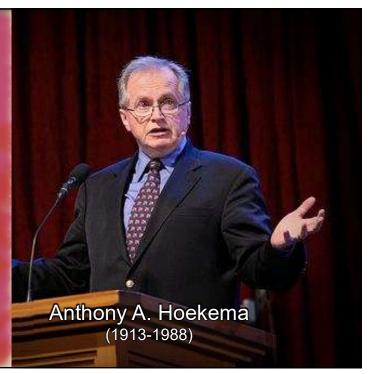


The Distinctive Traits of the Cult

- 1) An Extra-Scriptural Source of Authority
- 2) The Denial of Justification by Grace Alone
- 3) The Devaluation of Christ
- 4) The Group as the Exclusive Community of the Saved
- 5) The Group's Central Role in Eschatology



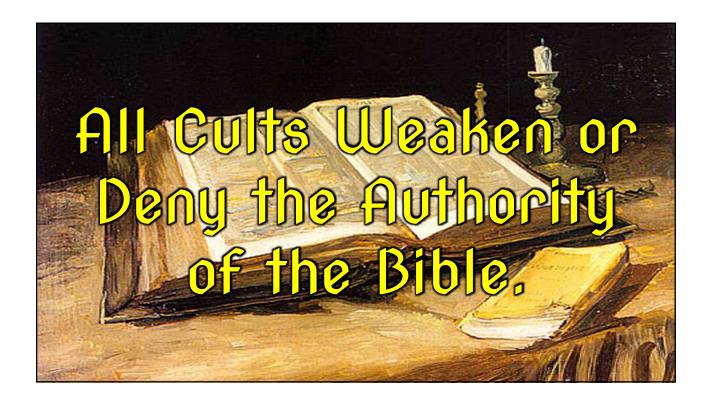
The Distinctive Traits of the Cult

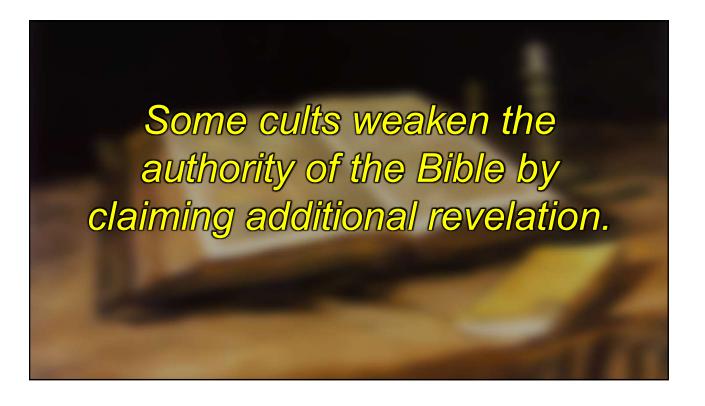
- An Extra-Scriptural Source of Authority
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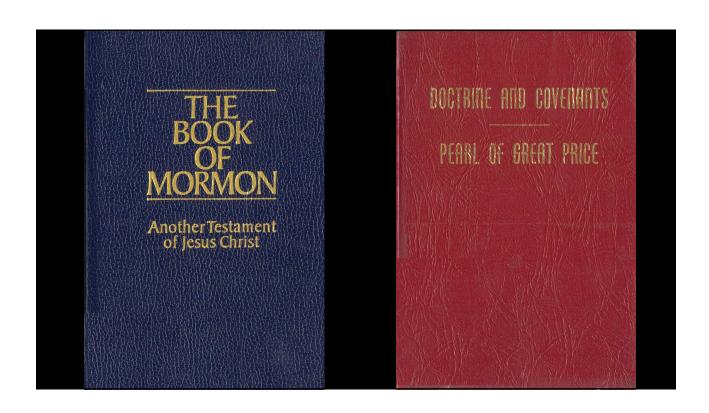
The Marks of a Cult

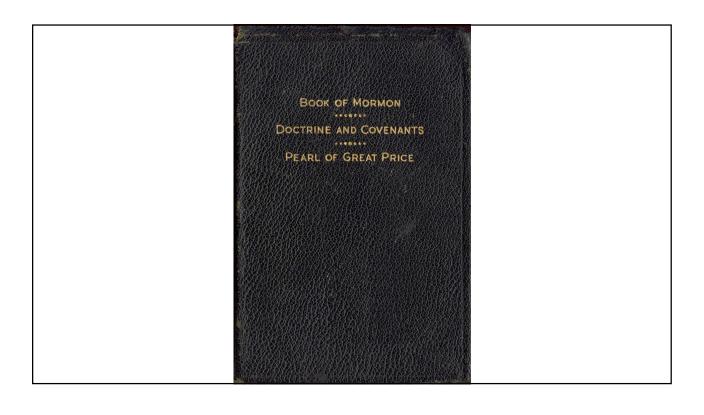
- 1) All Cults Weaken or Deny the Authority of the Bible.
 - All Cults Deny Salvation By Grace Through Faith Apart from Works.
 - 3) All Cults Deny the Trinity.
 - All Cults Deny the Work of Jesus Christ.





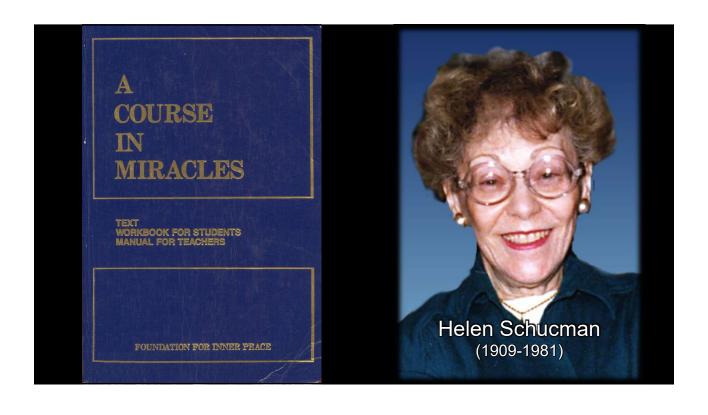


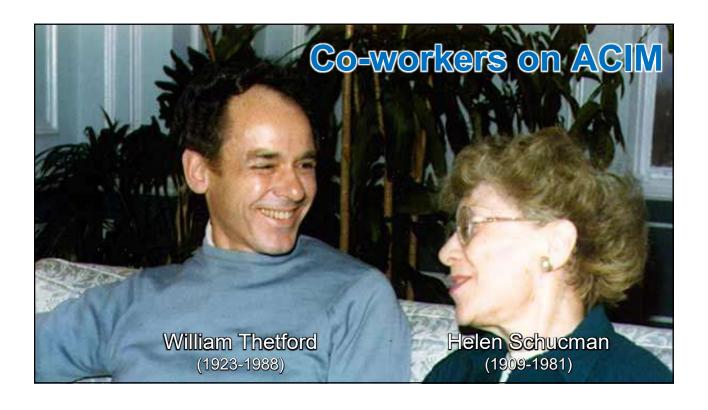




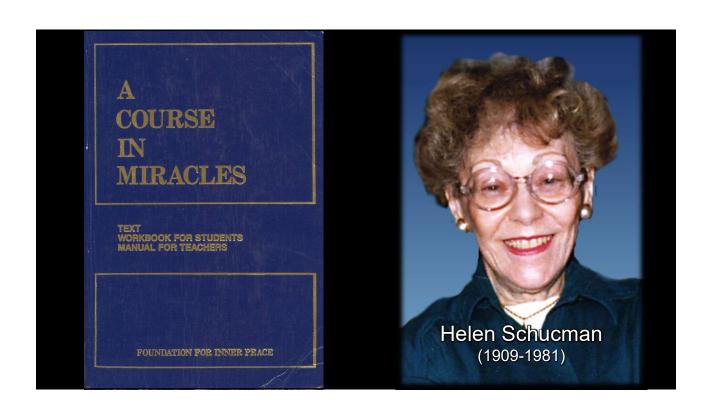
"The Bible is the Word of God, written by men. It is a basic Mormon teaching. But the Latter-day Saints recognize that errors have crept into this sacred work because of the manner in which the book has come to us. Moreover, they regard it as not being complete as a guide. Scores of different types of interpretations on basic doctrines, which have led to the creation of hundreds of different sects, bear witness to the inadequacy of the Bible. ... Supplementing the Bible, the Latter-day Saints have three other books. These with the Bible constitute the standard works of the Church. They are known as the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price."

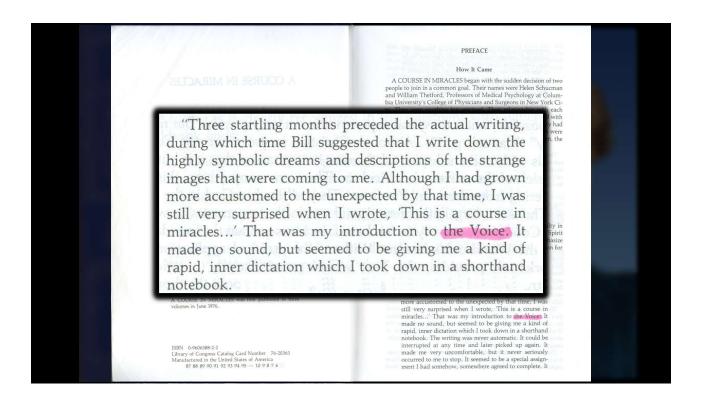
Gordon B. Hinckely, What of the Mormons? (n.c.: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1976), 10, 12.]

