

CRACKING THE DAVINCI CODE
Were Jesus And Mary Magdalene Married?
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In The DaVinci Code, Mary Magdalene plays a key role. The characters in the book assert many things about her.

1. It was not an inanimate chalice but Mary Magdalene who is the Holy Grail (236-39, 243-46, 249, 253). The quest for the Holy Grail is not the search for the chalice used at the Last Supper, but for the resting-place of Mary (257).
2. The Catholic Church launched a smear campaign against Mary Magdalene at a very early date. They attempted to slander her name in order to erase evidence of her powerful relationship to Jesus. This opposition included violence and murder. (244, 249, 254, 261, 266, 407)
3. Jesus and Mary were married and had children. After Jesus' death Mary fled to France. (245-249, 255, 257)
4. Mary Magdalene was the first and greatest apostle. She was of royal blood and of the house of Benjamin. By marrying, Jesus and Mary established themselves as heirs of Solomons' kingship. (247-249)

1. Who Was Mary Magdalene?

According to the fictional character Leigh Teabing in the DaVinci Code, Mary was the wife of Jesus, the mother of his child, and the one whom he intended to establish the church after his death. 244-248

a. Mary Magdalene in the New Testament.

- Mary was a follower of Jesus from the town of Magdala.
- **Luke 8:1-3** After Jesus cast seven demons out of her, she and other women helped support His ministry.
- **Matthew 27:55-61** She was a witness to His death and burial.
- **John 20:11-18** She was the first to see the risen Christ.

- **John 20:17-18** Jesus entrusted her with proclaiming His resurrection to His male disciples.

2. Was It Necessary For Jesus To Have Been Married?

Jesus was a Jew, and the social decorum during that time virtually forbid a Jewish man to be unmarried. According to Jewish custom, celibacy was condemned . . . If Jesus were not married, at least one of the Bible's gospels would have mentioned it and offered some explanation for His unnatural state of bachelorhood. (The DaVinci Code 245)

This is purely a fabrication.

- Philo, a first century Jewish writer described the Essenes as those who, “repudiated marriage . . . for no one of the Essenes ever marries a wife. This now is the enviable system of life of these Essenes, so that not only private individuals but even mighty kings, admire the men, venerate their sect, and increase . . . the honors they confer on them.”
 - ◆ Such citations clearly reveal that not all Jews of Jesus’ day considered marriage an obligation.
- Jeremiah 16:1-2
- Matthew 19:10-12
- 1 Corinthians 7:7, 25-38
- 1 Corinthians 9:5

Contrary to the DaVinci Code, it would have been completely acceptable for Jesus to be unmarried.

3. Were Jesus And Mary Magdalene Married?

Gospel of Philip: And the companion of the Saviour is Mary Magdalene. Christ loved her more than all the disciples and used to kiss her often on her mouth. The rest of the disciples were offended by it and expressed disapproval. They said to him, “Why do you love her more than all of us?” (The DaVinci Code 246)

“As any Aramaic scholar will tell you, the word companion, with those days, literally meant spouse.” (Teabing in the DaVinci Code 246)

Companion

- The account did not come down to us in Aramaic, but Coptic. Therefore its meaning in Aramaic is irrelevant.
- The Coptic text transliterates the Greek word “koinonos” for companion.
 - ◆ The word *companion* in either language is frequently used of friendship or partnership. It by no means always means marriage.
 - ◆ Darrell Bock observes that this term can mean “wife: or “sister in a spiritual sense, but it’s “not the typical or common term for ‘wife’” in Greek.
 - ◆ It is often used in Greek to refer to a “partner” or sharer. (James and John were Peter’s business partners. cf Luke 5:10)
 - ◆ cf Matthew 23:30; 1 Corinthians 10:20; Hebrews 10:33)
- Thus the claim that Mary was Jesus “companion” does not at all prove that she was his wife.

But what about the statement that Christ loved her . . . and used to kiss her often on the mouth?

- First the manuscript is damaged and we don’t know where Christ kissed Mary. (cheek, forehead, hand, etc)
 - ◆ Even if they were authentic, neither specifies that Jesus was actually married.

Regardless of the author’s intention, the Gospel of Philip wasn’t written until the second half of the third century. (more than 200 years after the time of Christ.)

- It was a forgery and could not have been written by the Apostle Philip nor the Philip found in the book of Acts.

- ◆ The same is true of the Gospel of Mary Magdalene. It is too late to be credible.

4. Did Jesus intend for Mary Magdalene to lead His church after His death?

Jesus was the original feminist. He intended for the future of His Church to be in the hands of Mary Magdalene . . . She was of the House of Benjamin . . . of royal descent.” (cf The DaVinci Code 248)

- a. There is no record whatever of Mary’s tribal affiliation.
- b. The royal blood line ran through Judah, not Benjamin. cf 2 Samuel 7:12-17

5. Did Jewish tradition involve ritualistic sex?

The early Jewish tradition involved ritualistic sex. In the Temple, no less. Early Jews believed that the Holy of Holies in Solomon’s Temple housed not only God but also His powerful female equal, Shekinah. (The DaVinci Code 309)

Again we have pure fabrication.

- a. Nothing is more basic to Judaism than their foundational belief in one God, not two or more. cf Deuteronomy 6:4
- b. The term Shekinah is not found in either the OT or the new, but was used in later Jewish commentaries as a term for God’s glory.
- c. The OT frequently condemns the fertility religions of the Canaanites and the use of temple prostitutes.

6. Is the Jewish name for God really a combination of both a male and female entity?

The Jewish tetragrammation YHWH – the sacred name of God- in fact derived for Jehovah, an androgynous physical union between the masculine Jah and the pre-Hebraic name for Eve, Havah? (The DaVinci Code 309)

Again false

- a. The Hebrew name for God comes from the Hebrew word “to be.”

- b. Since Jewish tradition forbid the verbal pronunciation for God's name, rabbis in the 16th century to the consonants from YHWH and the vowels from Adonai (Lord) resulting in the word Jehovah. This later synthesized name not only did not predate YHWH, it has absolutely nothing to do with an androgynous union.

Matthew 7:15 "Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. 29 "I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

2 Peter 2:1 But **false** prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be **false teachers** among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

2 Peter 2:18 For speaking out arrogant *words* of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error,

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.