WORD OF GOD**, found in the Tanach or Old Testament.

How dramatically would this insight transform the average person's perception of the **New Testament?** How different and radically changed would the average person's theology be, if they understood this? Perhaps this understanding would transform their entire concept of who was, and was **not**, to be worshipped. And whether or not it is proper to worship anyone other than his or her **HEAVENLY FATHER?** 

As was pointed out in "Before There Was...!" Part 1 of "When, Who and What", the ALMIGHTY ONE is to be our ONE and Only GOD! Just as Jesus throughout His life declared that THE ALMIGHTY was His HEAVENLY FATHER and His GOD! Every one of Adam's descendants, as well as, the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were expected to WORSHIP NO OTHER!

# **Deuteronomy 5:7** (NASB)

(7) You shall have no other gods before ME!

# When God gave The Commandment,

"You shall have no other gods <u>before</u> ME."

Did it just mean that HE only wanted to be first?

# No!

It means: When you stand <u>before</u> GOD, 'face to face' on THE DAY OF JUDGMENT, you are <u>not</u> to have been worshipping anyone other than HIM!

Would that Commandment not *also* include the individual sitting at **HIS Right Hand?** In Scripture the one sitting at **THE ALMIGHTY'S Right Hand** (Luke 22:69 & Colossians 3:1) on the **DAY OF JUDGMENT** is to be your **Advocate** (1 John 2:1), **not** your god!

# **Luke 22:69** (NASB)

(69) "But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the **right hand** of the power **of God**."

# Colossians 3: 1 (NASB)

(1) If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the **right hand of God**.

# **Romans 8:33-34** (NASB)

(33) Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; (34) who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the **right hand of God**, who also **intercedes** for us.

# 1 John 2:1 (NASB)

(1) My Little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an <u>Advocate</u> with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous;

If **ALMIGHTY GOD, The Heavenly Father** is <u>not</u> our central focus, the very center of our **Worship** and our **Devotion**; with Jesus (Yeshua) as **His** number one supporter, <u>then something is</u> dreadfully WRONG!

The reason that many have problems with this; is because they seem to feel that Jesus is somehow being diminished and therefore feel a need to restore Jesus to the place of prominence (and sometimes even superiority over His Father) which they think He deserves! Perhaps without realizing it they have thereby transformed their Jesus into **THEIR CREATOR**, in effect replacing **THE HEAVENLY FATHER** who sent Him. Whose directions and plans Jesus (Yeshua) has carried out! This seems to only happen when whether inadvertently or not, they have transformed their concept of Jesus, into a **FRAUDULENT** or **COUNTERFEIT** form of Jesus, sadly in doing so they are changing their concept of Jesus into the equivalent of some **SUPERIOR FORM OF PAGAN DEITY!** 

This perversion is so *subtle* and *clever*, that most cannot ever see it. This elevation of Jesus, by Lucifer, in the minds of many, if not most, Christians to a level equal to or even above that of ALMIGHTY GOD, was and is intended as Sabotage! This is done in order to transform most people's concept of Jesus into that of a DIFFERENT COUNTERFEIT JESUS! Rather than having an accurate understanding of what and who the real true JESUS (Yeshua) was, and is. In this manner Lucifer can transform people's concept of JESUS, into one that is the equivalent of a Pagan Deity, in a manner which is so subtle, that most can not even perceive, much less even conceive of. Why would Lucifer want to do this? Because, if people will not reject JESUS (Yeshua), than Lucifer will try and push them into subtly transforming their understanding of JESUS into being the equivalent of a Pagan Deity, replacing ALMIGHTY GOD. So, Lucifer has pushed the pendulum of perversion, to swing from rejecting JESUS on one side of the pendulum's swing, to making Him into the equivalent of a Pagan Deity, replacing ALMIGHTY GOD, on the other side of the pendulum's swing. The one thing that Lucifer never wants is for a person to be balanced in the middle, where both GOD and JESUS intended for them to be. Lucifer (Satan, the Devil) does not want people to be worshipping THE ALMIGHTY GOD OF **HEAVEN**. Here on earth, Lucifer wants to be the one worshipped by everyone; at least that is his first choice. He sought this worship first from mankind and then from JESUS (Yeshua).