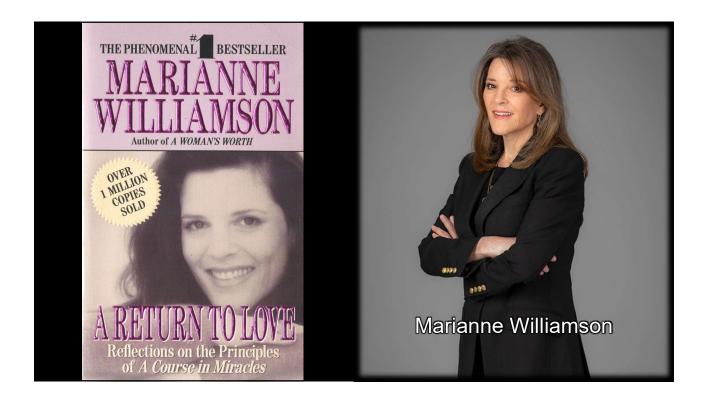


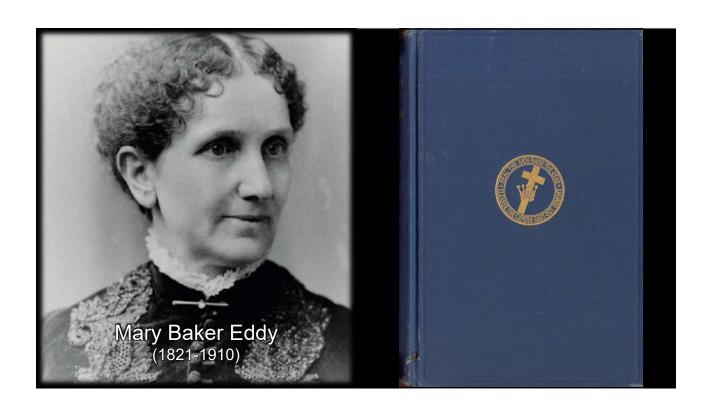


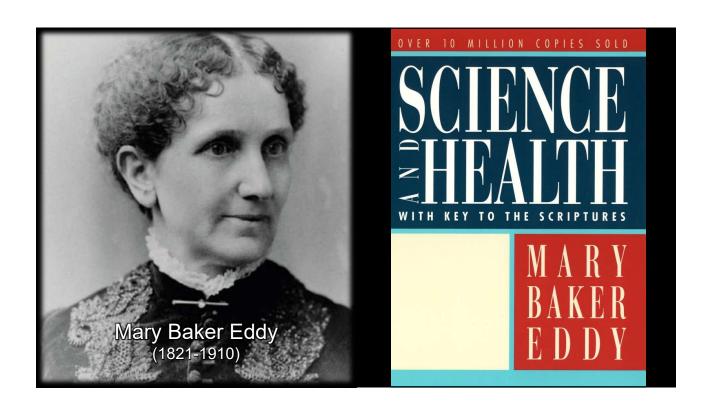


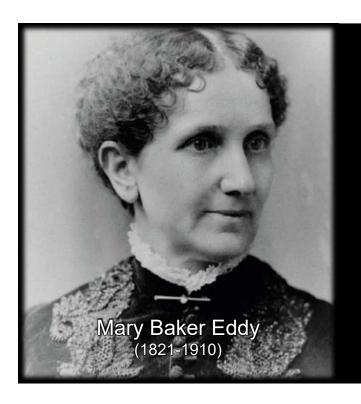




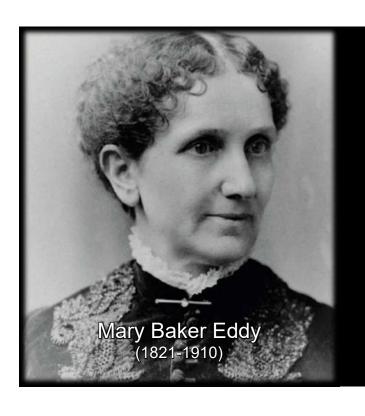






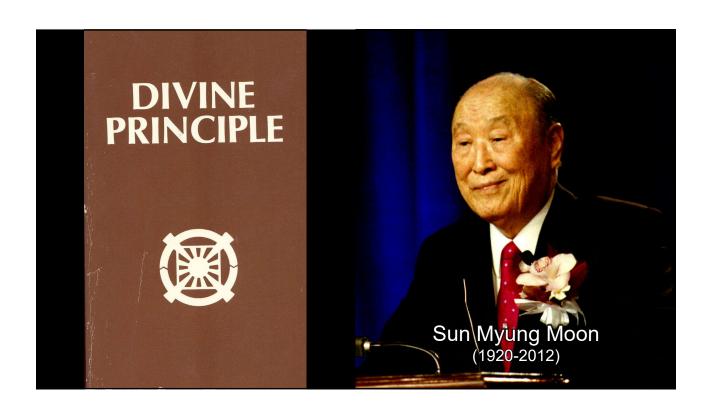


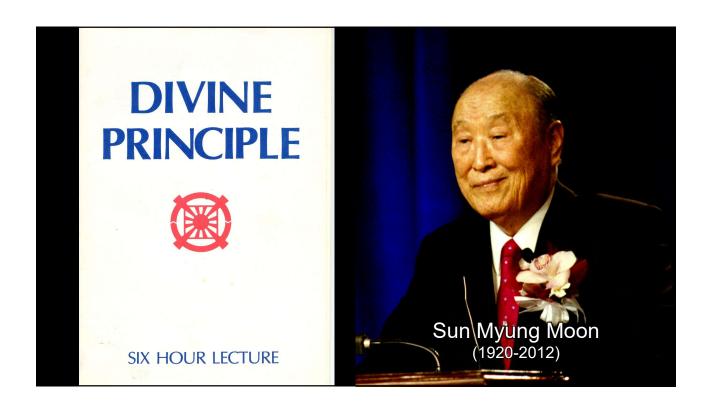
"When God called the author to proclaim His Gospel to this age, there came also the charge to plant and water His vineyard. The first school of Christian Science Mind-healing was started by the author with only one student in Lynn, Massachusetts, about the year 1867. ...



"In the spirit of Christ's charity, — as one who "hopeth all things," and is joyful to bear consolation to the sorrowing and healing to the sick, — she commits these pages to the honest seekers for Truth."

[Mary Baker Eddy, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures (Boston: Trustees under the Will of Mary Baker G. Eddy, 1906), xi, xii.]





"We know that God worked through Noah and Abraham, and we know well that revealed words through Moses and Jesus. Can not the same living god, who is alive today, give a new revelation in the present day?

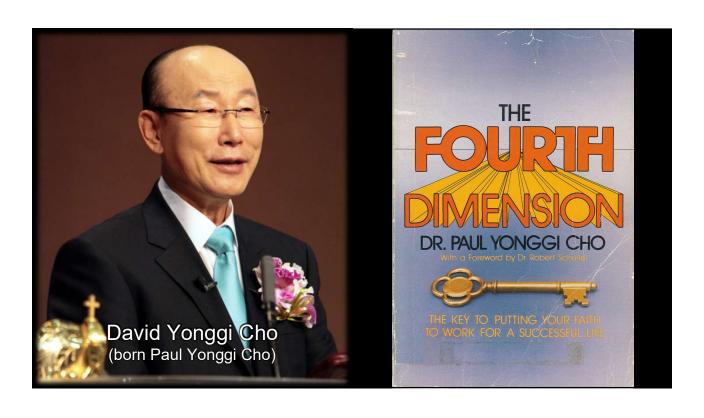


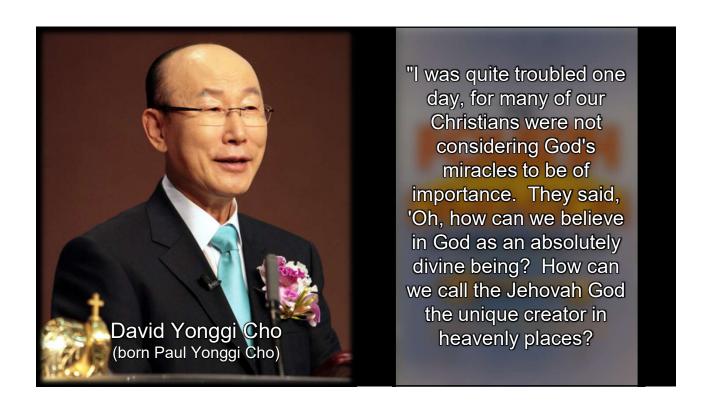
"The Divine Principle contains the words of a new revelation given through the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, that clarify God's will and providence of salvation to the highest degree.

Reverend Moon did not gain his revelation in school while studying philosophy and theology. God directly revealed His will to him."

[Sun Myung Moon, Divine Principle Six Hour Lecture (n. c.: The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christienity, 1977), 2.]









"We see miracles in Buddhism, miracles in yoga, and miracles in Sokagakkai. We see many miracles in the Oriental religions. Why should we claim Jehovah God as the only creator of the universe?'

By the very nature of the case, miracles, by definition, are impossible in these religions.

A miracle is an act of the transcendent God whereby He interrupts the normal course of nature for the purpose of vindicating the messenger.

None of these religions has any notion of a transcendent God.

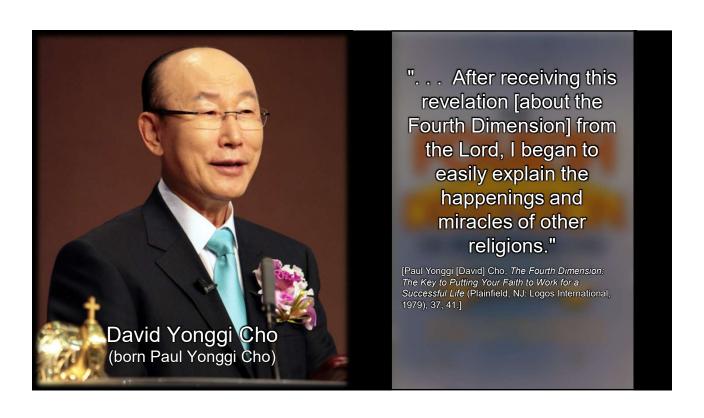
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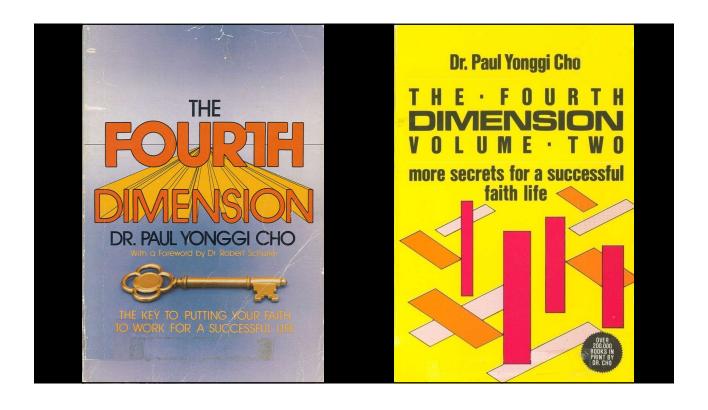


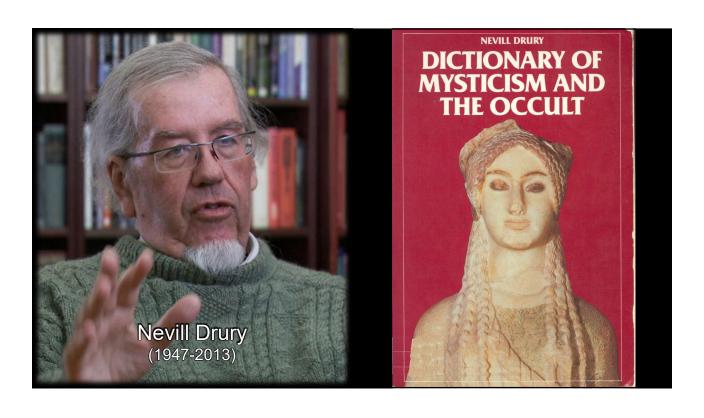
"But I knew that our God was the unique God, the only God, and the creator of the universe.
So I made their questions a matter of prayer before God. I fasted and prayed, seeking the faith of the Lord, and His answers.

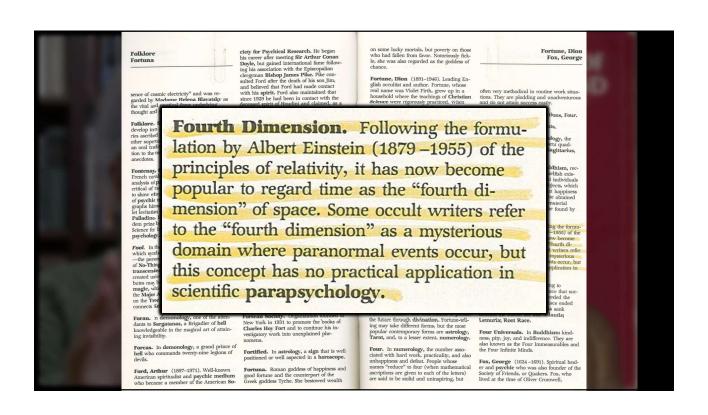


"Then a glorious revelation came to my heart, and I received a clear explanation. And from that time on I began to explain these things through my lectures in my church in Korea."

