

Introduction

When reading the Bible it becomes obvious to the serious Bible student, the Old and New Testaments each present God in a vastly different way. The god of the Old Testament is a god of war and a murderer who boasted of *being jealous and the creator of evil*. (Isaiah 45:6&7, Exodus 34:14) The God in the New Testament is entirely different, He is the God of love and peace. (2nd Cor. 13:11)

It will be shown in this essay how the modern translators of the Old Testament have taken steps to conceal the **antithesis** between the Gods of the Old and New Testaments. Many Christian ministers are aware of this matter but remain publicly silent, hoping it will not be noticed. Most Churchgoers do not study their Bibles well enough to notice this **antithesis** (*opposites*) between the Gods of the Old and New Testaments. When the ministry is asked why the god of the Old Testament had so many people killed, they are embarrassed and generally give unreasonable and even stupid answers. In my early Christian life I asked my assistant pastor, “*Why did God in the Old Testament have so many people killed?*” His answer will never be forgotten. “*He said those people God had killed were pagans and deserved to die!*” This answer was spontaneous without really realizing what he said. This goes to show how unprepared he and most ministers are to defend or deal with the evil actions of the Old Testament god.

There is a vast difference between the Old and New Testaments, they are not about the same God or the same people and do not contain the same theology. When the unbiased student of the Bible understands this it will be seen the Hebrew god Jehovah is *selfish, vindictive, a racist, ethnic cleanser, child murderer, genocidal war god who boastfully claimed to be jealous and the creator of evil*. These accusations will doubtlessly appear to be **absurd and blasphemous to the Christian who is unfamiliar with the Old Testament**. The reader is asked to bear with us as we search the Old Testament believing it to be an accurate record penned by Jehovah’s prophets, we will let *it speak for itself*. This essay will explain in both scriptural and in historical terms how and why this **antithesis** of the Gods became a major issue that divided the church during the second century. This

became known as the Marcion Controversy and eventually led to bloodshed. More details on this will be shown in this writing.

The Antithesis

Many observant Christians who have seriously studied their Bibles have likely noticed the God represented in the Old Testament has an entirely different personality and motive than the God Jesus introduced in the New Testament. Many leaders in modern Christianity are well aware of this problem but their theology does not allow them to deal with it. Some theologians in an effort to make this *antithesis* harmonize with their theology have come up with various sorts of '*spin*' such as '*progressive revelation*' i.e. the Old Testament revealed Jehovah in a much better way as time progressed. This answer is without Bible support; the last book in the Old Testament has the following to say about Jehovah, "***I, Jehovah, change not.***" In the same book we read, "***If ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory to my name, saith Jehovah of hosts, then will I send the curse upon you, - I will spread dung upon your faces.***" (*Malachi 3:6 & 2:2&3 ASV*) This doesn't sound very much like Jehovah ever had a change of heart! Various excuses are given for Jehovah's evil acts. However it is rather difficult to make an excuse for the Old Testament record when Jehovah says this about himself; "***I form the light, and create darkness; I make peace, and create evil; I am Jehovah, that doeth all these things.***" (*Isaiah 45:7 ASV*)

Jesus, in His sermon on the mount (*Matt. Ch. 5*) made it clear, **an antithesis existed** between His teaching and that of the Mosaic Law, and "***The people were astonished at His doctrine.***" (*Matt. 7:28*) The Apostle Paul also strongly emphasizes this **antithesis** between the Mosaic Law and the teaching of Jesus. (*Matt. 7:28, John 1:17, Luke 16:16 & 2 Cor. 3:15*)

During the 1st century, there was no New Testament canon, so the Jesus Movement relied upon the Hebrew Scriptures along with the teachings of Jesus that had been passed down to them by oral tradition; some had the letters of Paul and a few other writings. Christianity at its beginning was a Jesus Movement engulfed in Judaism. About 38 A.D. Saul of Tarsus, a devout Pharisee, was converted to Jesus and began to preach his version of the Gospel

that he called “*My Gospel*” and “*The Gospel which I preach*”. (Rom. 2:16 & Gal. 2:2) He said he received this gospel by revelation from the Risen Jesus. (Rom. 2:16 & 16:25, Gal. 1:12) To him Christianity **was not** an extinction of or any part of Judaism. James, Peter and John with other Jews were not as willing to give up some of their Judaic beliefs and practices. Some historians have said had it not been for the Apostle Paul, Christianity would have been absorbed into Judaism before the end of the first century. There would have never been a New Testament or the **antithesis** between the Hebrew god and the Heavenly Father. Judaic Christianity would have had Jehovah as the only god and the Heavenly Father would have been forgotten. It would have been unknown that Jesus introduced the Heavenly Father as the “**Only true God**”. (John 17:3) The purpose of this essay is to show how the Bible makes a vast difference between the Hebrew god Jehovah and the Heavenly Father, the God of Jesus.