# **Luke 4:5-8** (NIV)

- (5) The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.
- (6) And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to."
- (7) So if you worship me, it will all be yours."
- (8) Jesus answered, "It is written:
- 'Worship the Lord Your God and serve **Him ONLY!**"

# **Matthew 4:8-10** (NASB)

- (8) Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory;
- (9) and he said to Him, "all these things will I give You, if you fall down and worship me."
- (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! For it is written,
- "YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY!"

Is it possible, that if Lucifer can't get the Grand Prize, directly for himself, that he might then want to collect a **Consolation Prize.** So, if those people who will not turn away from God and turn to him (Lucifer) then what can he do? What he can do, is to do his best to get as many of them as possible to turn away from **Almighty God** and turn to **a different Jesus** of his (Lucifer's) making. In order to get people to worship **a different perverted Jesus**, instead of **Almighty God**. The next question is: If Lucifer was going to Masquerade as someone else, in order to be worshipped, whom would he choose?

There are those who have a problem with this. They seem to only be able to preach and push the Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, whom they worship! They have been duped into putting their Jesus above Almighty God, The Heavenly Father who is the Creator of the Universe? When they feel that they must defend, preach and worship Jesus, even more than Almighty God, who both created and sent the <u>real Jesus</u> (Yeshua)! Have they, or have they not, by doing this accepted "The Lie", by accepting a <u>Counterfeit</u> Jesus?

In order to put things in to a more proper historical perspective as to how this came to be. Perhaps we should back up and take a look at some historical events and circumstances that existed before, during and after Yeshua (Jesus) walked on this earth; backing up to around the time of Solomon; so that we can follow the progression of events, which have led to today's development of the Christian Religion and the Gentile Church.

Before, during and after the time of Solomon, there was an ongoing development of numerous Israelite settlements throughout the Mediterranean, Black Sea and on into the Atlantic (some may, or may not, have even extended to the New World). Solomon also built another fleet of ships in Ezion-Geder at the northern tip of the Red Sea. These additional ships went south and east through the Red Sea into the Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea and on into the Indian Ocean. Along their way, they established additional Israelite settlements. By the time the Assyrians marched south to conquer the Northern Kingdom of Israel, substantial numbers of Israelites (form all Tribes) had taken up residence in these numerous settlements. These settlements flourished both to the east and to the west of the Holy Land. It was to one of these settlements to the west, through the Mediterranean and on into the Atlantic, to which Jonah was fleeing. He was trying to get away from God, by running to an Israelite settlement at a place called Tarshish. Most historians believe that this settlement was on the Atlantic coast of Spain, about half way between Gibraltar and where the southern border of what is today Portugal. By the time Jesus walked the earth, the number of settlements and the number of their Israelite population who were of the Jewish faith had substantially increased in number.

Religious Pilgrims from every large settlement as well as from most, if not all, the smaller settlements would have been traveling to the Holy Land and to Jerusalem. These Religious Pilgrimages were continually going on as a steady ongoing process. Before, during and after the ministry of Jesus, was here on this earth. Many of these Religious Pilgrims were in the Holy Land and Jerusalem during the time of Jesus' ministry, they would have been among the thousands of those who heard and followed Him. Also, after His death, burial and resurrection, they also would have been among those who believed in Him as the Messiah, before returning home to their respective settlements scattered from one end of the known world to the other. In doing so they were the means by which this movement first spread throughout the Roman Empire and beyond (with a substantial number of them being from Spain). All of which occurred many years before Paul's Damascus road conversion! This was before the Hellenistic perversions of Christianity had begun to take hold and spread throughout many of the various

non-observant Hellenized Jewish Communities, in time this perversion then also took hold among the Hellenized Gentiles. Once the jump was made to a number of the Hellenized Gentiles it then quickly spread into the various Hellenized Gentile Communities which made up most of the Roman Empire. Within only a few decades these new Hellenized and mostly Gentile Christians, because of their Hellenistic Tradition, begun to elevate their concept of Jesus into the equivalent of one of their Hellenistic Deities, which they had grown up worshipping. It did not take long for them to begin to try and influence the original movement of Devout and Observant Jewish Messianic Believers (who maintained the religious foundations, that were based firmly on Torah). In an effort to bring in their **HELLENIZED HERETICAL HYPOCRISIES** into the original movement, these Hellenist began to try and **join** with the Observant Jewish Believers in Yeshua (Jesus); that was still a Messianic form of Judaism; the original group within Judaism who had been the initial believers in, and follower of, Yeshua (Jesus). They still possessed both the proper insight and understanding about Jesus as well as the Hebrew Scripture of the Tanach or Old Testament.