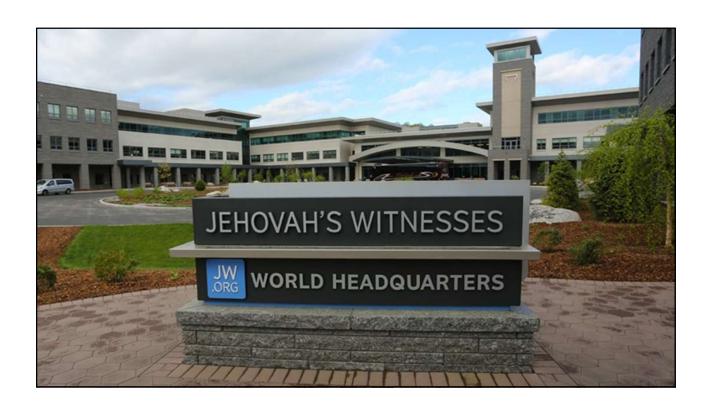


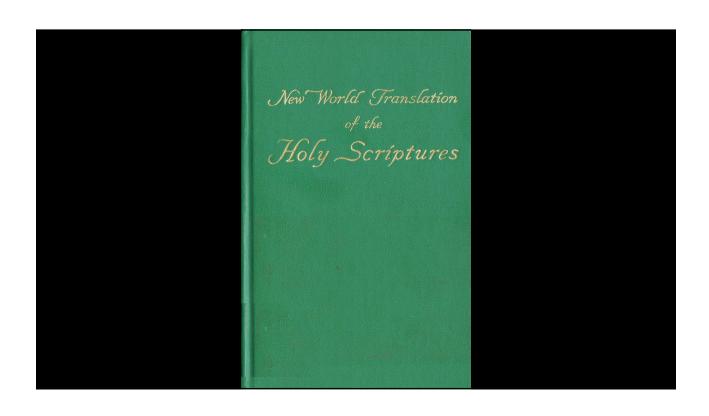


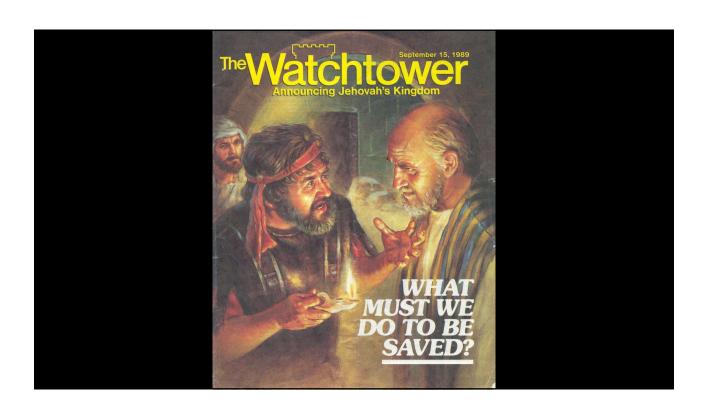


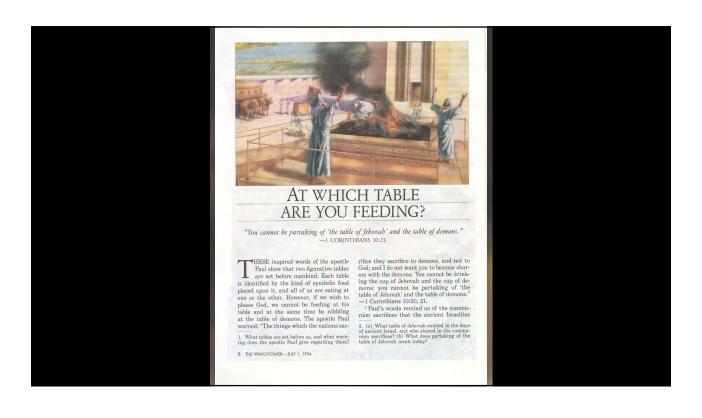








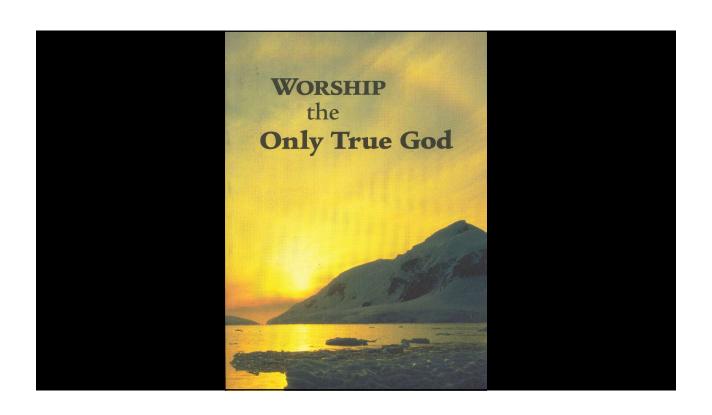


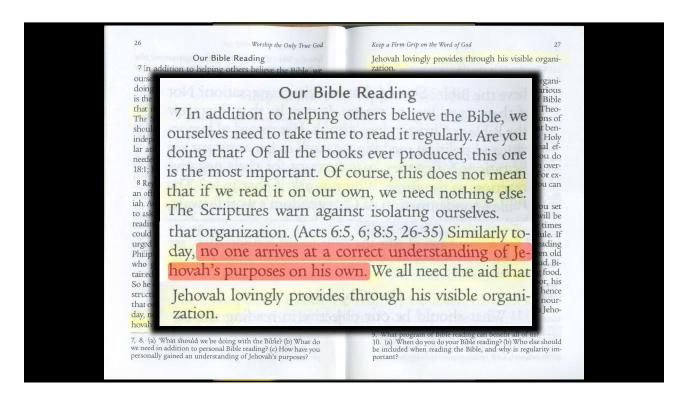


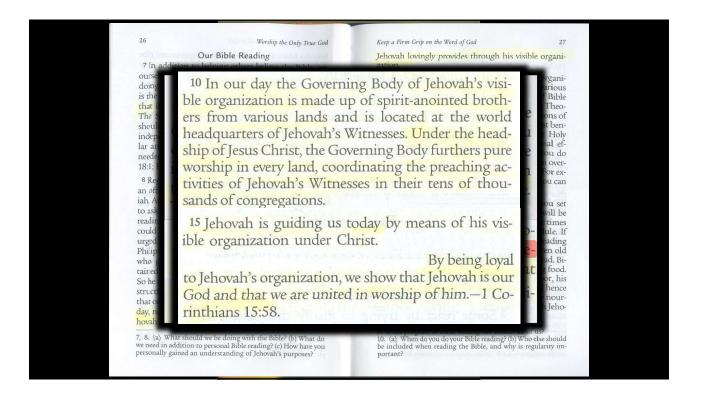
"The Lord Jesus Christ foretold that during his presence a 'faithful and discreet slave' would provide spiritual food for his disciples ... This slave has proved to be, not any single individual, but the class of dedicated, anointed Christians. . . . This faithful slave class has been using the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society to provide spiritual nourishment for all Jehovah's Witnesses. ...

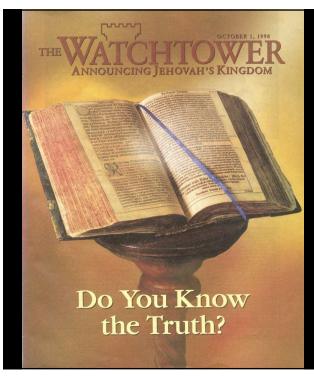
"Yes, apostates publish literature that resorts to distortions, half-truths, and out-right falsehood.
... Hence, it would be a dangerous thing to allow our curiosity to move us to feed on such writings or to listen to their abusive speech! ... In many cases, [the apostates] have reentered the darkness of Christendom and its doctrines Let us never give ear to what the apostates are saying or doing.

[n.a., "At Which Table Are You Feeding?" The Watch Tower: Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom 115, no. 13 (July 1, 1994), 11, 12, 13.]



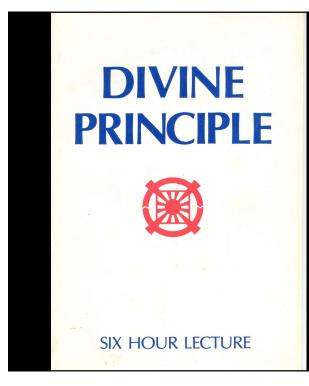






"Many hesitate to listen to Jehovah's Witnesses because of the negative information that circulates against them. But honest-hearted people are invited to decide for themselves whether what the Witnesses preach is the truth or not. Such a vital decision should not be based on hearsay. Many who have conducted their own personal investigation of the teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses have benefited greatly."

["Worshiping God with Truth" The Watchtower: Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom Vol. 119, No. 19 (Oct. 1, 1998), 4]



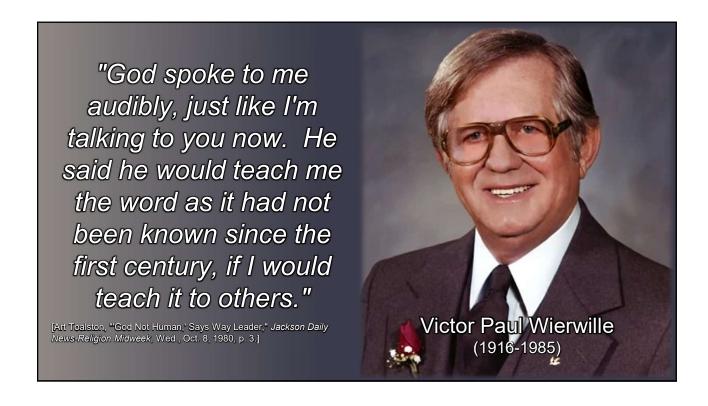


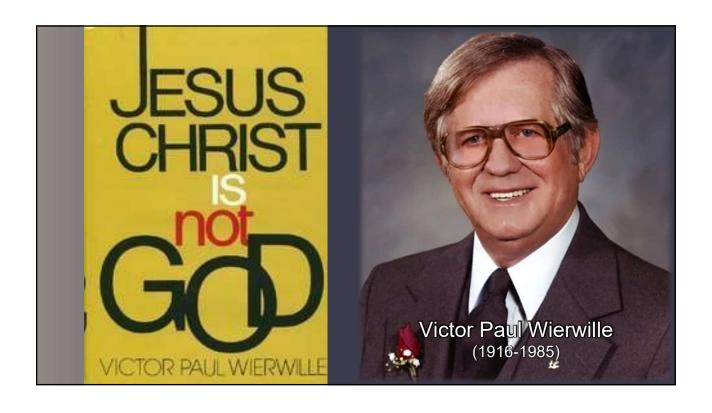
"Today, what the Church needs is not another human interpretation of the Bible. What matters now is how God interprets it for us, and when we live for God according to His will, we will be fulfilling His will. Let us consider this with an open mind and heart."