Introducing YHWH the god in the Old Testament

A good place to begin this discussion is to use the Old Testament introduction of the Hebrew god Jehovah. Jehovah revealed himself to Moses as follows: “***I am Jehovah: I appeared to Abraham, unto Isaac and unto Jacob by the name of God Almighty, but by my name Jehovah I was not known to them***”. (Exodus 6:3 ASV) Later translators avoid rendering the proper translation of the Hebrew YHWH; they use LORD instead of Jehovah. The American Standard translates YHWH to Jehovah 5760 times, Young’s Literal translation 5733 times, the Darby translation 5720 times, the King James Version only 4 times. The New American Standard, the New International Version and the New King James Version **do not mention Jehovah at all**. They use LORD instead of the proper name Jehovah, even though LORD is **not a name** but a **title**. This **title** is used for Jesus, i.e. the Lord Jesus but Lord was not His name! Why did the translators fail to properly translate YHWH? The answer is simple; they wanted the Bible to show no difference between the Lord in the Old Testament and the Lord in the New Testament. This **intentional improper translation** has been very successful in accomplishing their purpose, as it has steered most Christians into believing the Hebrew god Jehovah to be the Heavenly Father, the God of Jesus. As we continue this

study it will be clearly seen from the Bible record, Jehovah and the Heavenly Father **ARE NOT** one and the same God.

The Controversy begins

The seeds were sown for this controversy very early in the Jesus Movement. When Paul was converted to Jesus he completely gave up Judaism. He believed he was motivated by the indwelling Spirit of Christ and had received his gospel by revelation from the Risen Jesus, Who was the Savior of mankind, whether they were Jews or Gentiles. James, Peter and John not agreeing with Paul's version of the Gospel, told him to take his Gospel to the Gentiles and they would preach their Gospel to the Jews. (*Gal. 2:9*) This decision resulted in a division within the apostolic church; this resulted in two different Gospels, Judaic and non-Judaic. This eventually caused a dispute between the Jewish and Gentile Christians at Antioch. Peter and Paul had serious words about this question. Paul even called Peter a hypocrite. (*Acts 15:2, Gal. 2:7-13*) The apostles held a council in Jerusalem in an effort to bring this controversy to closure. As far as the book of Acts is concerned this controversy was only settled in that the Gentiles were not to be burdened with Jewish religious customs. The pro-Jewish apostles as well as Paul continued evangelizing with their different gospels.

After Paul's death the seeds of the earlier controversy begin to germinate. The Gentile faction of the Jesus Movement was centered at Rome and they held much of the Judaic view in their brand of Christianity. Especially having the view that Jehovah and the Heavenly Father is one and the same God. Early in the second century a young Christian bishop from Sinope, by the name of Marcion, an avid disciple of Paul, appeared on the scene determined to rescue the Church from its Judaic beliefs. He understood how Paul had reprimanded the church at Galatia for much the same thing. (*See Gal. chapters 1 & 2*) The main point of contention between Marcion and the Roman Church was the *antithesis* between Jehovah and the Heavenly Father. He believed Paul had shown this *antithesis (the opposites)* of Jehovah's law and the grace of God the Father. He understood Paul to have rejected the Old Testament and its god by saying the reading of the Old Testament and Moses would veil the heart from Jesus. (*2nd Cor. 3:16*)

The Marcion Controversy

It has been estimated that Marcion was born about 70 A.D. and began his ministry shortly after 100 A.D. His ministry lasted until after 150 A.D. and he lived to be about 85 years old. He was a devoted follower of the Apostle Paul whom he believed was the only apostle who really understood Jesus. In his mind he saw himself as a reformer to bring the Church back to the true gospel of Christ as preached by Paul, who used such statements as “**Christ is the end of the Law**”, and ‘**The law was a curse, Paul even went so far as to refer to Judaism as rubbish.**’ (Phl.3:8) He understood the God of Paul to be the Heavenly Father, as he told the Corinthians; “**There are gods many, but us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things and we in Him.**” (1 Cor.8:6)

