

Which God Do You Believe In?

Nowadays, when people say that they believe in God, you can't always assume that it is the Biblical God. For example, when a person goes on to say that we are all born with God and that we just need to go inward to find Him, this assumes an unbiblical view of God that there is no personal God, and that we are God or part of Him. The biblical God inhabits us after we are born and after we humble ourselves toward Him through Jesus Christ. If we are God, there can be no dependence and humility toward Him, and therefore no grace and salvation. This is the problem with adhering to views of God that are not biblical. The gods created by human reason are no better. Human reason did not create the biblical God, nor can it.

Let's examine this more carefully. The major nonbiblical view of God is commonly called Gaia or the goddess. It is called Panchamama by the indigenous people of the Andes in South America. It is an earth or nature-based spirituality that rejects the patriarchal view of God in the Bible. In this matriarchal spirituality, creation is god, and there is no Creator God. It says that everything is god or part of god (monism), and therefore we are all inherently born with this divinity. The spiritual practices associated with this spirituality do not include trust in the Biblical God for inner peace; therefore, they point you inward to a god that doesn't exist, and you remain with no strength from the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, many of these practices have been introduced into Christianity using a Christian façade. Biblical mysticism and eastern mysticism are not compatible. Eastern practices such as yoga and transcendental meditation cannot bring you to the level of peace and strength as Biblical mysticism.

There are many ancient goddesses to represent matriarchal spirituality. Sun worship is important in this worldview, and reflects the worship of the creation rather than the Creator.

This is also the spirituality of witchcraft and the occult. Gnosticism is similar to the goddess view in that humans can arrive at divine knowledge on their own without the Biblical God. It says that the Creator God is a lesser or inferior god, and that there is a remote supreme divine being over Him. All of these systems have the effect of keeping humans separated from the God of the Bible; and the serpent is elevated to the place of a savior who informs humanity of its godhood.

The symbol of the serpent is common in goddess-based religions. This is not a coincidence. It is the same serpent that is recorded in Genesis. They are one and the same. When Eve was tempted by the serpent, he wanted to separate her and her husband from God the Creator by telling her that they could be gods unto themselves independent of their Creator. They didn't need to be subservient to the Father God. They could understand for themselves what was good and evil; and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil would give them this capacity. They would be like God. This is the origin of goddess spirituality.

The serpent didn't tell them of the downside. They became subject to death, shame and human weakness from the Law of Sin when separated from the Creator. After that, humanity increasingly came under the influence of the serpent, which is what he wanted all along. His constant goal is to keep humans separated from God. Everything he does promotes this objective. Lucifer fell from heaven for the same reason. He wanted to be like the Most High. Humans who reject God also do this for the same reason. They believe that they are self-sufficient without Him; not realizing that it is the Law of Sin, which started with Adam and Eve, that keeps them weak and in bondage, and not realizing that they are in need of Him. Many people incorrectly believe that this is human nature as it always has been. Others believe that humans will naturally evolve into a better state without God. If this were possible, it would imply that what Jesus Christ accomplished for us was

a waste of time. God created us in such a way that we do not function well without Him.

In the Bible, there is Creator and creation, and it primarily uses male imagery for God. Eve was created from Adam's rib. The ancestral lineages are mostly male. The Creator God of the Bible transcends his creation; meaning that He is separate from His creation in the sense that they are not one and the same (dualism). The biblical God does not want to be worshipped in His creation. He wants direct worship. This is generally called patriarchal spirituality. We can be partakers of or partner with the divine nature, but we can never be divine nature.

The biblical concept of God lends itself towards a hierarchy of beings, and a hierarchy in the family and elsewhere. All of creation is dependent upon the Creator for its well-being. It cannot have well-being and peace without humility and dependence. Nature does this naturally. Humans need to choose.

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden represented the authority of the Creator who told Adam and Eve that they should not eat of it. It was a symbol of God's moral code of what was right and wrong. It tested their free will and resolve as to whether they would recognize God's authority over them or not. They chose to eat of the Tree because they wanted to be like God. They believed that they could freely decide for themselves what is good and evil, or so they thought. This ushered in the human weakness from the Law of Sin for them and their descendants. It prevents the full exercise of our wills. We do the things that we don't want to do, and neglect to do the things that we should (see Romans 7:14-25).

Because of Adam and Eve, humanity separated from God. They went through a consciousness change because of this. The imagination of man when separated from God tends to go to extremes that are not good for man or for God's order of

creation. The serpent left this part out when tempting Eve. The human mind that is not at peace in God, is disruptive to God's order in nature. God will put up with only so much nonsense from humanity, and then He acts to rectify it. Fallen humans and angels disrupt the order in God's creation. This continues to be our problem today; and this is why trust in God is not only important us but also for all of creation. Adam and Eve were given dominion "over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26). Creation benefits when humans are in line with God. The ground was cursed because of Adam and Eve. Creation longs for the manifestation of the sons of God. Humans have a great deal of responsibility for what happens in creation.

In matriarchal spirituality, all life is equal. There is no concept of responsible human dominion. This produces the view that animal rights are equal to human rights. This is why animal rights are being promoted at the present time.

In the Bible, patriarchal spirituality predates matriarchal spirituality. This is contrary to the opinion that patriarchal spirituality followed earth based spiritualities. The patriarchal spirituality in the Garden would have been fresh in the minds of Adam and Eve after their expulsion from the Garden. Matriarchal spirituality followed that. Saint Paul, in Romans 1:19-32, describes what happened: "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image

made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

This aptly describes the history of mankind to this very day. None of what we are seeing today should come as any surprise considering that the world is reverting back to nonbiblical practices and worldviews. Separation from God invariably tends towards the excesses that we see today. Humanist attempts to remedy the situation don't work because the moderation of the Holy Spirit is not there. When this is absent, humanist attempts cannot overcome the excesses of human nature caused by the Law of Sin. This is also true for the individual. This human weakness leads to evil and totalitarianism. The Utopian dreams of atheistic Communism and Nazism could not be realized; instead, they caused some of the worst atrocities in

history. This is the history of mankind to this very day. Humanity needs Divine intervention with the power of the Holy Spirit to counteract this. The fruit of the Spirit is what gives humans power over the Law of Sin. If humans were able to do this on their own, Christ would not be necessary.

When there is no Creator with His divine revelation to inform us of what is right and wrong, morality becomes relative (relativism). Everyone decides what is right in their own eyes. Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Law of Sin prevents a good outcome. Today's culture wars are a contest between revealed morality and relativist morality.

The contest between good and evil doesn't reside only on the human level. There is interaction between the spirit realm and the human. There are human representatives of both the good and the evil spirit realms. Unfortunately, humans tend towards the evil spirit realm. There is no in-between state. When the Biblical God is abandoned, the occult replaces it, as we are seeing today.

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