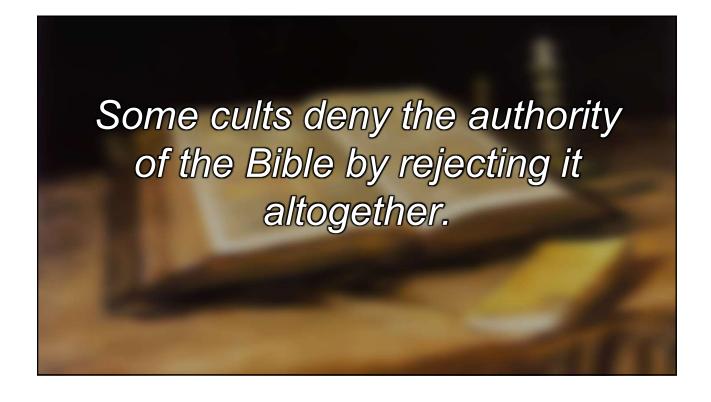
[Sun Myung Moon, Diffine Principle Six Hour Lecture]

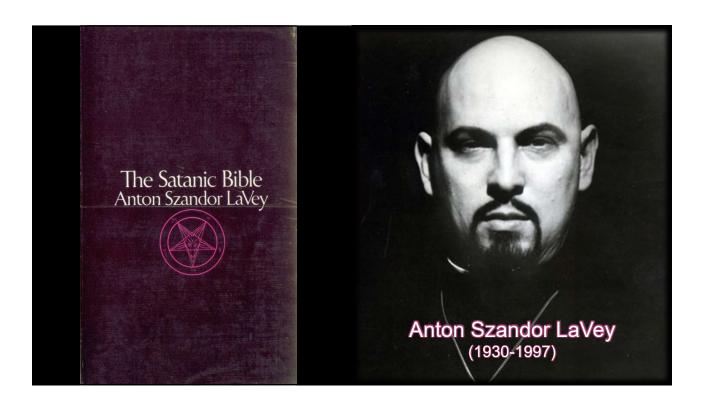
(n.c.: The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity, 1977), 2.]

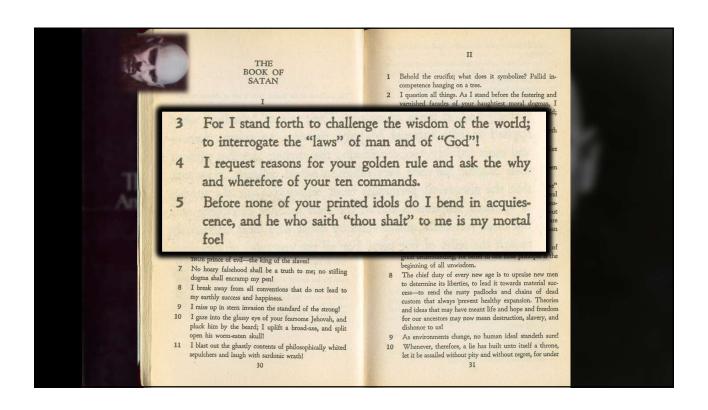


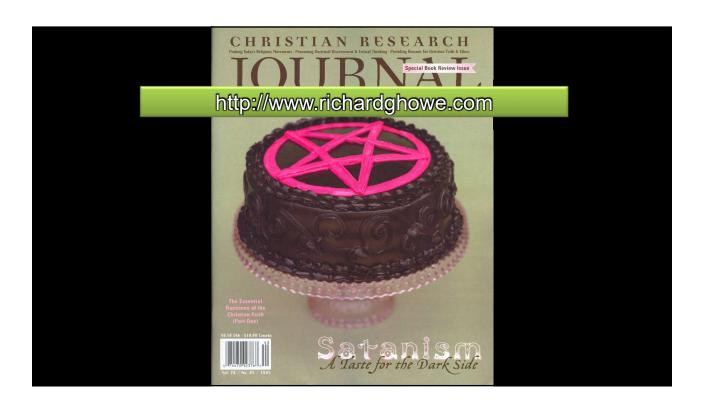


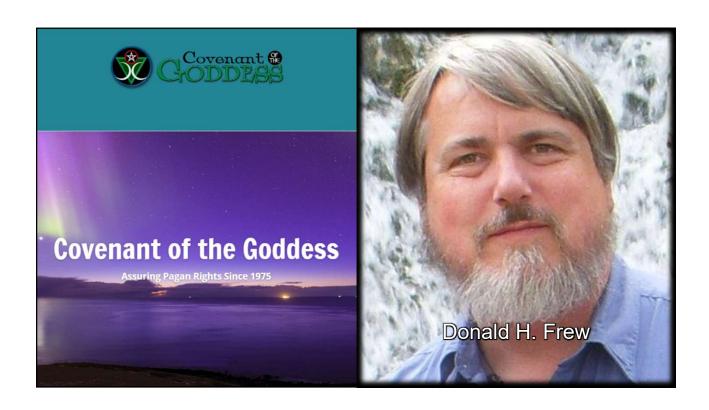








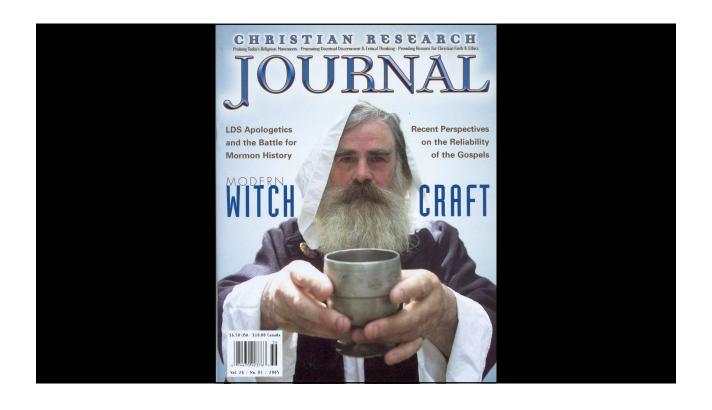


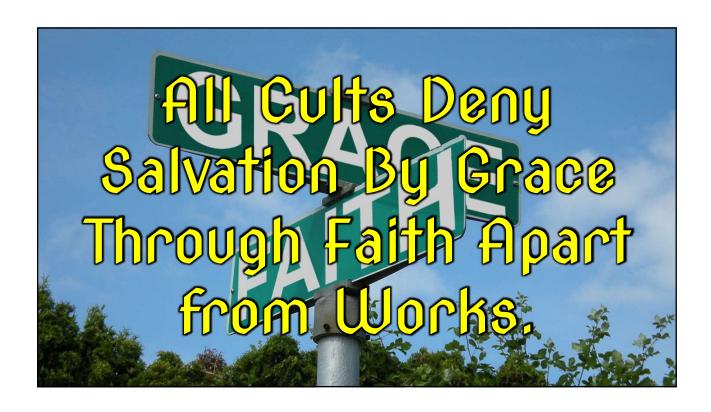


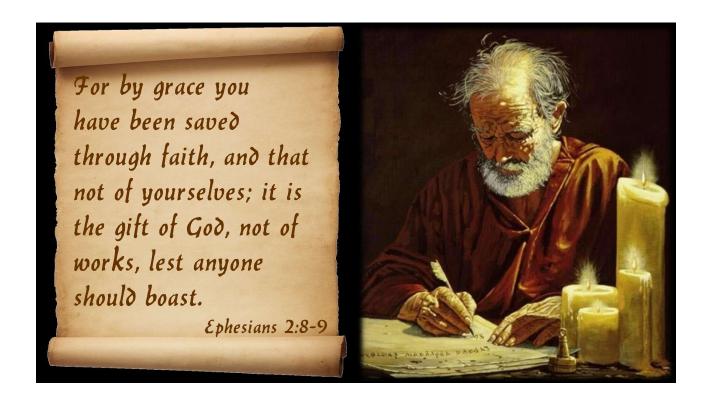
"To grant a traditional text such authority would be to say that this is it, the truth for all time. But we are a nature religion, and a fundamental truth of nature is that everything changes."

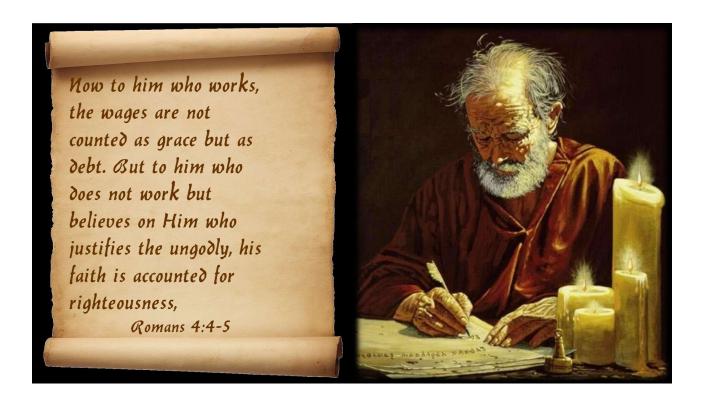
[Donald H. Frew. "Pagans in Interfaith Dialogue. New Faiths. New Challenges." https://www.patheos.com/resources/additional-resources/2009/11/pagans-in-interfaith-dialogue?p=2 accessed 06/04/23, accessed 06/04/23]

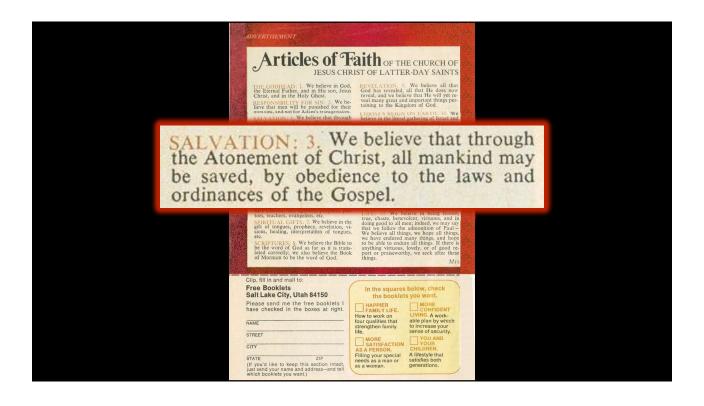
Donald Frew

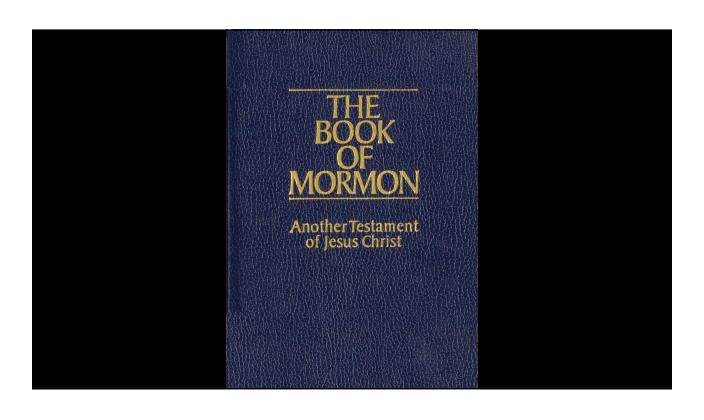


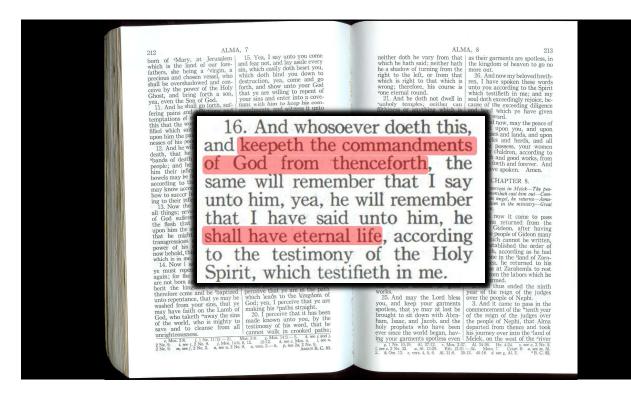


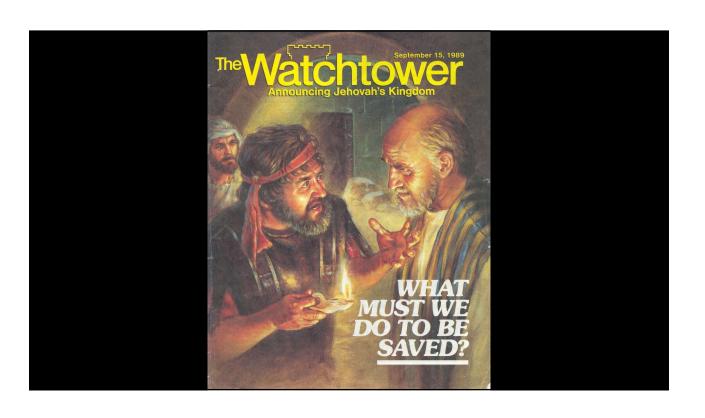












The Philippian jailer did not 'shut off his mind' when the apostle Paul answered his question, 'What must I do to get savete!' And Paul and Silas did not mount an 'assault on his emotions' and plead for a large financial contribution. Rather, 'they spoke the word of Jehovah to him.' Reasoning with the man, they helped him to come to a clear understanding of God's

anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved." (Acts 315; 4:12) Faul and Silas directed the Philippian jailer to this same Agent for salwation when they said." Pelieve on the 16:31.