# **Daniel 11:33-36** (NASB)

(33) "And those who have insight among the people will give understanding to the many; yet they will fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder, for many days,." (34) "Now when they fall they will be granted a little help, and many will join them in hypocrisy."

Who are these who are joining with them, **but** in **HYPOCRISY?** 

(35) "And some of those who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge, and make them pure, until the end time, because **it is still to come at the appointed time**.

Once again, we ask: "Who are these who are joining with them, **but** in **HYPOCRISY?**" And how are they bringing in this **HERETICAL HYPOCRISY?** The word translated as **HYPOCRISY** is number #2519 in Strong's it means: **flattery** or **slippery**, **something very smooth!** 

In verse 35 of Daniel chapter 11, it says: "...until the end time, because it is still to come at the appointed time." It appears that at the end times that the original insight which has been overwhelmed and suppressed by the *Perversion* of **HERETICAL HYPOCRISY** will once again emerge as a clear and distinct movement <u>without</u> the *Perversions* of Hellenism being mixed in!

As one of its teachings, this New Hellenized Christianity began to very smoothly teach that <u>Jesus came to get rid of the Old Testament Law and its Curse!</u> Even though Jesus said:

"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teach others, shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 5:17-19)

As another of its teachings this New Hellenized Christianity also went on to teach that, <u>Jesus is the Prince of Peace and came to bring peace to all of those who accept him.</u> Even though Jesus also said:

"<u>Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.</u> For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's enemies will be the members of his household." (Matthew 10:34-36)

Even though the teaching and writings of Paul began to be twisted by most of them, in order to try and support their **HERETICAL HYPOCRISIES**, we can see that Paul did not agree!

For if one comes and preaches another Jesus... ...such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness; ...

(2 Corinthians 11:4,13-15)

This transformation of their Jesus into the equivalent of a Pagan Deity was a <u>flattering</u> form of elevation; used to <u>smoothly</u> elevate Jesus above **His FATHER**, **His CREATOR** and **THE GOD**, which Yeshua (Jesus) said that **He Worshipped!** A so very <u>subtle</u> and <u>deceptive</u> form of perversion, <u>something so very smooth</u> that most, did not even perceive it is transpiring, as it became part of the Church's Theology!

The **true** original form of Messianic belief in Yeshua (Jesus) had spread throughout the Roman Empire and beyond, before this Slick Perversion ever sought to join with them. Nevertheless, with the passage of time they (the ones who believed in the true original form of Messianic belief in Jesus) became the minority. As time passed, those who adhered to the Hellenized Hybrid form of Christianity began to feel more and more threatened by the mere existence of this smaller group of Messianic Devotees. By the time of Constantine with the development of the State Church; the Gentile Church began to fear their (the Messianic Believers) very existence. Because if the Messianic Believers still existed that meant that they might be right! And if they were right, that would in turn mean that the Gentile Church had to be wrong! Even more than a thousand years later, the Hellenized State Church still feared the Messianic Believers, very existence. So much so, that after the non-Christian Jews, who did **not** believe in Jesus (Yeshua) as the Messiah had been expelled from Spain. The Messianic Believers in Jesus (Yeshua) who were still in Spain (and retained any portion of the original Hebraic Messianic form of worshipping God) were deemed to be Heretics! All of which was done by the Spanish King and Queen who's Hellenized Hybrid Religion was based out of Rome. After being declared Heretics, the Messianic Believers began to be hunted down and eliminated. So it was as Daniel said it would be; those who had insight once again began to fall. In Spain as elsewhere, throughout the world they would fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder, for many days until the end time, because it (the proper understanding of the Messiah) was still to come, at the appointed time.

Many today believe we are in the end times. One of many possible signs of this maybe the rise of the various Messianic Movements around the world. For nearly two thousand years they have been persecuted not just in Spain but around the World, in varying degrees.

