

Just Thinking Apologetics

Last week I watched a program on the National Geographic channel that insinuated that perhaps the New Testament is not a complete account of the historical Jesus. Some individuals who are skeptical of the form of Christianity that exists today posit that other forms existed in the past that are just as legitimate. Dan Brown the author of “The DaVinci Code” claims that “History is always written by the winners,” implying that the form of Christianity that exists today is not necessarily in conformity with the teachings of Jesus. Similarly, Bart Ehrman, Chair of the religious studies department at the University of North Carolina, believes other forms of Christianity have been “suppressed, reformed, or forgotten.”

Gnosticism is one of these early forms that some would claim has been suppressed or beat upon by the form of Christianity that exists today. Some would also state that the form of Christianity today is not fully accurate concerning the teachings of Jesus. The word Gnosticism is derived from the Greek word *gnosis* and means knowledge. Gnostics believed they had secret knowledge of Jesus and it was also the most accurate view. Where did the Gnostics come from? What exactly did they teach, and do the 27 books of the New Testament give a complete view of the historical Jesus? These questions will be answered in the coming weeks. If the form of Christianity that exists today is inaccurate, then we have a world full of wayward people.