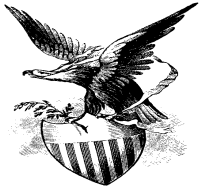


# Light Brings Salt

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## Iron Range Bible Church

*Dedicated to the Systematic Exposition of the Word of God*



### Thoughts on the Da Vinci Code

The following challenge is primarily excerpted from the latest newsletter from Dr. Jobe Martin received this week. As soon as I can finish some research on the book we will have a more in-depth look at the distortions of truth presented as fact in this work.

With the May 19<sup>th</sup> release of *The Da Vinci Code* movie, it is important for those of us who profess to be believers in Biblical Christianity and Jesus Christ, to at least be sufficiently informed so as to avoid falling prey to the basic premises of the movie, which in a nutshell is heresy for the true believer. *The Da Vinci Code's* central theme is that, almost everything our fathers taught us about Jesus Christ, the Bible and church history is false (p. 235, book).

The first word one encounters in *The Da Vinci Code*, in bold uppercase letters, is the word **"FACT."** Shortly thereafter Brown writes, "All descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate." And the average reader, with no special knowledge in these areas, will assume the statement is true. But it's not, and many have documented some of Brown's inaccuracies in these areas.

Other points to be aware of:

- \* This book attacks all the major doctrines of the Bible.
- \* It slanders the identity of the Lord Jesus, claims He was not God, claims that He

married Mary Magdalene, and claims that he had a child named Sarah.

- \* The book attacks the historical orthodox foundations of true, Biblical Christianity.
- \* The author says the novel is "fiction" yet page one begins with "FACT" in bold font.
- \* Author Brown appears to have a New Age-Eastern-Gnostic type of personal spirituality that is by no means evangelical, fundamental, Bible believing, orthodox Christianity.
- \* Much of Brown's research is either sloppy or intentionally misleading, especially information regarding Constantine, Leonardo Da Vinci (quotes used totally out of context), the Council of Nicaea, the Opus Dei" organization, the use of "Gospels" not accepted by the church as being legitimately part of the Canon of Scripture, and many other distortions.
- \* The book sold over 7,000,000 copies the first year, on the *NYT* best seller list for more than a year.
- \* It has been translated into 35 languages and over 40 million copies in print.
- \* It is being discussed in colleges and high schools around the country.
- \* **We must ask the question why such intense popularity? The answer is found in Ephesians 6:11-18.**

The challenge to true believers is to not only be able to defend the faith, but also to contend for the faith as it exhorts us to do in Jude 3. If we haven't had time to read the Bible today, then we don't have time to read *The Da Vinci Code*. Reading succinct summaries by those conservatives in the evangelical world that can be trusted for their integrity to Biblical Truth, would be a much better use of one's time than to

invest in reading *The Da Vinci Code*. Even as Christians we are people "prone to wander" and many times thrown here and there by every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14). We need to know God's Word (the authentic) rather than the provocative heresies of *The Da Vinci Code* (the artificial and deceptive).

Many times something popular like this ("everyone is reading it") becomes very alluring to the flesh, and starts to "make sense" and we begin to question our own beliefs. It becomes very easy for us to be led astray (II Corinthians 11:3) and then the downward spiral into deception starts and we become compromised, neutralized, and diluted. Eventually we will become ineffective for the work of the ministry. The situation *The Da Vinci Code* is creating can be positive if we choose to KNOW WHAT WE BELIEVE and go to the Word of God to know the truth about God, His Son Jesus, and the work of the Holy Spirit in each of our lives. Jesus is either a liar, lunatic, or Who He says He is— the Son of God and Saviour of the world (II Corinthians 5:15, 17, 21; Philippians 2:8-11).

In 1 Timothy 4 the Bible speaks to us of the "dangers" of the last days and our need to be constantly nourished on the words of the Faith, that is, sound doctrine. We are to be consistently disciplining ourselves for the purpose of godliness. In 1 Timothy 6:19-20, we are to store up for ourselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future and to guard what has been entrusted to us. In other words, guard our hearts (Proverbs 4:23) and be careful not to be deceived with the words of men and the approval of men, rather than the Words of Truth and the approval and fear of God (John 5:44, 12:43).

Titus 1:15-16 says: *Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.*

## Nothing Daunted

*"Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, " (Ps. 119:2).*

Once the Holy Spirit instills within our hearts the hunger for God's very best, all must and will become secondary to this supreme goal: ". . .the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14). Our puny, worthless all exchanged for the One who is All in all! "For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to Whom be glory for ever. Amen" (Rom. 11:36) .

"A sage of India was asked by a young man how he could find God. For some time the sage gave no answer, but one evening he asked the youth to come and bathe with him in the river. While there he gripped him suddenly and held his head under the water until he was nearly drowned. When he released him the sage asked him: 'What did you want most when you were under the water?' 'A breath of air,' he replied. To which the sage answered, 'When you want God as you wanted the breath of air, you will find Him.'" -G.G.

"Every Christian will become at last what his desires have made him. We are all the sum total of our hungers. The great saints have all had thirsting hearts. Their cry has been, 'My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God....' Their longing after God all but consumed them; it propelled them onward and upward to heights toward which less ardent believers look with and entertain no hope of reaching."

*"For He has satisfied the thirsty soul, And the hungry soul He has filled with what is good." (Ps. 107:9)*

Excerpt from Miles Stanford 's None but the Hungry Heart.