

Counterfeiters

Mount Shasta Evangelical Free Church

And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness...

2 Corinthians 11:14-15

Christian Science:

- Christian Science founded by Mary Baker Eddy
- Her book “Science And Health With Key To The Scriptures” is foundation of the church.
- The Christian Science Monitor and other publications are important parts of Christian Science.
- Christian Science teachings are modern iterations of 1st and 2nd century Gnosticism.
- Gnostics and Christian Science reject the physical world and only acknowledge the spirit world.
- Mary Baker Eddy reinterpreted the Bible along eastern, mystical lines.
- The Christian Science Trinity: God the Father/Mother, Christ the idea of sonship, the Holy Spirit is divine science or holy comforter.

- Christian Science is a modern manifestation of Gnosticism.

- Gnostics believed they were saved through secret *gnosis* (Greek for “knowledge”).

- Gnostics reject the physical world as corrupt. The world of spirit is true reality.

- A multi-layered understanding was dominant in Gnosticism.

- Things to remember:
 1. God created the physical realm and it was good.

 2. The eternal state will see a new earth (a new physical realm!).

 3. Man is a single being, both physical and spiritual.

 4. Like all other counterfeits, the Trinity is rejected.

 5. The Incarnation is a glorious doctrine of the Church: Jesus Christ is fully God, yet fully man, not a man who represents an ideal.

 6. Christianity certainly saves the individual, but it is the Bride of Christ that we are a part of. We need to focus on the communal aspect of the church.