Both the Protestants and the Catholic branches of the Church have to one degree or another, have embraced the Hellenized Hybrid Theology. As was pointed out previously, this Hellenized Hybrid Theology had ever so smoothly, elevated their Hellenized Jesus into the position of being their **Supreme Deity** and **God!** Elevating Jesus, in their Theology, to be even more important than His FATHER the CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE, who also created the one who in time, became Yeshua (Jesus), (Proverbs 8:22-31). What does it take to prevent someone's concept of Jesus, from *ever so smoothly* being perverted so that they unwittingly begin to believe that Jesus succeeded in doing the very thing for which Lucifer was kicked out of heaven for trying to do? As we pointed out earlier, Lucifer's sin was that he tried to put his seat of authority, above that of ALMIGHTY GOD'S! Inadvertently, without realizing it, most Christians have put Jesus' seat of authority, above that of His HEAVENLY FATHER! Because they have loved Jesus, so very much, they have unintentionally transformed their entire concept of Jesus into (which as we said before), is something approaching that of an alternate reality. One in which the focus and subject of their worship is a Hellenized form of a God-man, that has become their Jesus? In doing so they unwittingly transformed Jesus into the equivalent of a Pagan Deity! This Pagan Deity is a Counterfeit, which has the same name and basic life history as does the real JESUS (Yeshua). And in part, because of this, it creates a very subtle and insidious form of Counterfeit. Yes, this is a Counterfeit Jesus!

Perhaps this could be the reason for the statements made by the <u>real</u> JESUS (Yeshua) in the New Testament that seem to perplex so many people.

# **Matthew 7:21-23**

(21) "Not everyone who says to Me, 'LORD,' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven."

Part of doing the will of The Heavenly Father is to obey **His First Commandment!** "You shall have no other gods before Me!"

(22) "Many will say to Me on the day, 'LORD,' did we not prophesy in your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?"
(23) And then I will declare to them,
'I never knew you;
DEPART FROM ME, You Who Practice
LAWLESSNESS'

Is part of this Lawlessness, the worshipping of Jesus as their God? Rather than **The ONE** who **CREATED HIM** and **SENT HIM** as the price to be paid for the Redemption of the **obedient CALLED OUT ONES?** 

#### Luke 13:23-29

(23) And someone said to Him, "LORD, are there just a few who are being saved?" And He said to them,

(24) "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."

(25) "Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'LORD, open up to us!' then He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know where you are from.'"

(26) "Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets',"

(27) and He will say, 'I tell you, <u>I do not</u> know where you are from; **DEPART FROM ME**, **ALL YOU EVILDOERS**.'

Why it is: that they think that they should be recognized and accepted, so that they can enter? Perhaps it is because they have worshipped Jesus as their God? Yet, not only are they not known, neither is the place from where they have come from known to the head of the house. Could their theology be the reason that He says, "I do not know where you are from"?

# Remember:

# **Luke 4:5-8** (NIV)

- (5) The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.
- (6) And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to."
- (7) So if you worship me, it will all be your."
- (8) Jesus answered, "It is written:

'Worship the LORD Your God and serve Him ONLY!"

This account is also recorded in the book of Matthew and says almost the very same thing about this event. That we are to: "Worship the Lord Your God and serve Him ONLY!"

# **Matthew 4:8-10** (NASB)

- (8) Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory;
- (9) and he said to Him, "all these things will I give You, if you fall down and worship me."
- (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! For it is written,

'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve **Him Only!**'"

Jesus said that we are to worship the **LORD GOD OF HEAVEN!** Jesus said that **ALMIGHTY GOD** is His **HEAVENLY FATHER** and is supposed to be your **HEAVENLY FATHER**. Jesus also said that "ONLY" The HEAVENLY FATHER is His GOD and that "ONLY" The **HEAVENLY FATHER**; alone is to be your GOD!

# John 20:17 (NIV)

(17) Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to <u>My Father</u> and <u>your Father</u>, to My God and your God.'"

**Notice**, that Jesus is saying this after His Death, Burial and Resurrection, that your God is to be **THE HEAVENLY FATHER**. Jesus does **NOT** say, that since He has risen for the dead that we are now to worship Him!

#### **Revelation 1:6** (NASB)

(6) and He (Jesus) has made <u>us</u> to be a kingdom (of), <u>Priests to His God and Father</u>; to Him (The Father) be the glory and the dominion forever and ever Amen.

Is the Heavenly Father, the Creator of the Universe, truly your Father and your God?

Or have you tried to transform Jesus into someone,

who has set His Throne above that of His HEAVENLY FATHER'S THRONE?

Have you, in the past, tried to transform Jesus into your Supreme Deity!

If so, are you still????????