

Music, Worship, CCM

JESUS - THE WAY OR A 'WAY SHOW-ER?'

Beware the 'Christian' song *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*:

You came from Heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the Cross
My debt to pay
From the Cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord, I lift Your name on high

Lord, I lift Your name on high
Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad you're in my life
I'm so glad you came to save us

The Lord Jesus Christ of Scripture is **THE** Way; He is NOT a 'way show-er'.
Neither is He simply "IN my life"; He **IS** our life.

"It is taught that Jesus was Pattern Son [Bill Britton, *Jesus, The Pattern Son*, P.O. Box 707, Springfield, MO,] who *showed the way* for us to become as He is, to possess all His divine attributes and to carry out His mission. (Actually Jesus Himself IS the Way; we only share in His nature and power by being IN HIM.)"

Tricia Tillin 'The Warriors Of God' in *Mainstream*, May / June 1991, p7.

Unbelievable miracles

"A lot of these kinds of attitudes are the result of a doctrine very popular in the Word of Faith circles but also in Latter Rain as well, and that is the idea of the **Pattern Son**. It teaches that the anointing on Jesus Christ was no more than what any believer can appropriate, even though John 3:34 specifically says that unto Jesus did the Father give the Spirit 'without measure'.

Nevertheless we too, it is said, can have the same kind of powers He had if we would just learn the 'revelation knowledge' He had. Thus, Jesus is not so much 'The Way' as He is the 'Way Show-er', the pro who shows us amateurs how its done.

“Although obviously, Jesus is a great example for the Christian to imitate, its meant in the sense of imitating His character. As the Christian does this, God is free to minister His power to and through the believer as seemeth good to Him. Jesus' power was not something He sought through the cultic-like pursuit of 'revelation knowledge', but something God worked graciously through Him to establish His Messiahship, and meet human needs. This other scheme gets it backwards and has Christ as the 'great guru', the 'Ascended master' who has mastered the gnosis and now passes it on to us. It is a prescription for deception.”

Don Clasen 'Last Days Leaven. Part III: The Destroyed Foundations – The Word'. First published in *The Kingdom Gospel Messenger*, Vol 8, No 3, June 1996. Reproduced in Cross + Word.

“We need to distinguish between songs with slight inaccuracies which could be corrected through the alteration of certain words, and those with great inaccuracies which must simple be abandoned. An example in the first category is 'Lord I lift Your name on High', which erroneously states, 'You came from heaven to earth **to show the Way**': this can be made more scriptural by altering it to 'You came from heaven to earth, **You are the Way**'. This would consequently cause the song to be more in line with Christ's statement that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6) – He does not merely show the way; He is the Way.”

Reginald M. J. Odour, *The Noise of Our Songs: Disturbing Trends In Contemporary Gospel Music*, 1997, p42.

Jesus the Pattern Son and the Way Show-er

The Word-Faith Movement teach that the Lord Jesus was the 'Pattern Son':

"I had to have that copy and that pattern ... so that I could recreate a child and a family and whole new race of mankind. You are in his likeness" [Kenneth Copeland, *Substitution and Identification*, (1989), audiotape #00-0202, side 2 / *What Happened From the Cross to the Throne*, (1990), audiotape #02-0017],

"Jesus ... was the pattern of a new race of men to come" [Kenneth Copeland, *What Happened From the Cross to the Throne*, (1990), audiotape #02-0017],

Copeland is saying that Jesus is our *example* who *shows* us how to become the Perfect Man that He is and how to get to heaven and obtain eternal life if we will just learn the 'Revelation Knowledge' (the "faith" or 'Sense Knowledge') that He had. Thus, Jesus is not 'The Way', but the 'Way Show-er' in the same sense as the Buddha is, or as the practice of Yoga take us into Brahman.

