

HINDU CRITICISM OF THE EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN CREED

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The evangelical Christians have now set themselves goals for the conversion of the Hindus. Millions of dollars are being poured into this project and every devious means at their disposal are being used. Including offering material incentives, targeting vulnerable people, disrupting communities, and down right cheating and deception. Their target groups are mainly poor, illiterate and vulnerable villagers and tribals.

Hindus being for the most part pacifists leave these threats unchallenged. Hindus are also generally speaking, for the most part, ignorant of their own teachings and traditions let alone being able to combat the teachings of other religions!

It is with this in mind I have composed this pamphlet and hope that as many Hindus in key positions as possible will read this and disseminate it as widely as possible, hopefully translating it into as many Indian languages as possible.

The evangelical Christians are a right-wing fundamentalist group of Christians who are bigoted and filled with self-righteousness. But any intelligent and enquiring person can easily refute their belief system. The ultimate fall back position for all of them when challenged will be — “It is a matter of faith!” If so then let them keep their delusional faith to themselves and not share it with us who follow the oldest religion on earth and who already have morality, spirituality and salvation in abundance. In fact India is one of the most multicultural and religious countries on earth and in no need of any more religion, especially of the bigoted and right-wing variety.

The fundamentalist evangelicals hold the following dogmas that are hi-lighted in red. Each one has been exposed and refuted herein.

1. Holy Bible

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority for determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, the Bible is inspired, infallible and inerrant (see Prov. 30:5; Rom. 16:25,26; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20,21).

Rejoinder

The Bible which is the bedrock of Christianity is divided into 2 sections The Old Testament which was written by a number of unknown authors, it is self-contradictory, historically and scientifically inaccurate and contains many elements of other middle-eastern mythologies, including immoral acts practiced under the command of god Yahweh. It is entirely mythological and contains a few good laws and teachings. It contains nothing good which is not already found in the Hindu Scriptures, and in fact contains a lot worse!

The New Testament was written about 60 to 100 years after the alleged death of Jesus and was a fictional account of a “messiah”. None of this is the literal “Word of God” — if there can be such a thing.

The Bible as we know it today was compiled at the council of Nicaea in the year 325 CE. It

was convened by king Constantine and attended by 300 bishops who were called upon to vote on which texts presented were the "Word of God". Eighteen other Gospels were rejected and the Book of Revelation got in by ONE vote. Please see appendix for the complete list of rejected documents.

If the Bible is accepted as "Word of God" in a literal sense then it should be perfect and absolute. If this be accepted then even one error would disqualify it. Here are some examples of the negative content:

Biblical Absurdities

- Day and night created two days before the Sun. Gen. 3-5
- God the creator thinks that rabbits chew the cud. (Leviticus 11: 6) snakes talk (Gen 3:1).
- The Lord grants speech to a donkey so that she can converse with her master. (Numbers 22; 28)
- God thinks that there are winged creatures having four-legs. Leviticus 11:23
- The Bible validates the existence of **dragons** (Isaiah 27:1) and **unicorns** (Deut. 33:17) and **satyrs** (Isaiah 13:21-22) and the **cockatrice** which is a mythological creature that is the offspring of a cock and a snake, and can apparently turn people to stone (Isaiah 11:8, 14:29)

Bible Atrocities and Crimes against Humanity

- The Lord God kills 70,000 men for having been counted in a census. (1 Chron. 21; 1)
- God reveals his holy laws and then curses all those who fail to obey them. (Deut. 28;15)
- Human sacrifice commanded by God. (Lev; 27; 28)
- David sends seven innocent men to be sacrificed to God to stop a famine. (2 Sam. 21;1)
- God's rules of slavery. (Ex. 21;2)
- Daughters may be sold and never freed. (Ex. 21; 7).
- Woman may be captured, raped and kept, then expelled when one tires of them. (Deut. 21; 10)
- God suggests murder & kidnapping as a method of obtaining wives. (Judges 21;7)
- Priests' daughters are to be burnt alive for loss of virginity; (Lev. 21; 9)
- God commands the murder of babies. (Num. 31;18)
- God sanctions the rape of little girls. (Num. 31;18)
- Death for those who follow other religions. (Ex 22; 20)
- God murders 50,070 men for looking inside his box. (I Sam. 6;19)
- God orders complete "ethnic cleansing" and the enslavement of 32,000 virgins; wholesale massacre of the captured women and children. (Num. 31; 1)
- The Lord divides the human "booty" between the warriors and the congregation, and takes a share for himself. (Num 31; 25)
- The LORD directs the total massacre of the population of 60 cities. (Deut. 3; 3 – 7)
- God directs his treasured chosen ones in the genocide of the seven nations of Canaan. (Deut. 7; 1-6)

