

Cults Part 1 (Introduction)

What is a Cult? Webster defines a cult as *"a system of religious worship or ritual; devoted attachment to or extravagant admiration for a person, principle etc."*

This definition, however, doesn't accurately identify or shape the distinguishing characteristics of a cult. As Christians, we can define a cult based on one passage of Scripture....

Matt 22:41-46

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

42 Saying, **What think ye of Christ?** whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.

43 He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

44 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?

45 If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

46 And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

* How one answers that question will determine whether or not he/she is involved in a cult? Many say they believe that Jesus is the **son of God** but can they turn that statement around and state that He is **God the Son**?

Peter realized He was God in the flesh:

Matt 16:16

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, **Thou art the Christ**, the Son of the living God.

"The Christ" means that Peter was acknowledging that Jesus was God....Christ the distinction that gives Jesus His rightful place as deity....Christ means "the annointed one"..They believed He was the Messiah of the Old Testament....Therefore they believed He was God in the flesh because the Old Testament said He would be:

Isa 9:6

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The mighty God**, **The everlasting Father**, The Prince of Peace.

Any "religion" that doesn't give Christ His proper deity is a cult:

1 John 4:2-3

2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.