16:31.

What here is not another here is a saved. "—Acts What here is not another here."

Some suggest that belief in Jesus is the end of the matter.

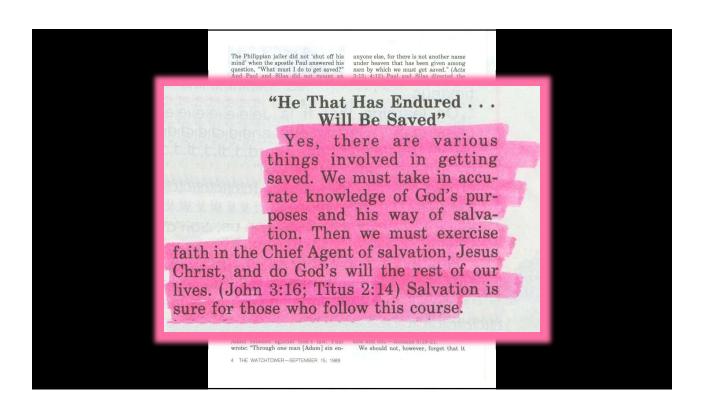
However, to concentrate on only one essential requirement for salvation to the exclusion of the others is like reading one crucial clause in a contract and ignoring the rest.

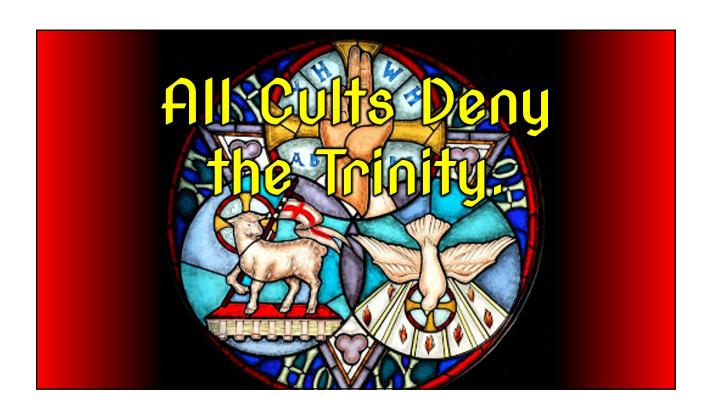
Yes, believing in Jesus is crucial to our salvation, but more is needed.

be saved

HY do we need to be saved?
Because all of us suffer the disactors consequences of sin: imperfection, pain, sickness, grief, and finally death. The apostle Paul explained that this is so because our forefather Adam rebelled against Gof's law, Paul wrote: "Through one man [Adam] sin en-

for life is not a right but a gift from God.
By sinning deliberately, Adam forfeited
all claim to that gift. (Romans 6:23)
Adam's condemnation to death was necessary because nothing imperfect can be
permitted to survive and pollute the universe indefinitely. Thus, when Adam
sinned, he began to die and no longer
possessed perfect, sinless life to hand on
to his children as an inheritance. He could
only give them life tainted with imperfection and sin.—Romans 8:18-21.
We should not, however, forget that it



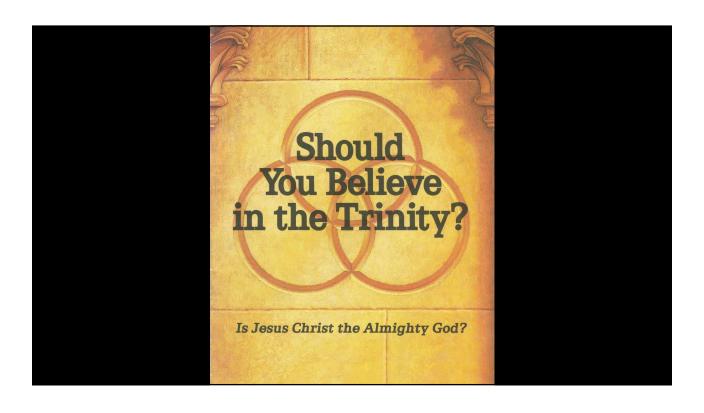


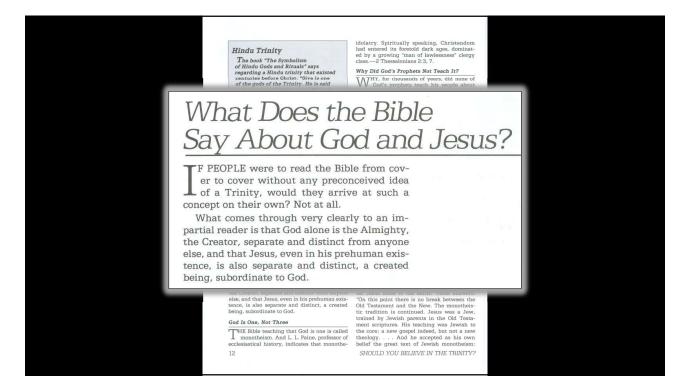
Two Types of Denial

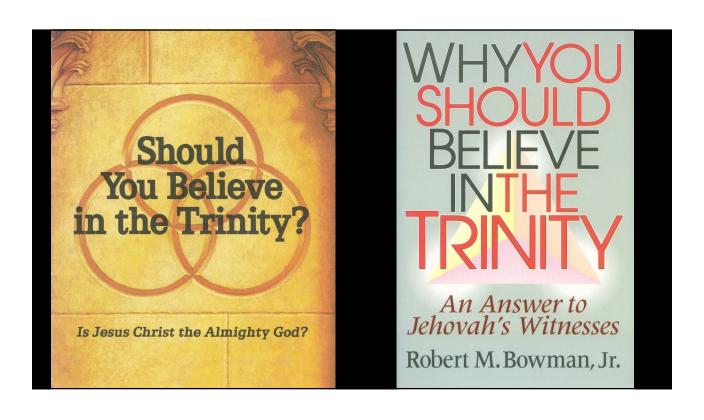
Affirm a view to which they give the name 'Trinity' though the view is not the true doctrine of the Trinity

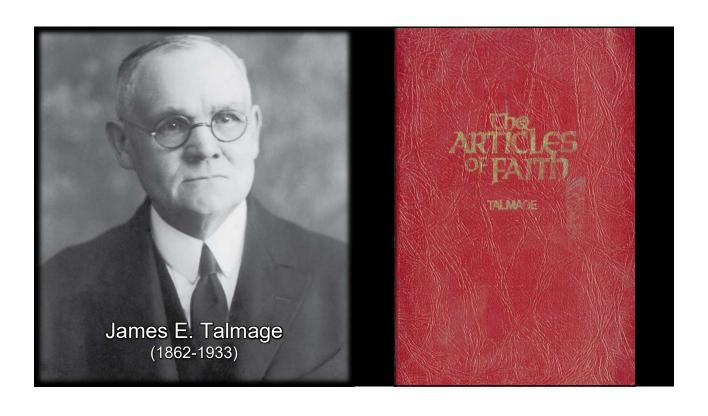
Deny any belief in the Trinity while holding a distorted view of what the true doctrine of the Trinity even is

Some Comments from the Cults on the Trinity.