References:

Finally top Bible scholar "Professor Bart D. Ehrman" leaves Christianity.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Ln-S7ZraUc&feature=related>

2. Trinity

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal (see Gen. 1:26; Isa. 9:6; Matt. 3:16,17; 28:19; Luke 1:35; Heb. 3:7-11; 1 John 5:7).

Rejoinder

This is a matter of theology and personal belief and has no logical or experiential character. We too have a trinity based upon the existential laws of the universe The Absolute Reality (Brahman) manifest in the world as the energy of generation (Brahma) the energy of sustenance (Vishnu) and the energy of transformation (Shiva) — these are actual energies which are self-evident facts.

3. Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100 percent God and 100 percent man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for humankind and, thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory (see Isa. 9:6; John 1:1,14; 20:28; Phil. 2:5,6; 1 Tim. 2:5; 3:16).

Rejoinder

Jesus was a theological construct, a myth and never an historical character, he did not actually live on earth nor perform miracles nor was resurrected from the dead — all these are theological/mythological statements and not historically true. What is true from a mythological point of view is not necessarily true from an historical point of view.

We too have many stories about our gods and saviors but acknowledge that they exist in the realm of theology and mythology and are not verifiable historical characters. It is not their historicity which is important but their theological and spiritual meaning and significance to us — here and now.

- We know more historical details about the ancient Pharaohs and individual Caesars than we know about Jesus.
- For the existence of Jesus all we have is the statements of the four evangelists who never actually met their character.
- Contemporary historians both Jewish and non-Jewish all mention king Herod during whose reign Jesus was allegedly born. And they all give accurate and verifiable biographical details of his life – but not a word about the god-savior who did so many amazing miracles! Even raising the dead!
- In order for us to believe in an historical person we need independent verification of their existence. It is not evidence for the select group of collude in a unverifiable claim.
- Even Paul the founder of Christianity knows nothing of Jesus birth and early biography and only declares that he died and rose from the dead — but he too never met Jesus and received his information from others.

References:

<http://jesuspuzzle.humanists.net/home.htm>

4. Virgin Birth

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (see Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18,23-25; Luke 1:27-35).

Rejoinder

A myth based upon an incorrect reading of the Old Testament vide Isa 7:14 —There are many such myths abounding among the Romans and the Greeks as well it is of no spiritual significance whatsoever. Even Paul, the founder of Christian never mentions it.

5. Redemption

Humanity was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression, it fell. Humanity's only hope for redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (see Gen. 1:26-31; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-21).

Rejoinder

A theological assumption and indeed a very pessimistic view of human nature. How is humankind "fallen" what is the nature of this "transgression" from which we need to be redeemed? Is it from human nature itself? Christian would say it is "original sin" which has infected all humankind because of Adam. It is the inclination to do what is wrong. But what is "right" and "wrong" in the Bible — it is what God says is right and wrong; and he certainly has his own arbitrary and ever changing standards. See rejoinder #1.

6. Regeneration

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential (see John 6:44,65).

Rejoinder

Nonsense from a Hindu point of view – we are each and every one of us is a spark of the Divine and intrinsically share divinity with our Source — God. So we have no need of any intervention by some spurious "Holy Spirit" – all we need is the instruction of a competent guru, meditation upon the teaching of our essential nature and the realization of the same.

