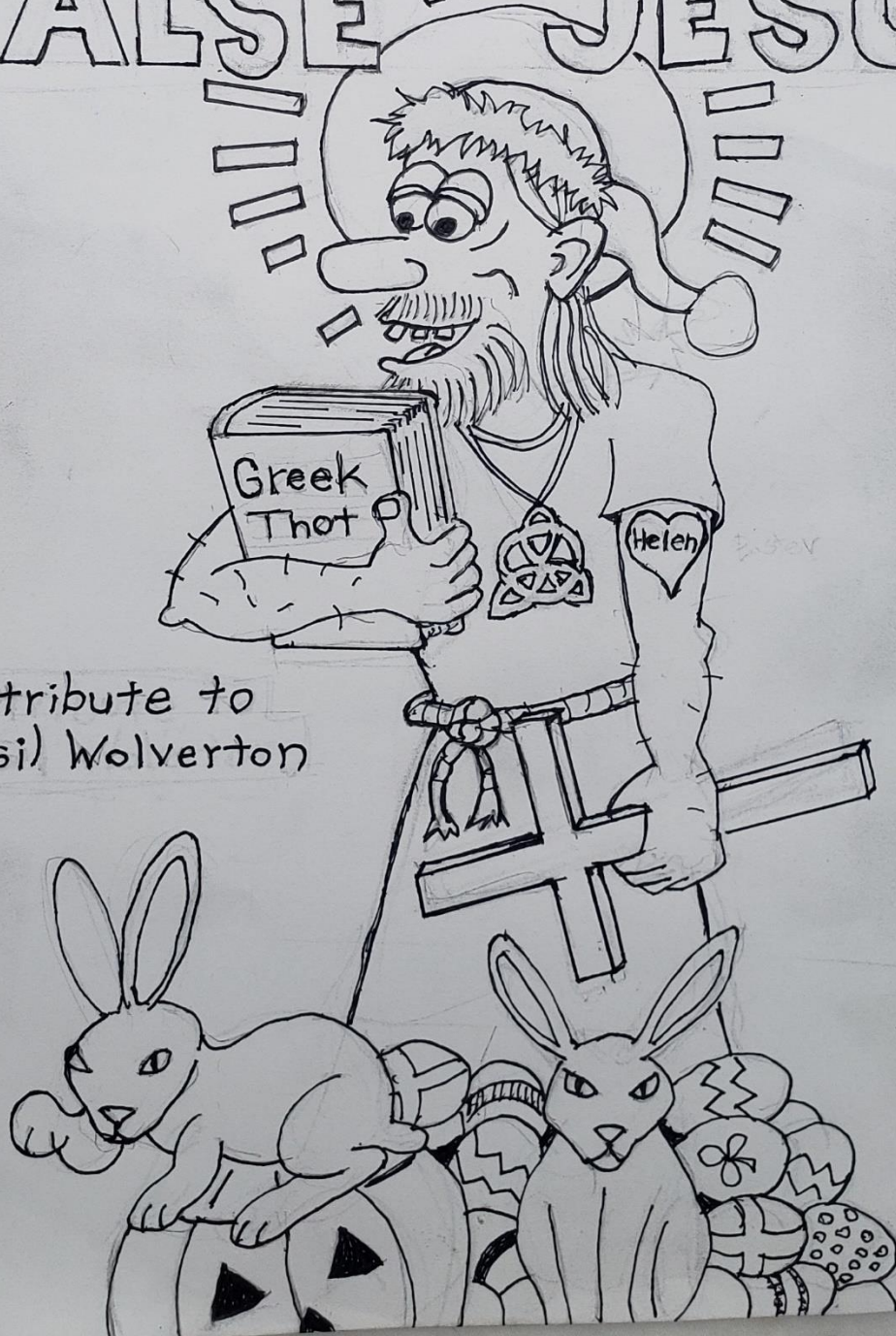


# BEWARE + the FALSE!!! JESUS



In tribute to  
Basil Wolverton

*If you celebrate holidays with pagan origins, you might be following the Fake Jesus. If your worship involves statues, you might be following the Fake Jesus. If you pray to the Mother, you might be following the Fake Jesus. If your religious doctrines come from Greek philosophy, you might be following the Fake Jesus. If you believe the “law is done away”, you might be following the Fake Jesus. And, if you go to Church on Sunday, you might be following the Fake Jesus.*