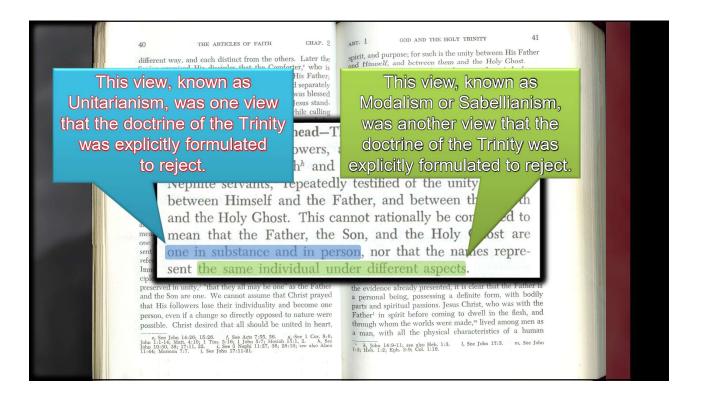


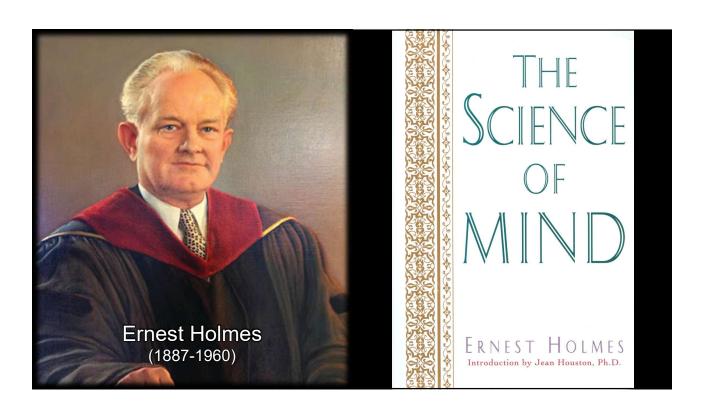


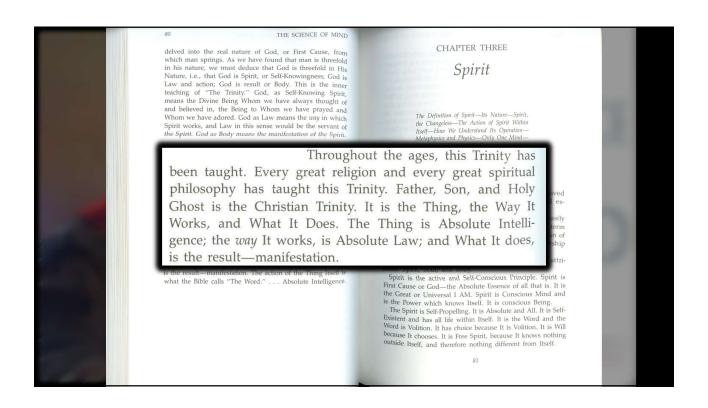


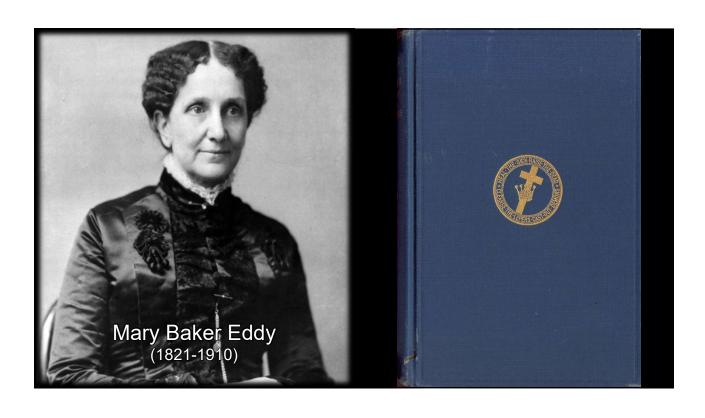


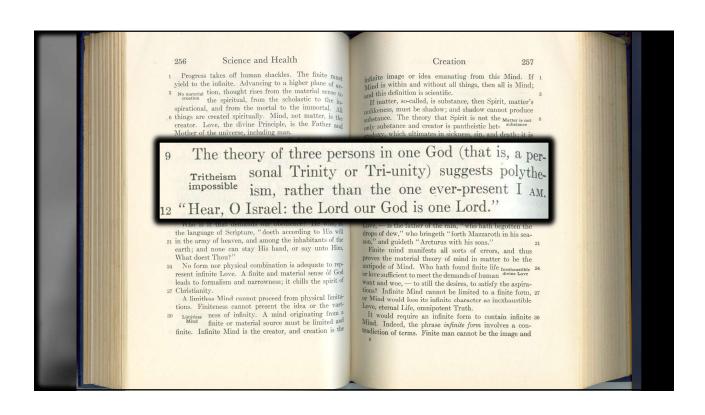
THE ARTICLES OF FAITH spirit, and purpose; for such is the unity between His Father and Himself, and between them and the Holy Ghost. different way, and each distinct from the others. Later the Savior promised His disciples that the Comforter, who is This unity is a type of completeness; the mind of any the Holy Ghost, should be sent unto them by His Father; one member of the Trinity is the mind of the others; seeing as each of them does with the eye of perfection, they see here again are the three members of the Godhead separately defined. Stephen, at the time of his martyrdom, was blessed and understand alike. Under any given conditions each with the power of heavenly vision, and he saw Jesus standuld act in the same way, guided by the same principles ing on the right hand of God. Joseph Smith, while callin Unity of the Godhead-The Godhead is a type of unity in the attributes, powers, and purposes of its members. Jesus, while on earth^h and in manifesting Himself to His Nephite servants, repeatedly testified of the unity existing between Himself and the Father, and between them both and the Holy Ghost. This cannot rationally be construed to mean that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one in substance and in person, nor that the names represent the same individual under different aspects e that Christ prayed a personal being, possessing a definite form, with bodily rts and spiritual passions. Jesus Christ, who was with the that His followers lose their individuality and become one Father in spirit before coming to dwell in the flesh, and person, even if a change so directly opposed to nature were through whom the worlds were made, m lived among men as possible. Christ desired that all should be united in heart, a man, with all the physical characteristics of a human e, See John 14:26; 15:26. f, See Acts 7:55, 56. g, See 1 Cor. 8:6; John 1:1-14; Matt. 4:10; 1 Tim. 3:16; 1 John 5:7; Mosiah 15:1, 2. h, See John 10:90, 38; 17:11, 22. t, See 3 Nephi 11:27, 36; 28:10; see also Alma 11:44; Mormon 7:7. f, See John 17:11-21. k, John 14:9-11; see also Heb. 1:3. l, See John 17:5. m, See John 1:3; Heb. 1:2; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16.

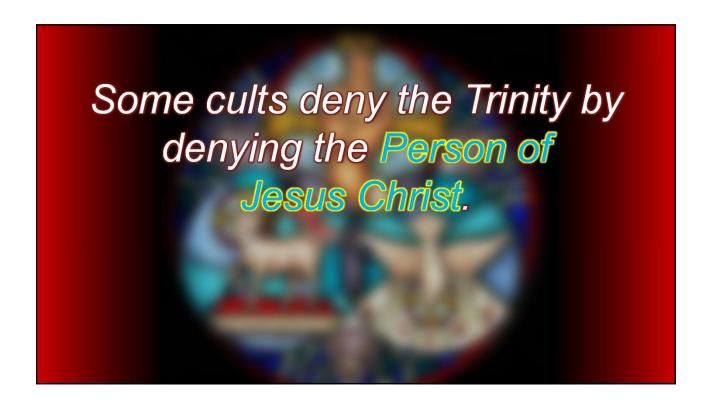


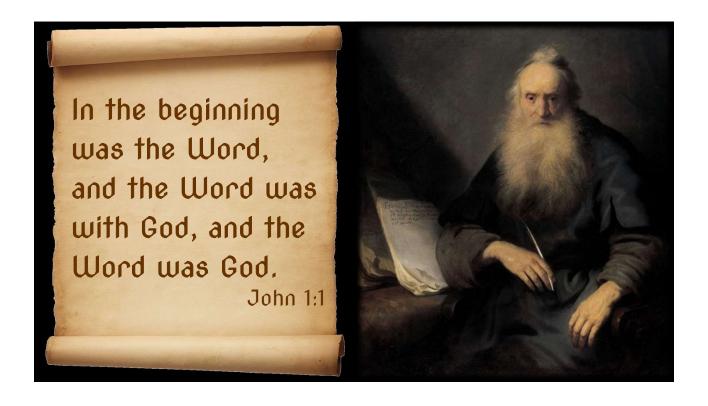




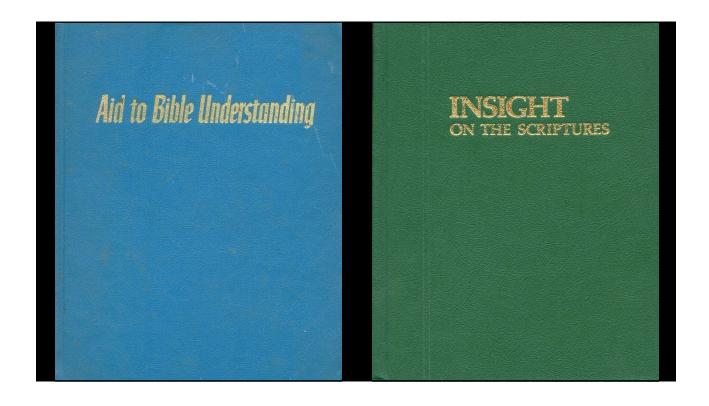








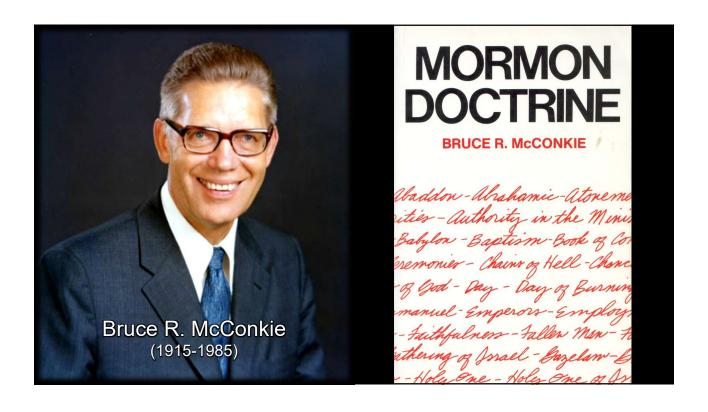
Some cults deny the Trinity by denying the Person of Jesus Christ: by making Him lower than God.

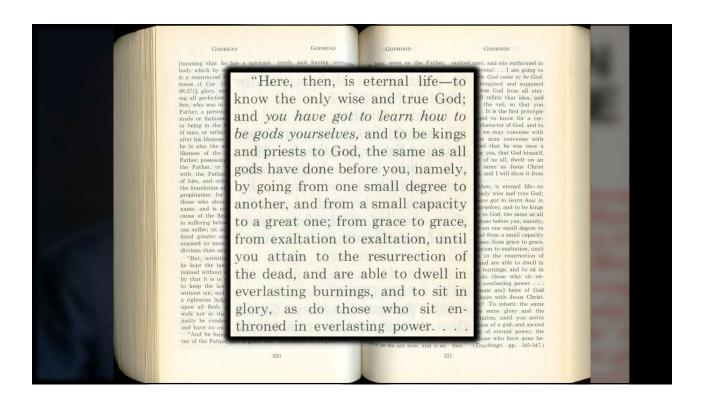


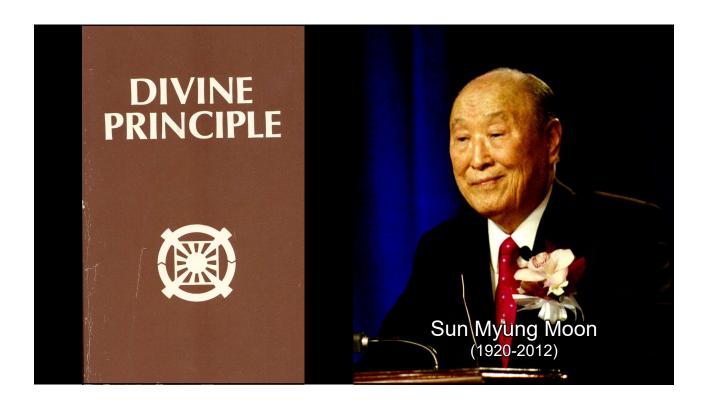
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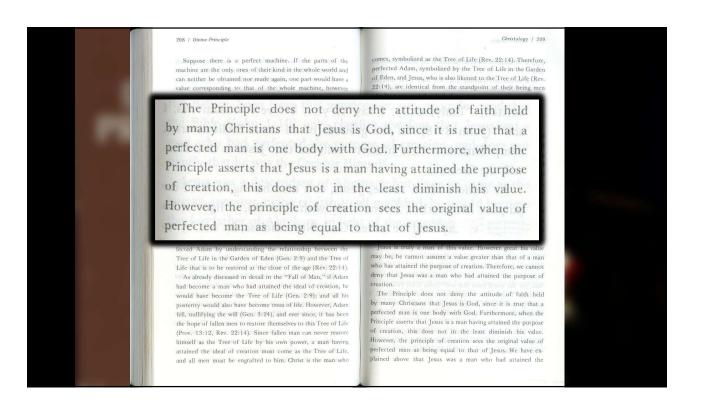


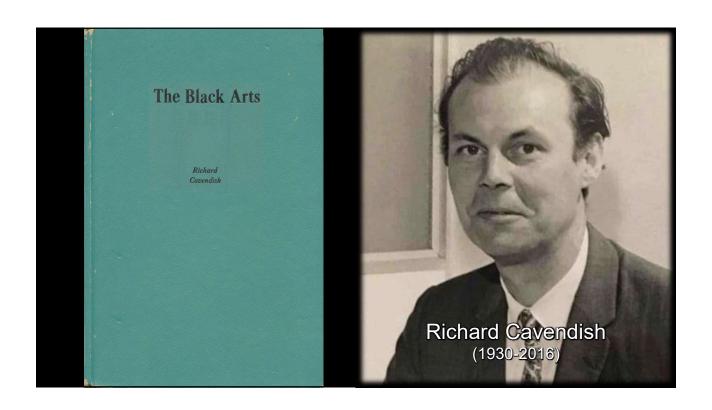
Some cults deny the Trinity by denying the Person of Jesus Christ: by raising us towards His level as deity.