7. Salvation

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human effort (see Rom. 10:9,10; Acts 16:31; Gal. 2:16; 3:8; Eph. 2:8,9; Titus 3:5; Heb. 9:22).

Rejoinder

This is a good and charitable statement — unsolicited gifts from God are good, but why does the omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent God still wish us to “buy” our salvation through an act of “faith” meaning a subscription to an irrational and blind belief in mythological event which is too ridiculous for any intelligent person to believe? Tertullian an early father of the church said “credo qui absurdum” — “I believe because it is so absurd that no human mind could have conceive of it — therefore it must come from God!”

How can one “choose” to believe in non-sense? Can you choose to believe that Homer Simpson is the incarnation of God on earth and the only redeemer? Try really really hard for a few minutes to believe that Elvis didn't die but was taken by aliens to the Andromeda Galaxy!

9. Repentance

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (see Acts 2:21; 3:19; 1 John 1:9).

Rejoinder

Looking around us and through history we do not see that many Christians have turned away from what might call “objective” sin – murder, rape, pillage, torture, causing suffering to others, war, exploitation etc. We also have had Church-instituted and sanctioned violence in the Inquisition, imperial exploitation, extortion, genocide, stealing of children, child-abuse etc. all by men of the cloth who taught us to be repentant! Christians as nations have usually been as bad or even worse than any other upon the earth. All these Christian nations have proclaimed the “good news of repentance and salvation!” How do the “saved” differ in appearance from the “damned”?

10. Sanctification

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (see Rom. 8:29; 12:1,2; 2 Cor. 3:18; 6:14-18; 1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:1-3; Heb. 2:11).

Rejoinder

What Holy Word (Bible) should we be yielding to? Exactly which of the huge catalogue of teaching should we be following? (See rejoinder to #1) Again we do not see evidence of this in the behavior of the average Christian . All Christians are still subjected to selfishness, anger, greed, envy, delusion, pride, inconsideration etc. So the Holy Spirit is obviously inefficient and not working too well if at all! How do the “saved” differ in appearance from the “damned”? Non Christians like Hindus and atheists too are seen to be living very good, pious and humanitarian lives without the intervention of the Holy Spirit.

11. Jesus' Blood

The blood that Jesus Christ shed on the cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100 percent sufficient to cleanse humankind from all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death (see John 1:29; Rom. 3:10-12,23; 5:9; Col. 1:20; 1 John 1:7; Rev. 1:5; 5:9).

Rejoinder

How can sin reside in the blood? Is it an organic thing like staph? If it is then how can the human sacrifice of 2000 years ago purify our blood in the 21st century?

How can the penalty of sin be death? Animals and plants also die – have they also sinned? Every living thing dies. Christians die – even the church fathers and bishops and their saints and prophets! To say that death is caused by sin is the most outrageous statement!

Why would an omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent God need to go through this charade in order to purify souls? If Jesus was God himself how could he experience suffering? Surely God is beyond all suffering. According to Hindu teachings suffering rises through identification with the body — how could a transcendent infinite and perfect being experience suffering? So this act is completely meaningless!

How did he purify them in the past? Humans have lived on earth for tens of thousands of years, the myth of Jesus has been around for less than 2000 years, so what happened to all the trillions of people that died before the Christian faith emerged? Did God find that his previous cleansing activities were not efficient and decided to review them? Or did he decide that the previous generations were not in need of “cleansing”?

12. Jesus Christ Indwells All Believers

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to Him, thus making Jesus the Lord of their lives as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried and rose again from the dead (see John 1:12; 14:17,23; 15:4; Rom. 8:11; Rev. 3:20).

Rejoinder

So if Jesus “indwells” in all believers that means he must be omnipresent. If he is omnipresent how does he prevent himself from being present in non-believers? Or perhaps he is able to withdraw or contract his non-material omnipresence from non-believers — this makes no sense whatsoever. Either Jesus/God is omnipresent or He is not, omnipresence is not selective. According to Hindu Scriptures God pervades everything in the entire universe.

13. Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Given at Pentecost, the baptism in the Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father. It was sent by Jesus after His Ascension to empower the Church to preach the gospel throughout the whole earth (see Joel 2:28,29; Matt. 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5; 2:1-4,17,38,39; 8:14-17; 10:38,44-47; 11:15-17; 19:1-6).

Rejoinder

Historically Evangelism goes hand in hand with imperialism, chauvinism and western supremacy. The soldiers and the merchants of old always followed the missionaries. The missionaries stole the spirituality of the natives, the soldiers stole their land and the merchants stole their resources. The English Imperialist agenda was justified by the pious desire to bring "The light" to the heathens of the third world! The real agenda was for material exploitation. The genocide practiced by the (Protestant) Founding Fathers of America, by the (Anglican) English in Tasmania, by the (Calvinist) Dutch in South Africa are all well documented historical facts.

When the Christian Europeans arrived in America in 1492 there were an estimated 80 million native inhabitants — by 1550 only 10 million remained. In Mexico on the eve of the Christian conquest there were about 25 million people, by 1600 only 1 million remained. In the West Indies almost the entire population was exterminated. In Santo Domingo in 1492 there were about 1 million inhabitants, by 1530 only 10,000 were left. In Cuba in 1492 there were an estimated 600,000 natives, by 1570 only 270 households remained. In North America too million Native Americans — the pious "pilgrims" egged on by their fundamentalist Baptist preachers quoting biblical passages and demonising the natives slaughtered men, women and children.

14. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the Church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection and confirm the power of the gospel. The lists of these gifts in the Bible are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of biblical parameters (see Rom. 1:11; 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31; 14:1-40; Eph. 4:16; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:5-16; Heb. 2:4; 1 Pet. 4:10).

Rejoinder

The alleged gifts of the holy spirit are healing, talking in tongues and prophecy. Healing will be dealt with below. Studies of "talking in tongues" have proven that no actual language modern or ancient is actually spoken – what emanates from the mouths of the believers so "gifted" is unintelligible gibberish — if this is the "gift" of the holy Spirit Christians are welcome to accept and cherish them!

Christians are obsessed with prophecy and base so much of their faith and theology on it. Yet there are no Prophecies in the Bible that have ever been fulfilled with any degree of accuracy. In fact they are often claimed to be prophecy after the fact. In other words justification is found for incidents by dredging up obscure prophecies and taking them out of context. Much like the prophecies of Nostradamus. What is the point of revealing future events in such cryptic language that no one can understand or do anything about.

Even the god of the bible makes prophecies and promises that have never been fulfilled. For example

Exod 23: 25-26 Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.

Do Christian countries, communities and individuals not suffer from drought, crop failures, epidemics, miscarriages or infertility?

Mark 16; 17,18 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

Gosh! Really?

15. The Church

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person born of the Spirit is an integral part of the Church as a member of the Body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (see John 17:11,20-23; Eph. 1:22; 2:19-22; Heb. 12:23).

Rejoinder

Which Church exactly is the TRUE Church? The Catholics? Anglicans? Baptists? Evangelicals? Anabaptists? Methodists? Presbyterians? Uniting church? Jehovah's witnesses? Mormons? Lutherans? Calvinists? Raelians? Are they all part of the same Body of believers? If so why do their doctrines and dogmas differ so widely as to be irreconcilable at times? Why have they even persecuted and murdered each other – each declaring the other to be heretics! If God inhabits the "Church" through his Holy Spirit then his management practice is seriously in doubt!

16. Two Sacraments

1. **Water Baptism:** Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (see Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38).⁴
2. **The Lord's Supper:** A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. (See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12,36-38; 10:47,48; 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:23-26).

Rejoinder

The Catholics hold with transubstantiation — the wine and the bread actually and physically change into the body and blood of Jesus. The Protestants believe it is symbolically so. Thus the central sacrament of Christianity is cannibalism and "theophagia" (eating god) — in the case of the Catholics it is real cannibalism whereas for the others it is symbolic cannibalism!