*Is there only one Jesus in the New Testament who offers Salvation? This is the story of the beginning of *paganized* religious apostacy in Samaria, the origin of the Great False Church, and the Fake Jesus, and how he differs from the actual Jesus.*

Who is the Fake Jesus? And what did he teach? To understand this, we must understand the religious background of the area from which he came.

## **Part 1 – The Origin of Paganized Apostacy in Samaria**

When the kingdom of Israel became divided, the kingdom of Judea maintained its capitol in Jerusalem, while the kingdom of Israel ruled from Samaria. King Jeroboam of Samaria did not want the house of Israel to return to Jerusalem in Judea to worship God. To prevent this, he set up two golden calves for worship.

“And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: if this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of Yehovah at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah. Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And he set the one in Beth-el, and the other put he in Dan. And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan. And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi,” (1 Kin. 12:26-31).

Jeroboam also replaced the feast of the seventh month, which God commanded, with a feast in the eighth month, which God did *not* command.

“And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Beth-el, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Beth-el the priests of the high places which he had made. So he offered upon the altar which he had made in Beth-el the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart; and ordained a feast unto the children of Israel: and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense,” (1 Kin. 12:32-33).

After this, God repeatedly condemns the house of Israel for walking in the ‘sins of Jeroboam’, the use of idols, and false festivals, which was the beginning of paganized Judaism in the land of Samaria, and was the reason they were carried away into captivity. “For He rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son

of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following Yehovah, and made them sin a great sin. For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them; until Yehovah removed Israel out of His sight, as He had said by all His servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day,” (2 Kin. 17:21-23).

After Assyria removed the ten tribes from Samaria in Israel in 720 B.C., they replaced them with Gentiles who attempted to worship Yehovah in a pagan way.

“And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof... So they feared Yehovah, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places. **They feared Yehovah, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations** whom they carried away from thence. Unto this day they do after the former manners: they fear not Yehovah, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which Yehovah commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel” (2 Kin. 17:24, 32-34 *emphasis added*).

So, after this time Gentiles lived in Samaria, worshipping God in a pagan manner, not following God’s laws. These were the Samaritans of the time of Yeshua and his Apostles. This is why Yeshua told the Samaritan woman that the Samaritans did not know what they worshiped. “You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know because salvation is from the Jews,” (Joh. 4:22 [CSV]). It was out of this land of paganized Judaism that the Simon of the New Testament appears.

## **Part 2 –Simon of Samaria and Helena of Tyre**

We first learn of Simon Magus in the book of Acts.

“But there was a certain man, called Simon, which before time in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the holy spirit: (for as yet it was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the

holy spirit. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the holy spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the holy spirit. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. (Act. 8:9-24).

After Simon unsuccessfully tried to buy his way into God's ministry we learn he started his own church.

*Hastings Dictionary of the Bible* states,

“Simon holds the unenviable position of being the one outstanding heretic in the NT: and from then until now his character has been held in particular odium. Ignatius, the earliest of the Fathers, calls him, **‘the first-born of Satan’**: Irenæus marks him out as **the first of all heretics**: ... Justin Martyr mentions three times in his *Apologies*, and once in his *Dialogue*, a Simon as a leader of a heretical sect. He states that Gitta, a village in Samaria, was his birthplace, and speaks of him as visiting Rome, and being so successful in his magical impostures as to have secured worship of himself as a God, and to have been honored with a statue, which bore the inscription SIMONI DEO SANCTO (‘to Simon the Holy God’). He further mentions that ‘almost all the Samaritans, and even a few of the other nations’ worshiped him as ‘first God’ (cf. Ac 8<sup>10</sup> ‘this man is that power of God which is Great’). He also adds that Helena, a fallen woman who accompanied him, was ‘the first true idea generated by him’ (pg. 855 *emphasis added*).

