

Craig Barnes 05/27/23 05:13 AM

How many religions are there in the world? Some suggest that there are hundreds of thousands. However, if you boil the whole concept down, there are in reality only two. I summarize and compare these two religions below. They are very similar, but with subtle major differences that will make you or break you.

	True Christianity	Pantheism (Panenthiesm)
Common name	Christianity	Mystery Religion of Babylon
Title given by the Bible	Mystery of Christ (God), Ephesians 3:4; Col 2:2	Mystery: Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots, Rev 17:5
Biblical Description	Mystery of Godliness, 1Tim 3:16	Mystery of Iniquity, 2Thes 2:7
Beliefs	Christ in you (the hope of glory), Col 1:25-28	Everything is god (god is in everything)
What is the difference?		
Practice	Christ dwells within the heart of those who <i>believe</i> through the power (work) of the Holy Spirit.	God's <i>person</i> dwells in everyone <i>uncondition-ally</i> .
Man's part	Yield to the work of the Holy Spirit so the character of Christ can be manifested in the life.	All man has to do is to find the god within and get him to manifest himself.
The direction of man's ef forts	The main effort is placed in yielding to the work and will of Jesus Christ. Study is made to understand what <i>He</i> wants –what He wants to do in us, and in how He wants to be worshipped.	The main effort is placed in connecting to the "god" that is in you so that "goodness" can come out. Study is made to experience the <i>feeling</i> of the presence the <i>person</i> of this god.
Methods used to accomplish the goals		
Prayer	Jesus tells us how to pray in Matthew 6:7, "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking." Singing (and all music), as does prayer, expresses the emotions of the heart, so that the same admonition applies to music.	"Prayer" is a mantra (repetition). The purpose is to empty your mind so that one can experience the presence of this "god" that is within. Because the purpose is to empty the mind, it is vanity, <i>vain repetition</i> . The same applies to music. It needs to be repetitious and empty.
Music	Music that teaches who God is and what He wants to do in the Christian. It avoids the pit-fall Jesus warns us about in Matthew 6:7. We need to remember that singing, and music in general, can be an act of prayer, because music is all about expressing the emotions of the heart.	Music that bypasses the frontal lobe by repetitious words, rhythms, and tones. This allows the participant to "empty his mind" so that he or she can feel the presence of this "god" that is within.
Experience of the daily life	The Christian works at the prompting of the indwelling Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, doing God's work.	The adherent works at the prompting of Satan, who fills the empty mind, and results in "doing your own thing".

How this is trying to be manifested in the Church today

- Spiritual formation is being taught at AU. It is taught by authors steeped in Pontifex Maximus, the leader of the Mystery Religion of Babylon.
- Programs that teach that we need to worship the "person" of Jesus Christ and that's all that matters. What Jesus says and what He wants does not count. This is what spiritual formation is all about. They share the same authors as above.
- "Praise music" using "praise teams" singing simple and repetitive ditties. It is part of the "Celebration" style of worship.

"Principle-based historical-cultural" method of interpreting the scriptures. This allows the culture of the time (*our* time) to re-interpret the scriptures based on our own *culture*, rather than on the principles taught in the Bible. Since all culture is based on the concurrent feelings of a worldly era, it is ultimately based on our own feelings, the "god" that is within us, to control our actions, rather than the Creator God, Jesus Christ. Instead of the words of the Bible transcending time and culture, being relevant under all conditions, we set our *own feelings* above the teaching of the Scriptures.

The Results

Spiritual Formation, Celebration style worship services, "praise music", "Christian rock music", feminism, women elders (and ministers), homosexual ministers, etc. It even effects marriage, the dress code, and bathrooms. Ultimately, it will discard the seventh-day Sabbath as being from another culture. After all, "Times have changed."

Regarding Pantheism

4

When we had finished I turned to him and said, "These are the very sentiments against which I was bidden to speak in warning at the very beginning of my public work. When I first left the State of Maine, it was to go through Vermont and Massachusetts, to bear a testimony against these sentiments. Living Temple [Dr. John Harvey Kellogg's book promoting Pantheism] contains the Alpha of these theories. The Omega would follow in a little while. I tremble for our people. These beautiful representations are similar to the temptation that the enemy brought to Adam and Eve in Eden. - Ellen G. White, 1SAT 341.3

¹One such program is the "One Project" whose slogan is "Jesus. All."