17. Healing of the Sick

Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign that is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit (see Ps. 103:2,3; Isa. 53:5; Matt. 8:16,17; Mark 16:17,18; Acts 8:6,7; Rom. 11:29; 1 Cor. 12:9,28; Jas. 5:14-16).

Rejoinder

Remarkable work has been done by Christians in the setting up of hospitals, hospices and health systems — for this they must be commended. But as far as hysterical alleged “faith healings” through laying on of the hands and “Revival” campaigns — vigorous condemnation is in order! If Christian pastors and true believers can heal through the name of Jesus why are as many Christians sick with chronic diseases as are non Christians? Why are these “healings” done in group settings of mass hysteria rather than construction of hospitals for “faith” healing where people can make appointments and their healing process monitored by doctors and other health specialists to be scientifically documented and proved? How many of these “miracles” are followed up on? Where is the documented evidence of their claims? Sensible people should rather put their faith in the modern health system and not believe these charlatans.

18. God's Will for Provision

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on earth. That fact, though, should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to serve others.

Spiritual (see John 3:3-11; Rom. 10:9,10; 2 Cor. 5:17-21).

Mental and emotional (see Isa. 26:3; Rom. 12:2; Phil. 4:7,8; 2 Tim. 1:7; 2:11).

Physical (see Isa. 53:4,5; Matt. 8:17; 1 Pet. 2:24).

Financial (see Deut. 28:1-14; Josh. 1:8; Ps. 34:10; 84:11; Mal. 3:10,11; Luke 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:6-10; Phil. 4:19).

Rejoinder

So health, wealth and abundance is a sure sign of god's favor whereas poverty, sickness, deprivation, natural catastrophes, etc are all a sign of god's displeasure! So in that case why are there so many wealthy, healthy and talented non-Christians and why are so many Christians suffering deprivation? Why did the Tsunami destroy so many Christian communities and churches.

19. Resurrection

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. As a result, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected — they that are saved to the resurrection of life, and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (see Luke 24:16,36,39; John 2:19-21; 20:26-28; 21:4; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:42,44; Phil. 1:21-23; 3:21).

Rejoinder

This is silly fiction is the corner-stone of the entire edifice of Christianity. Christianity rests or falls on this outrageous claim. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof!

Physical Bodies are comprised of atoms; is it scientifically possible for dead bodies to reconstitute themselves and revive?

Every constituted substance will eventually de-constitute – where do these resurrected bodies live? In a physical realm or a spiritual realm? When analyzed this doctrine is entirely foolish, impossible and improbable!

All Christians will affirm that they believe this silliness because there were trustworthy witnesses to the amazing event. In actual fact the Gospel writers never actually witnessed the things that they reported on. They are actually reporting on an alleged event that occurred 30 – 100 years before they took up their pens! If there were witnesses then surely they would concur with each other. If that be the case then why are there so many discrepancies in the accounts?

How Long was Jesus in the tomb?

In Mat 12:40 Jesus says the sign is that he will be in the heart of the earth for 3 days and 3 nights just like the fabled Jonah was in the belly of the fish.

In Mark 16:42 we learn that he spent one day and 2 nights in the tomb above the earth why did Jesus lie?

Who were the women that discovered the open tomb?

Mark 16:1 -7

1. Mary Magdalene
2. Mary mother of James
3. Salome

Luke 24: 1-12

1. Mary Magdalene
2. Mary mother of James
3. Joanna
4. Other women

Matt 28: 1

1. Mary Magdalene
2. Mary mother of James

John 20:1-16

1. Mary Magdalene

What did they find?

A young man dressed in white.

2 men in shining garments appear.

An earthquake suddenly occurs, an angel descends from heaven and rolls away the stone

Finds the tomb empty then runs to call Simon Peter and the beloved disciple, they come and then run away, Mary then meets the 2 angels in white and turns around and meets Jesus himself and chats to him.

What did they do?

Nothing – they kept silent.

The women tell the apostles.

All the women went to tell the disciples and on the way they meet Jesus.

She then goes to tell the disciples.

Then we actually have an historical marker!