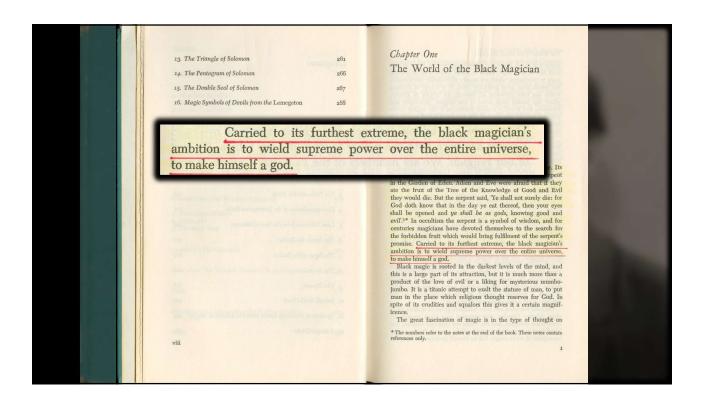


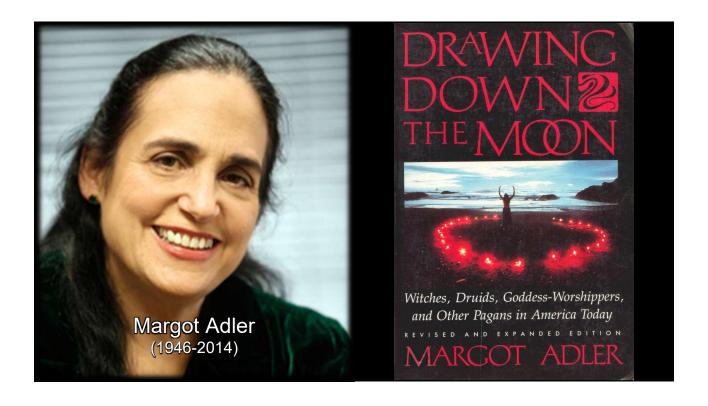


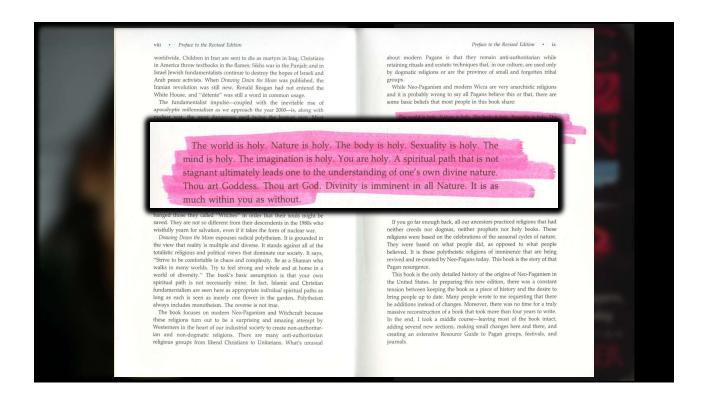




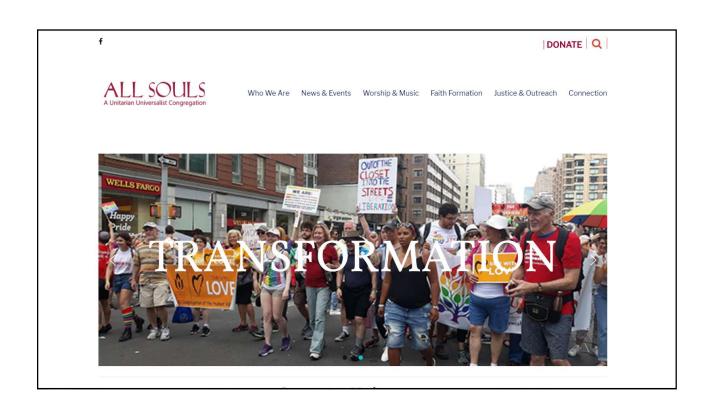


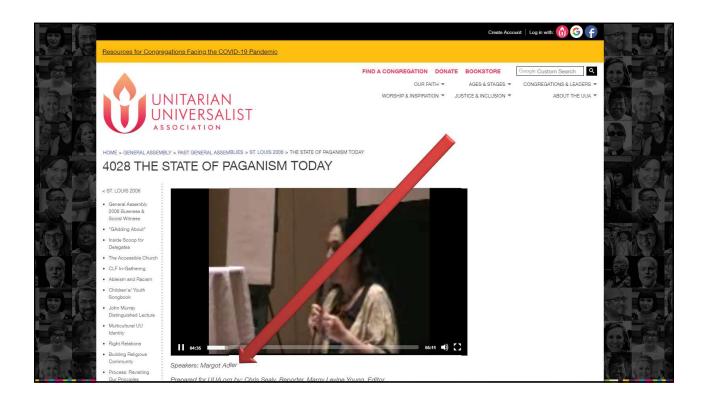


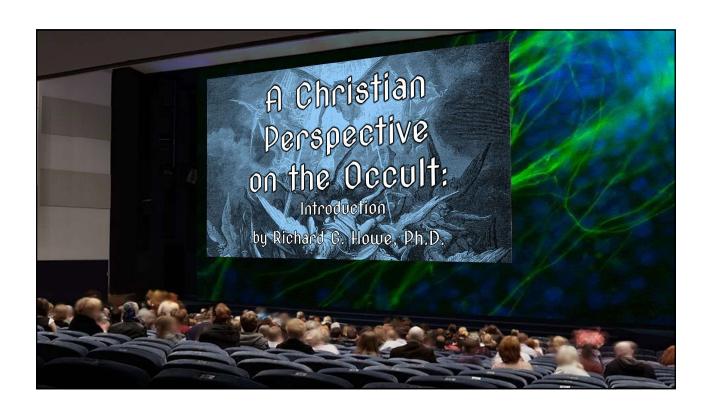


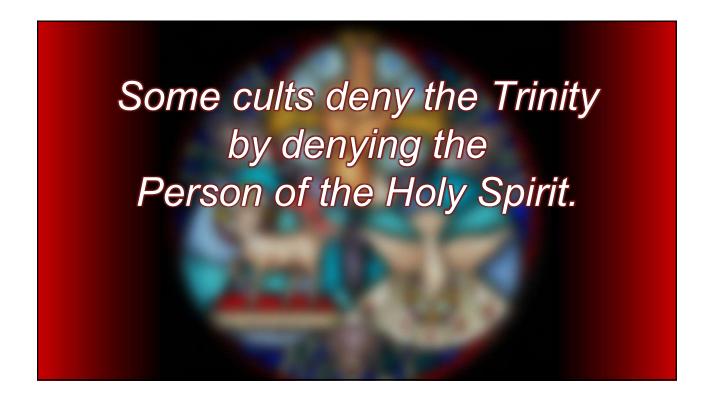


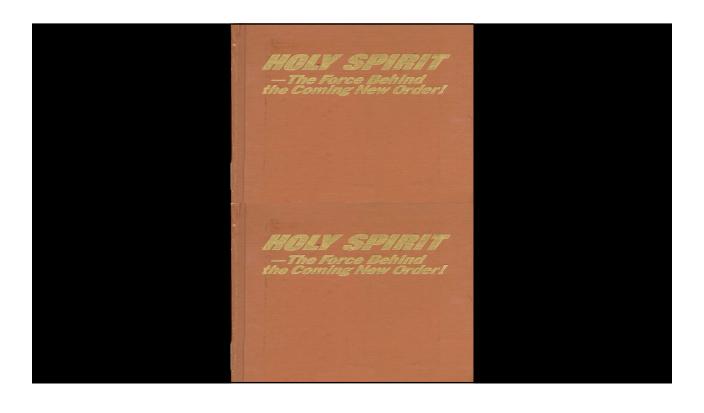






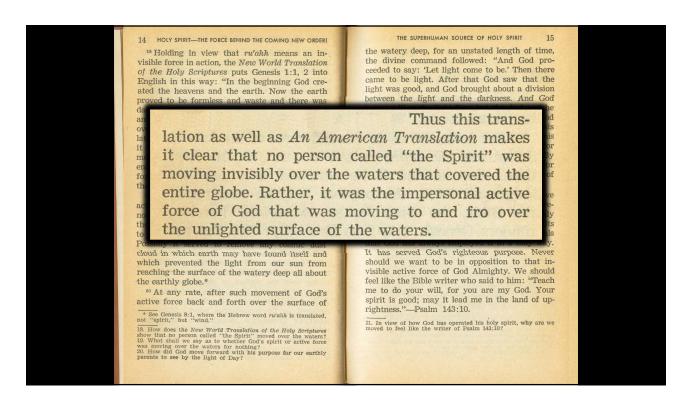


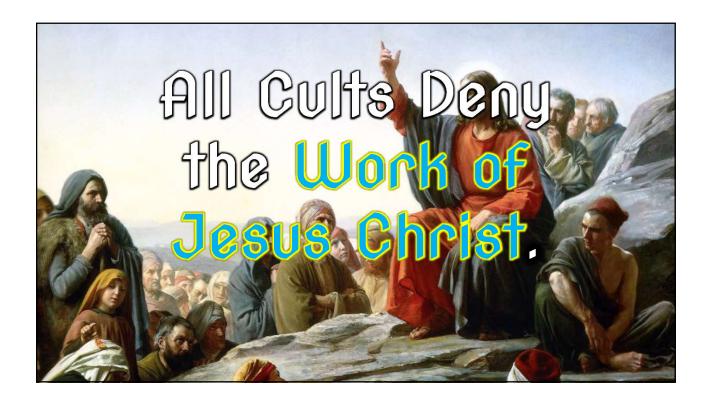


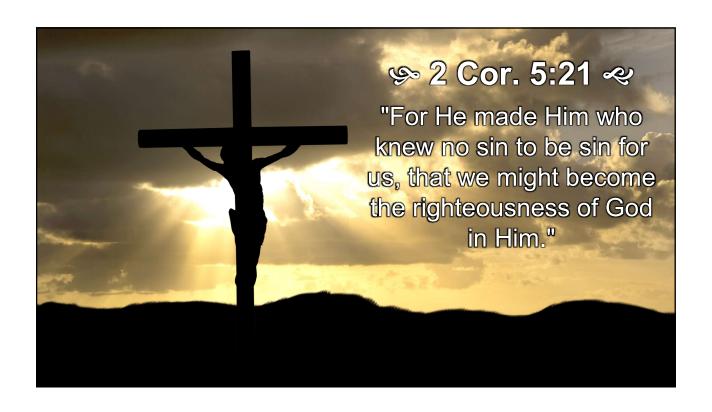


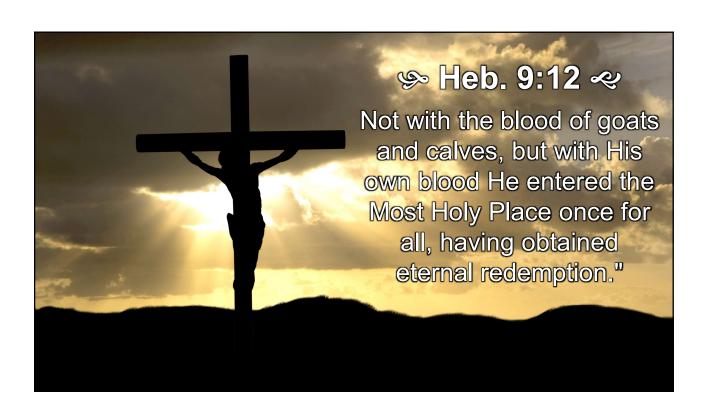
THE SUPERHUMAN SOURCE OF HOLY SPIRIT 10 HOLY SPIRIT—THE FORCE BEHIND THE COMING NEW ORDERI are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, 11 The "abundance of dynamic energy" that because they are perceived by the things made, God has is immeasurable. It is inexhaustible. even his eternal power and Godship, so that they are inexcusable; because, although they knew God, When we think just of the energy tied up in the sun of our solar system, which is a furnace of nuclear explosions like the explosion of hydrogen they did not glorify him as God." (Romans 1:20, 21) In the face of all the evidence, they cannot 14 From God there goes forth an invisible active force by means of which he gets his will done. It is not a mere influence such as a man might exercise over others by his powerful personality. It is a force that is operative, and it issues forth from God who is holy, that is to say, absolutely clean and righteous. ¹⁴ From God there goes forth an invisible active force by means of which he gets his will done. It other day causes speech to bubble forth, and one night after another night shows forth knowlis not a mere influence such as a man might edge."—Psalm 19:1, 2.