Concerning the statue consecrated to Simon, the *New Bible Dictionary* states, “This statue may have actually been erected to the Sabine deity Semo Sanctus, but the **Simonians, who worshiped at statues**, perhaps saw opportunities in this one” (pg. 1116). This very same statue may be the one sitting in St. Peter's Basilica today, now supposedly representing St. Peter.

“Irenæus (*Adv. Haer.* 1. 16, Harvey), Hippolytus (*Philos.* 6. 7ff.) and Epiphanius (*Panarion.* 21. 2ff.) describe Simonian doctrine... **He seems to have developed his old theme of ‘the Great Power of God’ into a Trinitarian scheme [1]: Simon appeared to the Samaritans as the Father, to the Jews as the Son (he only seemed to suffer) and to the world at large as the Holy Spirit.** He had a Redemption myth in which he rescued Helen (‘the lost sheep’) from the bondage of successive transmigrations in various female bodies; and **he preached salvation by grace, requiring faith in Helen and himself, but allowing unrestrained liberties in morals afterward [3].** But Simon also **borrowed heavily from Gk. paganism and Gk. Philosophy [5],** and some concepts appear which recur in more sophisticated Christian Gnosticism [the

immortal soul]. **Irenaeus and others regard him as the first major heretic**, the initiator of a long chain of interrelated errors” (*ibid.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. pg. 1116, Tyndale House Pub. Inc.; *emphasis added*).

Simon is repeatedly referred to as the “first heretic”, as he was the first of those Jesus referred to as ‘False Christs’ who could perform wonders. “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect,” (Mat. 24:24).

The apostle Paul said the Simonians lawless doctrine was already growing and will continue until the Beast and False Prophet will be destroyed at Jesus’ return. “Or **the mystery of lawlessness is already at work**. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,” (2 The. 2:7-9).

Simon was the origin of traditional “Christianity’s” Trinity.

“And so he brought many men to be astonished at him; living as he did under Claudius Caesar, by whom also he is said to have been honored with a statue for his magical skill. He then by many **was glorified as God and taught that it was he and no other, who appeared among the Jews as the Son, but in Samaria descended as the Father, and among the other nations used to come as the Holy Ghost [1]**. And that he is himself the most high Power, i.e., the Father who is over all; and permits himself to be called whatever men call him. (*ibid.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. pg. 1116, Tyndale House Pub. Inc.; *emphasis added*)

Simon’s consort, Helena was the living embodiment of the Great False Church, the Great Whore of the Book of Revelation.

“But Simon the Samaritan, from whom all the heresies had their being, hath this kind of matter to make up his set. One Helena, whom he had himself purchased of Tyre a city of Phoenicia, a common woman, he took about with him, saying that she was the first conception of his vine, **the mother of all, by whom at first, he conceived in his mind the creation of the Angels and Archangels [2]**. For that she being an Understanding leaping forth from him, knowing her father’s will, goes down to the lower parts, and produces Angels and Powers, by whom also he said this world was made. But after she had produced them, she was kept in bondage by them in envy, they not liking to be thought the progeny of any other. For that he was himself entirely unknown to them, but that his Understanding was kept in hold by those who were Powers sent out from her, and Angels: that she endured all insult from them, to prevent her hastening on high again to her father, even to her being shut up in a human body, and age after age transmigrating as it were from vessel to vessel into other bodies of women. And that she was also in that Helen, for which the war of Troy was waged; wherefore also Stesichorus, defaming her in his verses, was deprived of sight: then afterwards on his repenting, and writing those Recantations (as they

are called) in which he sang her praises, he regained his sight. Moreover, that she passing from one body to another, and continually suffering insult thereby, **at last became even a harlot in a brothel**: and that she is meant by the lost sheep” (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, bk. 1, chap. 23, sec. 2).