"If the incarnate Christ is now present in this world, saving the world, defeating the powers of evil and ruling on behalf of God [then] what is the point of Jesus Christ returning in the flesh? None! The work of restoring the glories of Eden is in our hands, and Jesus is a mere figure-head in this task. God has become an 'icon' of belief, a beloved 'father figure' in OUR fight to overthrow Satan and take the nations for Christ. Jesus Christ has become a Type, a Pattern, the one who went on ahead to show us how to achieve godhood" [\[source\]](#).

We see this idea reflected in some of the songs sung in the church today. For example, in the song *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*, the words: "You came from heaven to earth / to show the way" promote Word-Faith (also Manifest-Sons-of-God) thinking. If we are to eschew false doctrine, we cannot sing this song as it stands. The Lord Jesus Christ does not merely "show" the way; He IS the Way. Thus, we can make the song accord with Scripture by changing these unbiblical words to biblical ones: "You came from heaven to earth / to be the Way" or "You came from heaven to earth / You are the Way".

Elizabeth McDonald, 1997/2016

The 'Christ-Consciousness'

"For many cultists, 'enlightenment' comes through tuning into the 'Christ-Consciousness' ... Failure to define terms carefully has caused many an evangelical Christian to imagine that he has led someone to receive Christ, whereas the entire conversation has actually been one unbroken misunderstanding from beginning to end ... In this [Christ-Consciousness] view, man is not separated from God by *sin*, but by failure to rise to a higher awareness of the True Self. Jesus didn't die for our sins; he showed us the 'path of ascension.' Since the 'Christ-Consciousness' is presumed to be in everyone, it only remains for each of us to 'realise' it as Jesus did...

"...According to Mrs. [Mary Baker] Eddy [Christian Science], Jesus was not *the way* to the Father, even though He said He was, but was 'the Way-shower.' ... anyone who achieves this same 'Christ-Consciousness' to which Jesus attained will also become a Christ and be able to perform psychic miracles."

Dave Hunt 'The Cult Explosion', 1980, pp 80, 81, 82, 83.

Descriptions of Maitreya And Jesus

"Now let's look at the next two points:

1. Maitreya, The I AM Presence = The Father
2. Maitreya as he relates to Jesus today in New Age doctrine

On Elizabeth Claire Prophet's Ascension Research Center Home Page [all-natural.com/jesus.html] we read this about the New Age Ascended Master, Jesus:

"Maitreya was formerly the World Teacher until January 1, 1956, when this Office in [the] Hierarchy was passed jointly to Jesus and Kuthumi" (Lord Maitreya [all-natural.com/maitreya.html]. Ascension research Center).

What does it mean that Jesus is the World Teacher? According to the New Age definition it means this:

"World Teacher – revealing the individual Christ Self to all mankind and to show the works of the Father (the I AM Presence [Lord Maitreya]) that can be performed by His sons and daughters through the Flame of the individualised Christ Self (Higher Mental Body) of each one" (Prophet, Elizabeth Claire and Prophet, Mark L. Saint Germain on Alchemy: For the Adept in the Aquarian Age, Second Edition, (Livingstone, Montana, Summit University Press, 1986, pp423-424.)

This is godhood realisation. In the 'revival', it is Christ coming to the Church before he comes for the Church. It is Christ incarnating in people by their evolving to maturity to become Manifest Sons.

The I AM Presence mentioned here is the Father aspect of God, as well as Maitreya:

"Jesus also called Lord Maitreya 'Father,' since He was both Teacher and Guru, and symbolised God the Father (the Mighty I AM Presence)" (Lord Maitreya [all-natural.com/maitreya.html]).

Though confusing at times, the basic belief is this:

"Great Initiator: Maitreya was the initiator of Jesus, when Jesus lived His final embodiment as the individualisation of the Christ, as world savior and EXAMPLE of the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (Ibid).

Ed Tarkowski 'Final Conclusions: Preparation For The Antichrist, The New Age Maitreya And The Sacred Heart of Jesus Are One And The Same' in *Alabama Discernment Ministries Newsletter*, Spring 1997, pp2-3.