“Even before Marcion and the great Gnostic theologians appeared upon the scene, there were apparently many Christians who declined to accept the God of the Jews.” (The God of The Early Christians, page 67, by Arthur C. McGiffert 1924) This could account for the widely acceptance of Marcion’s non-Judaic Gospel by the Gentiles, as they resisted accepting the vindictive jealous Hebrew god to be the God of Jesus. *“As Marcion saw it, the God of the Old Covenant was merciless, stern and cruel, full of passion, fanaticism, wrath, partisanship, pettiness. His justice was purely formalistic: an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. His self-contradictions and weaknesses, his vacillations and his morality questionable commandments had to be rejected. Marcion’s criticism culminated in his demonstration that the Old Testament God had been an instigator of wars, a breaker of promises, and a master of malice. Marcion regarded him as an enemy.”* (Heretics by Walter Nigg, p. 63)

“Already around the Year 150, Justin says that the Marcion teaching has spread to the whole human race and they placed great value in being called Chrestians¹. Tertullian states: Marcion’s heretical tradition has filled the whole world.” (Apol. 26.5-6) (Orthodoxy & Heresy in earliest Christianity by Walter Bauer.)

¹ Jesus was first called the Chrestos, the Greek for the benevolent one. This was later changed to the Greek Christos, the anointed one, to make Jesus the Messiah.

These quotes from the early church fathers strongly indicate Marcion's ministry extended over a period of several years and was very successful. The number of Marcion's converts, who called themselves *Chrestians*², had become so great it caused the politically powerful bishops in the Roman Church to become very angry. They vigorously defended their pro-Jewish brand of Christianity, maintaining Jehovah was the Heavenly Father and called Marcion a heretic. This conflict grew into one of the greatest divisions among Christians in recorded history, proportionately as great as the Reformation. This historical event is unknown to most Christians.

Meanwhile the 'orthodox' bishops in Rome had no New Testament canon to support their views, the evangelist Marcion compiled the very first New Testament canon about 142-144 A.D. It contained but one Gospel, called '**The Gospel of the Lord**' and the then known writings of Paul. These were Romans, 1st & 2nd Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians (*called Laodiceans*) Philippians, Colossians, 1st Thessalonians and Philemon. The Marcion canon did not contain *1st & 2nd Timothy, Titus or Hebrews*. These writings never appeared until about mid-second century, about seventy or more years after Paul's death. (*More on this later*)

The Marcion Gospel vs. the Gospel of Luke

The Judaic-Christian historians make the unfounded and false claim that Marcion used the Gospel of Luke and removed from it what he did not like to make his gospel. History does not support that claim but strongly indicates this in reverse. There are independent historians who are convinced, the author of Luke was of the 'orthodox' persuasion and that he edited and expanded the then existing **Marcion** Gospel for his gospel. He doubled its size by adding the birth story and the genealogy of Jesus, the story of John the Baptist along with some oral legendary stories about Jesus that were circulating at that time. This unknown author then dedicated his Gospel to Theophilus, who was the Bishop of Antioch, 150-180 A.D. This bit of internal evidence gives the approximate date in which this unnamed Gospel appeared that was later called the Gospel of Luke. The author of this gospel claims his information was taken from many *previous writings* along with

² See previous footnote.

oral information from unnamed sources. (*Luke 1:1-4*) He said many had written before him but he claimed to have perfect understanding of the events he recorded. He makes **no claim** for his gospel to be divinely inspired. It is interesting to note: “*The Marcion Gospel, the Protevangelion and The Gospel of the Infancy were all written before Luke*”. “Jerome (400 A.D.) had a good reason to say, *the gospel of Luke could not have been written before 160 A.D.*” (History of the Christian Religion by Charles Waite) “*There is little to indicate the existence of Luke – until the time of Justin, just before the middle of the century*” *Marcion and the New Testament by John Knox. P 130*

By searching history we learn the Marcion Gospel was in existence at least 12 or more years before there was the unnamed gospel that later became the gospel of Luke. *Luke contains the entire Marcion Gospel* along with many added inserts. History points to the Marcion Gospel being the basic source from which the editor of Luke said he obtained his information. (*Luke 1:1&2*)

To counter **Marcion's** work; the ‘orthodox fathers’ launched their attack on him by organizing into what they called the ‘**Universal**’ (*Catholic*) **Church**. To further their cause against Marcion they came up with 1st Timothy, and credited it to Paul. With a stroke of the pen they had *the Apostle Paul refuting Marcion's teaching*. It is interesting to note, this epistle uses the word ‘**antithesis**’ that is found in no Christian writings prior to those by Marcion. We find in 1st Timothy, “*O Timothy, keep that which is committed to your trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and contradictions (antitheses) of what is falsely called knowledge (Gnosis).*” (*1stTim. 6:20*) This statement and nearly all of the doctrial statements mentioned in *1st Timothy* identifies this epistle to the Marcion controversy of the second century.

