

WHAT ABOUT THE DA VINCI CODE?

1. Text: Matthew 27:57-61
2. My earlier mention and change of mind.
3. It is hard even to explain this subject.

I. What Is The Da Vinci Code?

1. It is a very popular, best selling book which won't go away.
2. A man, Dan Brown, wrote it blending various bits of history, church traditions, apocryphal books, speculation, and pure fiction.
3. Brown himself in 2003 on the Today Show claimed that besides the main fictional character, "absolutely all of it is historical fact." This makes it necessary to refute it, because it is not fact, but terribly false.
4. The plot of this novel presents the idea that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were secretly married before His death and she was with child by the crucifixion and a secret society of Jews protected her and helped her escape to ancient Gaul (modern France) where she had the child and the line of descendants continued down through the centuries as this secret society protected them. Leonardo da Vinci was a member of this group and in his art "coded" all this. For instance in "The Last Supper" painting the person on Jesus' right is not John, but Mary Magdalene.

II. What Does The Bible Say About This Mary?

1. Magdalene means she was from the region of Magda. (Matthew 15:39)
2. Christ cast seven demons out of her and she then joined a group of women who helped support Him and His disciples. (Luke 8:1-3)
3. She was at the crucifixion and burial. (Matthew 27:55-61)
4. She with other women went to Christ's tomb. (Matthew 28:1)
5. She was the first person to whom Christ identified Himself. (John 20:14-18)
6. She disappears after the gospels. She's not even mentioned in Acts. Nothing would indicate any marriage or intimacy between Jesus and Mary. She has no close moments like Peter, James, and John. Scripture never identifies her with the Samaritan woman or the adulteress. (John 8) The false impressions from things like "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "The Last Temptation of Christ" are totally ridiculous.
7. She was not the bride of Jesus, mother of His child, or "goddess of the church," which the Roman Catholic church is supposed to have suppressed.

III. What Can We Say Of All This?

1. People love "conspiracy theories" or things that are mysterious, esoteric, exciting.
2. It all depends on how people view the Scriptures: perfect revelation or an imperfect human document worth no more than other traditional sources.
3. For a Bible believer we need go no further than the sacred text to refute such heresy.
4. The later doctrines concerning Jesus' mother.
5. Good writing can influence the masses, no matter what the subject is.
6. This is terrible, foolish, false doctrine, but multitudes believe every word of it because they have no foundation in Scripture.

Conclusion: The church is the bride of Christ. (Ephesians 5:22-32)
His family are those obedient to God's will. (Matthew 12:48)

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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