

In the second paragraph of the article<sup>1</sup> the author argues that the idea of sin<sup>2</sup> in Christian Science differs from that of historical, biblical Christianity.

If sin is not real<sup>3</sup>, then Christ died for no good reason. In reality, Christ died to set men free from their sin (Mt 1:21).

The apostle Paul struggled with the old nature (Ro 7:19). He knew that his natural body<sup>4</sup>, likened to a tent (2 Cor 5:1a), would one day be made new (vv. 5:1b, 2b, 4b–5)<sup>5</sup>

Christian Science (neither Christian nor science) is a cult (2 Pe 2:1)<sup>6</sup>.

Matthew Slick wrote:

To the Christian Scientist, Jesus is a Way-shower. He is someone who epitomized the true principle of the Christ Consciousness, which indwells us all. Therefore, Jesus did not really die on the cross. He was not God in flesh. He made no atonement in shedding His blood (S&H, 25:6).

Christian Science teaches that man does not have a sinful nature and is a reflection of Divine Mind. To achieve "salvation," he needs only to find the true reality of understanding, as revealed in Christian Science teachings. Unfortunately, these teachings are from Mary Baker Eddy, a woman who founded the religion in the 1870's, and not from God.<sup>7</sup>

All cults and 'isms get it wrong about the person of Jesus Christ (Jn 1:1-3). Gino Geraci said, "If you get it wrong about Jesus, it doesn't matter what you get right."

Jesus was like other men yet without sin (He 4:15). He was victorious over temptation (Mt 4:1-11). Jesus--and Jesus alone--is able to help others who struggle with sin (He 2:18). He is the bridge between God and man (1 Ti 2:5). Trust in him enables one to live a victorious life (Phil 4:13) in the flesh (Ga 5:16–21). This ability is non-existent for the unregenerate man (1 Jn 5:4).

Christians, unlike those enslaved by sin (Jn 8:34) can resist Satan (Jas 4:7)<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Christian Science teaches that God—Father-Mother of all—is completely good and wholly spiritual and that all God's creation, including the true nature of every person, is the flawless spiritual likeness of the Divine. Since God's creation is good, evils such as disease, death, and sin cannot be a part of fundamental reality. Rather, these evils are the result of living apart from God. Prayer is a central way to come closer to God and heal human ills. This differs from the Bible, which teaches that man is born in sin inherited from Adam's fall and that sin separates us from God. Without God's saving grace through the death of Christ on the cross, we would never be healed of the ultimate sickness—sin. What is Christian Science? GotQuestions.org 19 Jun 18:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-science.html>

<sup>2</sup> Hamartiology, or the study of sin.

<sup>3</sup> Man is, in fact, born with a sin nature (Ps 51:5).

<sup>4</sup> Referred to as: filled with groans and sighs (5:2a), dying (3–4a) and unable to see Jesus face-to-face (5:6–8).

Willmington, H. L. (1999). *The Outline Bible* (2 Co 5:1–8). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

<sup>5</sup> Referred to as: a home in heaven (5:1b), without groans or sighs (5:4b), eternal (5:2b) and able to see Jesus face-to-face (5:5). Ibid, 2 Co 5:1–5.

<sup>6</sup> Cults deny the deity of Jesus Christ (Jn 1:1-3).

<sup>7</sup> Is Christian Science Christian? Slick, Matthew. InPlainSite.org 19 Jun 18:

[http://www.inplainsite.org/html/christian\\_science.html#Is%20Christian](http://www.inplainsite.org/html/christian_science.html#Is%20Christian)

<sup>8</sup> Results of the new birth include: new creature (2 Cor. 5:17), changed life (Rom. 6:4–11), holy life (1 John 3:9), righteousness (1 John 2:29), love (1 John 3:10), victory (1 John 5:4). Ibid, p. 111.