Many Bible scholars believe 1st and 2nd Timothy and Titus have the ‘footprint’ of the editor of Luke & Acts. (*Luke 1:3 & Acts 1:1*) If this is true, these writings can be dated no earlier than 150 A.D. and during the time of the Marcion controversy.

The evangelist **Marcion** was not a Gnostic as claimed by his enemies, but he was a well-educated evangelist engaged in evangelizing the Gentiles in the Roman controlled countries, especially those bordering the Mediterranean. He brought more converts to Christianity than any other preacher during the second

century. He was well educated in the Scriptures. Even some of those who so drastically opposed him said he was a “*man of letters*”. We feel it was necessary for this essay to have given this brief history of the formation of the Marcion Gospel and the Gospel of Luke before we deal with

The Basis of Marcion’s Teaching

Marcion’s Antitheses began by quoting the words of Jesus as recorded in his ‘*Gospel of the Lord*’ 4:17, that later found their way into *Luke 6:43 & 44*, “*For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit.*” He then quoted *Isaiah 45:6&7*, “*I am Jehovah, and there is none else. I form the light and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I Jehovah do all these things.*” Based upon this and other passages in the Hebrew Scripture, Marcion understood Jehovah to be the *creator of darkness and evil*, and represented the tree that bore bad fruit. He saw the tree that produced good fruit to represent the Heavenly Father, the God of Jesus. He based his view upon comparing the Hebrew Scriptures with the teachings of Jesus and the Apostle Paul.

We now present Marcion’s case for the *antithesis* as he compared the Old Testament with the New Testament. It is not the purpose of this writing to deal with all the beliefs and teachings of Marcion. It is unfortunate that Marcion’s New Testament and his commentary called the **Antitheses** did not survive the destructive forces by the ‘orthodox fathers’. However enough was written about him, using quotes from his writings to show his ‘**Antitheses**’ made a very strong scriptural presentation for his case.

Thirty Seven Articles of the Antitheses:

The Old Testament Speaks for Itself!

1. Jehovah was untruthful to Adam. He told Adam, “*The day you eat of the tree you will surely die*” (*Gen.3:4*) Jehovah lied; Adam ate of the tree and he did not die or even ‘*fall*’. He was created a natural human being by a god who himself was evil. (*Isaiah 45:7*) It can hardly be called a ‘*fall*’ when his intelligence was elevated to that of the gods! (*Gen. 3:22*) Jehovah said to His council of gods, “***Behold man has become as one of Us, knowing good and evil***”. The serpent (*The most crafty creature on earth*) told the truth when he told Eve Jehovah would not carry out his threat. There has been a lot of ‘*spin*’ on Adam not dying, and about his *so-called* fall; but

we let the Bible speak for itself. Adam lived to be 930 years old and begot many sons and daughters. No mention is made of a 'fall'. Jehovah lied to Adam but the God of the New Testament cannot lie. (*Hebrew 6:18*) *Note: Adam never fell until Augustine 420 A.D.*

2. Jehovah told Moses to get permission from Pharaoh to take the Israelites a three days journey into the wilderness to offer a sacrifice to their god. (*Exodus 5:3*). This was really a **lie** because it was Jehovah's plan for his people to leave Egypt for good and go to the Promised Land. So Jehovah **lied** again, the Bible says, 'It is impossible for the God of the New Testament to lie.' (*Heb. 6:18*)

3. We read something very interesting from 1st Kings. "***I saw Jehovah sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him, on His right and on his is left. And Jehovah said, 'who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he might fall in Gilead? So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. Then a spirit came forward and stood before Jehovah and said, 'I will persuade him: Jehovah said in what way? So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets', and He said, 'You shall persuade him and prevail, go and do so.'***" This passage goes on to say, "***Jehovah hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets***" to accomplish the murder of King Ahab. (*1st Kings 22:22,23 & 40 ASV*) This is a very detailed account of how Jehovah and his council, the 'Principalities and Powers', got together and plotted the death of King Ahab. This passage resembles a mafia gang as they devise some evil plan to murder a victim. The antithesis here is; Jehovah is a murderer but Jesus came to save lives not to destroy them. (*Luke 9:56*)