Eusebius states,

“This is attested by Justin, ‘And after the ascension of our Lord into heaven, certain men were suborned by demons as their agents, who said that they were gods... Simon, a certain Samaritan of the village called Githon, was one of the number, who, in the reign of Claudius Caesar, performed many magic rites by the operation of demons, was considered a god, in your imperial city of Rome, and was honored by you with a statue as a god [4], in the river Tiber, (on an island) between the two bridges, having the superscription in Latin, Simoni Deo Sancto, which is, to Simon the Holy God; and nearly all the Samaritans, a few also of other nations, worshiped him, confessing him the Supreme God. A certain Helen also, is of this class, who had before been a public prostitute in Tyre of Phoenicia, and at that time attached herself to Simon, and was called the first idea that proceeded by him [2].”

“Simon, however, we have understood to have **taken the lead in all heresy, from whom also, down to the present time**, those who followed his heresy, still affected the modest philosophy of the Christians, so celebrated for purity of life among all. From this, however, they appeared again to depart and again to embrace the **superstitions of idols, falling down before the pictures and statues [4]** of this self-same Simon *and* the aforesaid Helen with him, **venturing to offer THEM worship by incense, sacrifices and libations [1]”** (*Eusebius’ Ecclesiastical History* Book 2, Chap. 13, Verses 4-7 *emphasis added*)

In all this we can see the historical record proves that the Simon of the New Testament was the origin of the paganized doctrines (the Trinity [1], Mother worship [2], Salvation by grace without the law [3]), the worship of idols [4], and Greek philosophy entering Traditional Christianity [5]. He was the original source of Traditional Christianity and is the Fake Jesus of the New Testament.

### **Part 3 – Jesus of Nazareth – the Real Jesus**

In contrast to Simon the New Testament teaches about Jesus of Nazareth, who never taught the doctrine of the Trinity, the worship of His mother, or Greek Philosophy, rather He condemned *any* breaking of God’s Law. Notice what He says will occur when He returns, “ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity [lawlessness – *anomian* Strongs #458]” (Mat. 7:21-23). In this passage Jesus teaches that preaching in His name, performing miracles, and doing wonderful works **do not matter** to Him *if* you do not keep His law The *real* Jesus declares that He will reject all those who claim Him as Lord, but do not keep His Law. Simon is the Fake Jesus, and those who profess



Jesus but do not obey God's commandments are fake Christians, even they are doing other good works. Keeping God's commandments is the deal breaker with Jesus.

"When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity [lawlessness]", (Luk. 13:25-27)". Jesus here explains that even if someone has been in His presence (attended Church) if they do not obey God's commandments, He will reject them.

It is the keeping of God's law that defines righteousness. "My tongue shall speak of Thy word: For all Thy commandments *are* righteousness," (Psa. 119:172). Just as it is the breaking of God's law that defines sin. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (1 Joh. 3:4). This is why the New Testament tells us that anyone who claims he or she is a Christian and does not keep God's law, is a liar. "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him!" (Joh. 2:3-4).

### **Part 3 – What is a Real *Biblical* Christian ?**

To be a Christian, you must have the holy spirit. "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of His," (Rom. 8:9).

And in order to receive the holy spirit, you must obey God's commandments. "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the holy spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey Him," (Act. 5:32).

And as Peter explained, repentance and baptism are required before receiving the holy spirit. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the holy spirit," (Act. 2:38).

John the Baptist with the message of repentance. "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," (Mat. 3:1-2).

Jesus came preaching repentance toward God's law. "And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel," (Mar. 1:15).

Paul taught repentance for all people. "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance," (Act. 26:20).

Jesus warns us today to repent. “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent,” (Rev. 3:18).

Even Satan knows the difference between his “Christians” and real Christians. “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, **which keep the commandments of God**, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Rev. 12:17).

This is why The Great Deceiver makes his ministers appear as ‘righteous’. “For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore *it is* no great thing if **his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works,” (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

God commands us to leave Satan’s System, of which the Devil used Simon and Helen to create. “And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, My people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities,” (Rev. 18:4-5).

Jesus is calling us to come out of this world’s fake ‘Christianity’ to follow Him in obeying God’s commandments. This is the Way, walk in it and be a *real* Christian.