12 Happily for us, God is invisible to mankind. exercise over others by his powerful personality. It is a force that is operative, and it issues forth Yet, in spite of this, he gives us so much evidence from God who is holy, that is to say, absolutely of his existence that the world of mankind is without excuse for denying or ignoring his exisclean and righteous. He sends it forth to accomplish what is holy. So it is correctly called "holy and their responsibility to him. "For," as spirit." It is so spoken of in God's written Word. one Biblical writer wrote, "his invisible qualities 11. Why is it that the Creator is not played out and will not let the universe wear out or run down? 12. Why are men inexcusable for ignoring God and responsibility they have toward Him? 13. Of what else, besides dynamic energy, is God the Source, and why?14. What is "holy spirit," and who gives it?

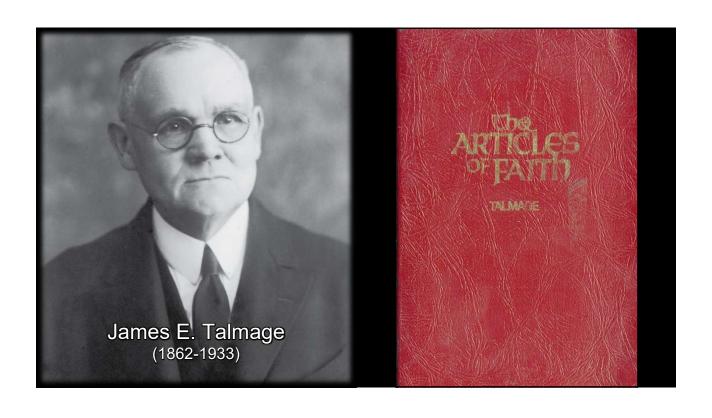


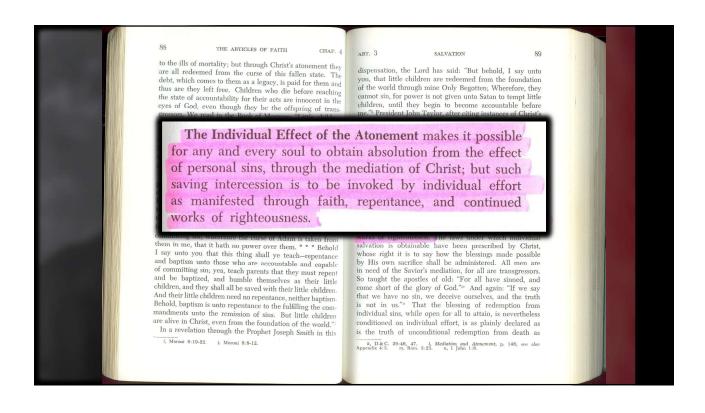


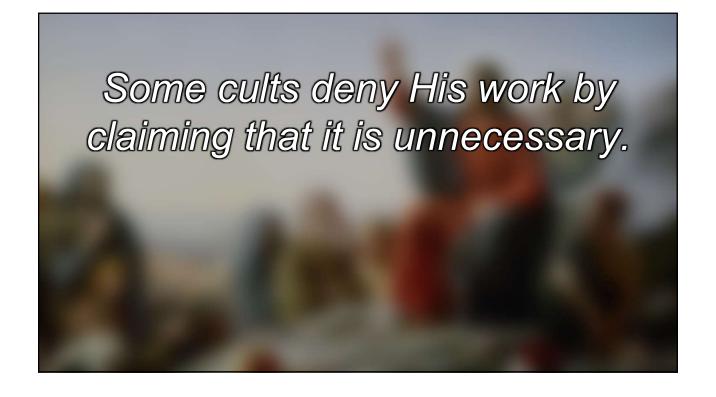


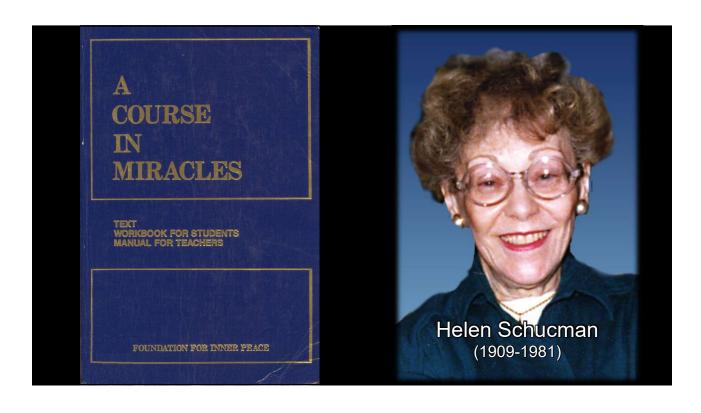


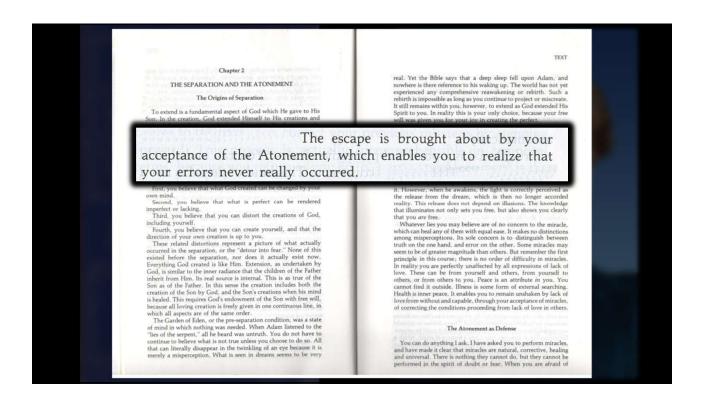
Some cults weaken His work by claiming that it is incomplete.

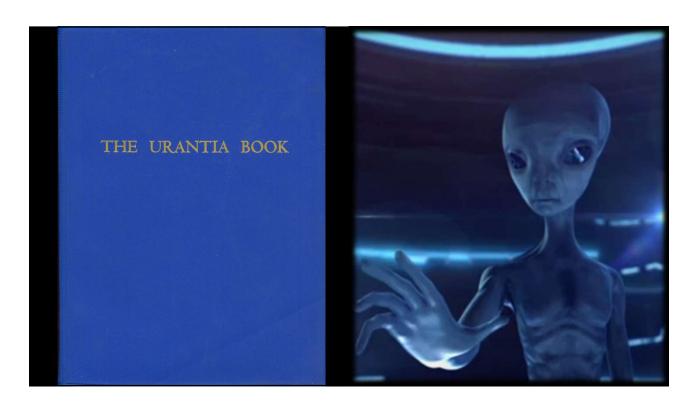


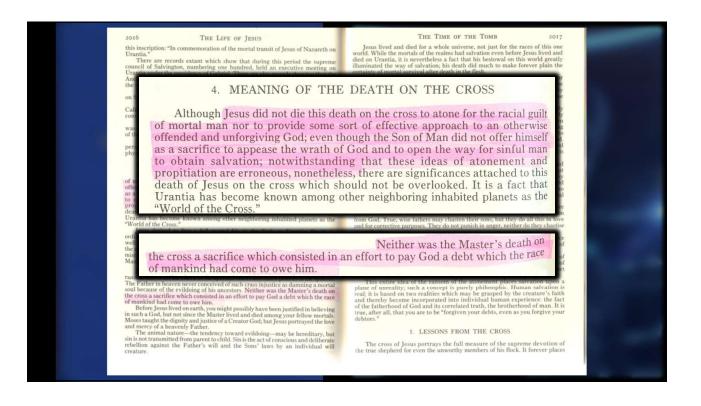






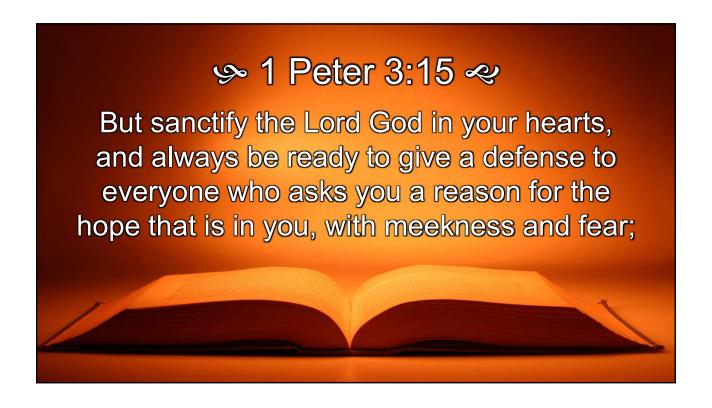


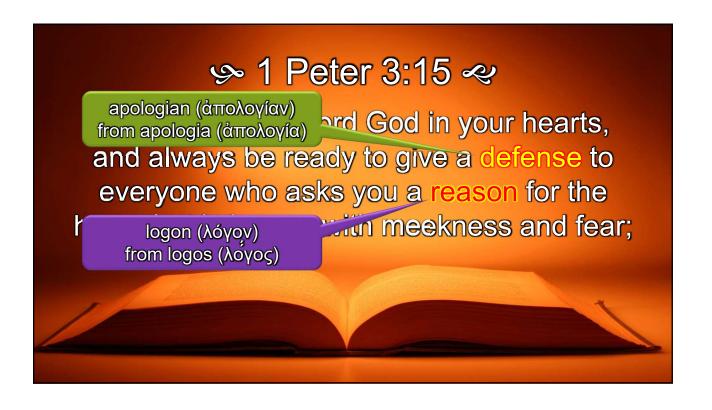










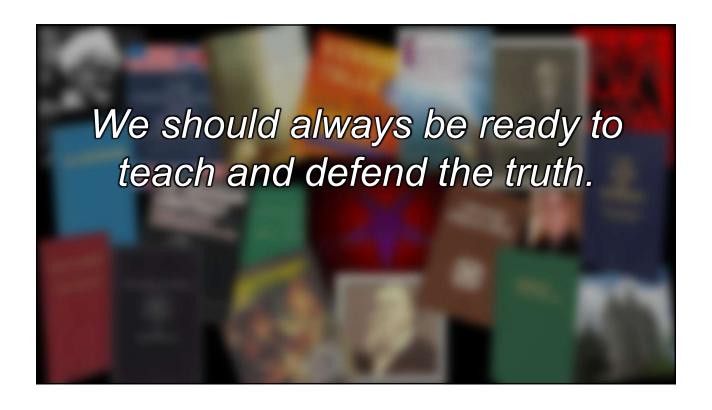


But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; with gentleness and respect;

We should be equipped in order to avoid being swayed by the doctrines of the cults.

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

"that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head; Christ."



"But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will."

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