

The Da Vinci Code

The bible is man made - "The Bible is the product of *man*, my dear. Not of God. The Bible did not fall magically from the clouds. Man created it as a historical record of tumultuous times, and it has evolved through countless translations, additions, and revisions. History has never had a definitive version of the book."

Denial of Jesus' Deity – "Jesus was viewed by His followers as a mortal prophet ... a great and powerful man, but a *man* nonetheless. A mortal."

These two things are the same thing that all anti-Christian writings have always stated.

Hides the fiction behind some historical facts – takes actual historical facts and then adds unproven and in some cases completely fictional things to them.

Sacred feminine – ABC news special on the book highlighted the Marriage of Jesus and Mary. that there are mysteries that exist where women were held with higher regard by Jesus than the later Church wanted to give them and so their stories have been erased from the true history. The belief is that Mary Magdalene had Jesus' baby and fled by sea to France, where the Jewish people there kept the genealogy. There is no evidence to support this.

There is also speculation that the Knights Templar found something under the temple in Jerusalem but there is no evidence to that either. There also was a group called the Priory of Sion who were fabled to have kept the blood line of Christ. There was a line of Kings known as the Merovingians, who have since been claimed to have been part of the bloodline. Again, no evidence exists that ties these kings to Jesus or even Jerusalem.

You can see several things in the book that tells about Da Vinci and these are historical, but it is not true that he was trying to pass on secret information. He did create encryption devices as well as many other inventions. However, to think that he did so to try to pass on secret information is taking a huge leap with no evidence to back it up.

1982 – Holy Blood, Holy Grail

"It's a matter of historical record..."⁷ and repeats himself a little later, "the marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene is part of the historical record." – Where's the historical record? It doesn't exist.

Where's the historical record? Why, Dan Brown uses the Gospel of Philip! This might be part of the historical record, but it doesn't make it historical fact! Sightings of Big Foot, UFO's and Elvis are all part of the historical record – they are far from historical fact. The Gospel of Philip has been determined to have been written in the late third century, which would place it approx 50 years prior to the Nicene Council.

So what's the point? First, we need to know the truth of what we believe, what historically really happened and what others are being told so that we can be ready always to give an answer to anyone who asks about the hope that is within us. Second,

we need to stop giving so much credit and believing anything we see to the media: novels, TV, movies and magazines, newspapers, etc. all maybe fun but should not be used as our main source of information as there is so much bias in these. Instead, we should be spending time reading the bible, in bible studies, classic Christian books, and Church/Christian history. Then we can know the truth from reliable witnesses.

Council of Nicea in 325 – that the books that we were not supposed to listen to because they taught something that these men did not want the world to hear were removed from the Canon. Arius believed that Jesus was not God. Though most Christians did, Constantine felt they must come together to decide once and for all what the truth was. Arius becomes Dan Brown's typical Christian prior to the vote in the Council. The vote was 316-2 in favor of Jesus' deity. And in case some might think that it was a conspiracy, several martyrs and writings going back to just after the death of John, in the early 100's call Jesus God. The Didache, which was the guidebook of the early church fathers, calls Jesus God. As does Irenaeus, who was a disciple of Polycarp, who was a disciple of the Apostle John. Justin Martyr baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit recognizing the Holy Trinity and the God-nature of Jesus.

The Daily News says, "His research is impeccable", though he tells us in his book the sources for much of his thinking and all of these are books with no basis in fact.