Matthew 27:51-53: *And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in two from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks split; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.*

None of the other Gospels mention these things. Surely if hordes of zombies came out of the ground and swarmed into Jerusalem, at least one of the Jewish or Roman historians at the time would have recorded this? Imagine you are Matthew, writing about this incredible scene. Surely you would list some of the names of these "saints", and the names of some of the witnesses they appeared to? After they had all swarmed into Jerusalem what happened to them? Where did they go?

Read it again carefully. Notice how the saints arose from the dead at the crucifixion, but only came out of the graves "after his resurrection" - *where were they in the three days between these two events?* Sitting waiting patiently in their tombs for Jesus to rise first?

20. Second Coming

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (see Matt. 24:30; 26:63,64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 1:7,8; Rev. 1:7).

Rejoinder

Christ's false promise of his speedy return in glory.

Matt 24:3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

27-35 For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other..... Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, **this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. (see Mark 13; 25-30 Luke 21; 22-33, and Matt. 25; 31-46.)

This prophecy by the Son of God states quite emphatically and specifically that the second coming and the final Day of Judgment etc will be completely fulfilled within the lifetime of the generation then living. 2000 years have passed and there is still no hint of the predicted signs occurring. This prediction more than anything else gives the lie to Biblical prophecies, if the most specific prophecy has been a lie how can we expect to put our trust in the vague and non-specific ones?.

Jesus announces the Day of Judgment to be close at hand.

Matt. 16: 27-28 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. **I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."**

Mark 9: 1 ¶ And he said to them, **"I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."** (see Luke 10:27.)

John 21: 22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

These passages show clearly that Jesus' second coming in power and glory, enthronement and Judgment was to take place during the lifetime of the then existing generation. Seeing that they were never fulfilled there are two options based on whether Jesus actually said these things.

1. If they are an accurate record of Jesus' statements than he is a false prophet.
2. If the Gospel writers have put them into his mouth then the Gospels are unreliable fabrications.

In either case the conclusion would be that Christianity is based on falsehood.

21. Heaven & Hell

Heaven; is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Matt. 5:3,12,20; 6:20; 19:21; 25:34; John 17:24; 2 Cor. 5:1; Heb. 11:16; 1 Pet. 1:4).

Hell: After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to hell where they will be eternally tormented with the devil and the fallen angels (see Matt. 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Heb. 9:27; Rev. 14:9-11; 20:12-15; 21:8).

Rejoinder

Every nation on earth including Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, Romans, Greeks, Persians, Native Americans, Maya, Aztec etc. have all had accounts of Heaven and Hell. What makes the Christian heaven and hell more real than all the other nations'?

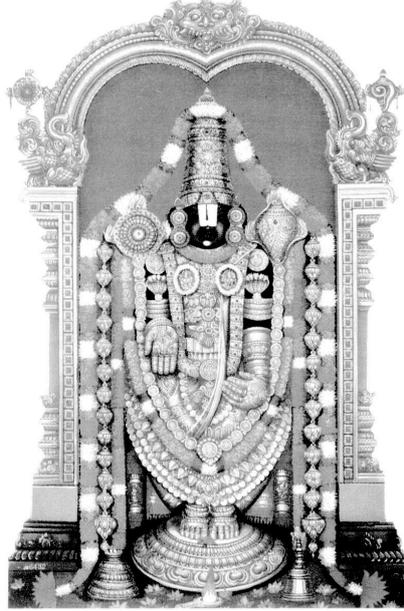
Hinduism categorically declares Heaven to be an inferior goal and not worthy of pursuit! Both heaven and hell are said to be temporary states of being, conditioned by our positive or negative actions. Once the fruit is exhausted we return again to earth to continue our evolution. Divine justice is perfect – and all actions have their reward in perfect measure. Finite causes cannot produce infinite results!

How is it conceivable for a compassionate and just God to condemn the majority of humankind to an eternity of incredible and unremitted suffering for a thought crime (refusal to believe non-sense)? And how can any human being, especially one elevated to the status of "saved" tolerate the fact that they will be living in palaces of beauty, comfort and plenty and enjoying every pleasure while in the next valley there are huge concentration camps of miserable tormented beings, burning, crying and screaming?

