

San Juan church of Christ

1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C
Montrose, CO 81401 | (970) 249-8116

What Does God's Word Say About... **The Resurrected Word vs. the Counterfeit Word**

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, [in His presence], and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:1, 14). The apostle John, after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, wrote, "the life was manifested, and we [apostles] have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father...what we [apostles] have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with the Son Jesus Christ," (1 John 1:1-3). Thomas, who was one of the twelve disciples, when he saw Jesus after His resurrection, said to Jesus, "My Lord and my God! Jesus said to him [Thomas], "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed," (John 20:28-29). Not only were the disciples eye-witnesses of Jesus' resurrection, but "After that He appeared to more than 500 brethren at one time...and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also [the apostle Paul]," (1 Cor. 15:6, 8). Accordingly, due to Paul's eye-witness of Jesus, he wrote, "O death, where is your victory?...The sting of death is sin...but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," (1 Cor. 15:55-57).

Since Christ's death on the cross there have been hundreds of so-called prophets and revelations from men. The most notorious of these came in the 7th and 19th century A.D. These men were two of the best plagiarists of Scripture, both of the Old and the New Testaments. Both of these men used the same principles and names that were written in the Scripture, and adjusted the word to meet their own sinful desires. They claimed that their later revelations superseded the earlier written word of God. Both men indicated that they received a revelation, in the wilderness, from an angel, in order to add to God's word. In the first century the Holy Spirit instructed Paul to write, "I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him, who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some that are disturbing you and want to distort [alter the original] the gospel of Christ. But even if we [apostles], or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!" (Gal. 1: 6-8). The question should be asked, would anyone want to follow a leader whose religion is accursed?

Paul wrote, "For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all," (1 Tim. 2:5-6). Another question we need to ask ourselves is, do we want to serve a risen Savior and the empty tomb, or do we want to serve prophets who are presently IN their tombs, and are only men?

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:
info@sanjuanchurchofchrist.org