M05A1 Revelation: Word of God, Part 5

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Modern man is capable of deciphering minute things. But when comparing differing religions we often prefer to see only the broad outlines. We want to encourage inclusiveness without risk of offense. So we look for likenesses and excuse to the point of ignoring vast differences. This results in the merging with ungodly beliefs and perhaps practices. “In Mexico, some combine or syncretize Catholic practices with native traditions. In the Yucatán Peninsula, some Mayan people still practice the traditional beliefs of their ancestors, without being syncretized with Christianity.” <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Mexico>

Of course, Halloween in the USA and I believe in Europe celebrates pagan practices preceding All Hallows' Day, also known as All Saints' Day in the Christian calendar. The saints celebrated were venerated by the Roman Catholic Church. This use of the word saints in this way conflicts with the inclusion of all followers of God in the Bible.

Psalm 50:5

Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

Psalm 89:7

God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints.

Daniel 7:22

the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

Acts 9:32

And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

The lecture/article speaks of the sacrifice mentioned in the Rig Veda being compared to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The well-known tract, in India at least, known as SACRIFICE lists nine features supposedly “fulfilled totally and completely in Lord Jesus.” These are nine out of hundreds, hand selected to make it appear the Hindu scriptures point to Jesus’ sacrifice. And I might add that IF these anticipated the advent of Jesus then the salvation should agree with Jesus’ promise of salvation where his saints will live in houses prepared by him so that “where I am, there ye may be also.” (John 14:1-3)

Selective description and proofs are also offered to merge Christianity with Muhammad Sahib of Moslems, Buddha, or even Mahatma Gandhi. The ethics of doing this fall short of what Christians should accept or practice. And remember, this selectiveness is also used by prominent ministers who attack the sacred uniqueness of the Bible.

Without full context, any claim can be constructed. This is the function of Biblical Hermeneutics: principles of interpretation of the Bible, both theory and methodology, for all forms of communication, nonverbal and verbal.

Muslims quote from the Bible in context of the Koran first and primary. Hindu gurus do the same to try to establish Hindu doctrines. Interestingly, palm readers quote Job 37:7, "He sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work", and claim that this proves that Palmistry is a God-made science.

“It is only commonsense that the Bible should be interpreted under biblical hermeneutics, while the Hindu scriptures should be interpreted under the Hindu hermeneutics.” -Lecture. Christians should use care when sharing with a Hindu friend to not try to explain his Hindu texts in the context of biblical scripture. That lends credibility to his Hindu scripture.

The Hindu scripture text that translated says ‘lead me from falshood to truth, from darkness to light, and from mortality to immortality’ does not equate to the biblical teaching that only Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Light. The Hindu text glorifies the oneness of God with the universe and man. Whereas the Christian text points to the path of salvation that relies entirely on God, man’s role to submit to truth fully known only by God who eagerly desires to share with mankind so that we may live as friends with God, our creator. The Christian truth does not elevate man to be equal with God.

We deceive ourselves when we apply Christian hermeneutics to scriptures foreign to the God who inspired the Bible. Other scriptures are inferior messages compared to nature. Nature is an incomplete message to us from God. We risk curses when we elevate non-inspired scripture to a plateau with the inspired word of God. Through nature and the Bible, God provided all the communication needed to learn of his greatness, his infallible love, and salvation that can lead us to live with God and Jesus forever.

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