Let us consider the Prayer of King Rantideva from the Srimad Bhagavatam:—

“I do not ask for prosperity, celestial pleasures, nor even final liberation from the Lord, all I ask is that I may relieve the suffering of all beings by identifying with their misery.” (S.B. 9:21:12)

Ramanuja acharya declared that he himself would voluntarily go to hell if all other beings could be liberated!



The Nature of God Narayana by Ramanuja

Narayana is the consort of Sri. He is absolutely auspicious and is the antithesis of all that is evil. His essential nature consists of Being (*sat*), Consciousness (*cit*) and Bliss/love (*ananda*) and these characteristics distinguish Him from all other beings. He is veritably a great ocean of innumerable auspicious attributes which are intrinsic to His nature and cannot be surpassed — some of them being; omniscience, omnipotence, sovereignty, energy, creative-potency and glory.

Narayana has a divine form, which is both pleasing and appropriate. His form is inconceivable, indescribable¹, divine, eternal and immaculate. He is a repository of limitless perfections such as radiance, beauty, fragrance, tenderness, pervading sweetness and youthfulness. The Lord is adorned with suitable divine ornaments which are diverse, infinite, amazing, eternal, flawless, unlimited and holy.

The feet of the Lord are constantly adored by countless numbers of perfected beings (*Suris*) whose nature, existence and activities are in accordance with His will and whose numerous qualities such as knowledge, action and glory are eternal, impeccable and unsurpassed. All of these beings work joyously in complete subservience to Narayana.

The nature and qualities of Narayana transcend all thought and words. The projection, maintenance and dissolution of the entire cosmos filled with multifarious, variegated and innumerable objects is His transcendental pastime.

Who would leave this God for the angry, spiteful, nasty, vindictive, unjust and evil Christian god?

Rejected Texts

Just for interest, I have listed below a list of gospels and early writings that were in vogue among various churches for the first 300 years and then excluded from the Bible. Many Christians have probably never heard of these. You can find most of them on the web and some of them make for interesting reading.

Apocryphon of James (also called the "Secret Book of James")
 Authoritative Teaching
 Book of Thomas the Contender
 Dialogue of the Saviour
 Eugnostos the Blessed
 Gnostic Apocalypse of Peter
 Gospel of Appelles
 Gospel of Bardesanes
 Gospel of Bartholomew
 Gospel of Basilides
 Gospel of Cerinthus
 Gospel of Mani
 Gospel of Marcion
 Gospel of Mary (also called the "Gospel of Mary Magdalene")
 Gospel of Nicodemus (also called the "Acts of Pilate")
 Gospel of Peter
 Gospel of Philip
 Gospel of the Ebionites
 Gospel of the Hebrews
 Gospel of the Nazarenes
 Gospel of Philip
 Gospel of Thomas
 Gospel of Truth
 Gospel of the Egyptians
 Greek Gospel of the Egyptians (distinct from the Coptic Gospel of the Egyptians)
 Melchizedek
 On the Origin of the World
 Questions of Bartholomew
 Resurrection of Jesus Christ
 The Acts of Peter and the Twelve Apostles
 The Apocalypse of Adam
 The Apocalypse of Paul
 The Apocryphon of James (also known as the Secret Book of James)
 The Apocryphon of John
 The Book of Thomas the Contender
 The Concept of Our Great Power
 The Dialogue of the Saviour
 The Exegesis on the Soul
 The First Apocalypse of James
 The Hypostasis of the Archons
 The Letter of Peter to Philip
 The Paraphrase of Shem
 The Prayer of the Apostle Paul
 The Second Apocalypse of James
 The Second Treatise of the Great Seth
 The Sophia of Jesus Christ
 The Teachings of Silvanus
 The Testimony of truth

The Thought of Norea
The Three Steles of Seth
The Thunder, Perfect Mind
The Treatise on the Resurrection
The Tripartite Tractate
Zostrianos
1 Maccabees
2 Maccabees