4. Jehovah also stirred up the Pharisees, who in a like manner plotted the death of Jesus; He "***blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,***" (*John 12:40*) as a result, the Pharisees under Jehovah's influence and by using his law (*Lev. 24:16*) devised a plan whereby they could have Jesus murdered. However Jesus said, of the Father, "***Thy word is truth***". Paul said, "***All the promises of God in Him are yea and in Him Amen***". (*2nd Cor. 1:20*) The **God** that deceives and murders **cannot be the God whose word is truth.**

5, "***I Jehovah your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquities of the fathers on the children to the 3rd and 4th generation of those who hate me: And showing mercy to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.***" (*Exodus 20:5 ASV*) If

we take this passage at face value, Jehovah said he would punish the children for the sins of their fathers for 3 or 4 generations, while his love was extended only to the generation that loved him. This shows Jehovah's hatred to be as much as four times greater than his love! Jehovah was the god of Israel only, (*Deut.7:7*) ***"O Children of Israel, You only have I known of all the families of the earth"***. Jehovah loved only Israel (*Deut. 7:6-7, Amos 3:2*) but the Heavenly Father loves the world. (*John 3:16*)

6. Jehovah sent his death angel out among the Egyptians and killed all of their firstborn including infants and children. (*Exodus 11:5&6, 12:29&30*) Jesus said, ***"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven"*** (*Matthew 19:14*) Jehovah killed children but Jesus loved children. Every year the Jews celebrate with great joy Jehovah's murder of these children. This is called **"The Passover"**.

7. Jehovah hardened Pharaoh's heart so he would not let the Israelites go. This was so he could inflict great suffering upon the Egyptian people. (*Exodus 4:21 & 9:12*) Jehovah loved to see the people he hated suffer. ***"He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, Jehovah shall have them in derision."*** (*Ps. 2:4 ASV*) But when Jesus saw the sicknesses and sufferings of people, ***"He was moved with compassion for them,"*** (*Matthew 9:36*) While Jehovah laughs at them.

8. While Jeremiah was praying to Jehovah, he called him a deceiver, because he ***'deceived the people and Jerusalem.'*** (*Jer.4:10*) ***"I am Jehovah. And if the prophet be deceived - - I Jehovah have deceived that prophet."*** (*Ezek.14:9 ASV*) Jehovah deceived his prophets; in contrast Jesus said of the Father, ***"Thy word is truth"***.

9. Jehovah put an **evil** spirit into King Saul so he would hate David and try to kill him. (*1st Samuel 18:10*) But the God of Jesus gives us His Spirit without measure. The fruit of His Spirit is ***"love, joy, peace, and self control"***. (*Gal. 5:22*)

10. Jehovah hated his enemies and upon many occasions had them murdered. In contrast Jesus said, ***'Love your enemies, and do good unto them. That you might be children of your Father who is in heaven.'*** (*Matt. 5:44*) Jesus said we should be like the Heavenly Father. He did **not** suggest being like Jehovah!

11. When forty two children mocked and insulted Elisha, calling him **“you bald head,”** he ***cursed them in the name of Jehovah,*** who then sent two female bears out of the woods and mauled all of them. Their only crime was using the truth to insult Elisha who was baldheaded. (2 Kings 2:23&24) In **contrast** Jesus said, **“Bless those who curse you”.** (Matthew 5:44)

12. There was an Israelite man who gathered sticks on Jehovah’s Sabbath so his wife could cook a meal for their family. For this he was killed. This murder illustrates the harshness of Jehovah’s law, which shows **no mercy,** (Numbers 15:32-35) but ‘Grace and **Mercy** are from God the Father’. (Titus 3:4, 2nd John 1:3)

13. **“Anyone who rejected Moses’ law died without mercy”.** (Hebrews 10:28) Jehovah had no mercy of those who violated his law. (Exodus 33:19) In contrast the Scripture says the God of Jesus **“Is rich in mercy.”** (Eph. 2:4) The mercy of the Hebrew god is limited to the obedient, while the mercy of the God of Jesus is to all. (Romans 11:32)

14. Jehovah was NOT all knowing, as he had to call out to Adam **“Where art thou?”** (Gen. 3:9) He had to ask Cain where Able was, and asked Abraham where Sarah his wife was when she was nearby in the tent. (Gen.18:1&9) He said this concerning Sodom, **“I will go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry – that has come to me, then will I know’.** (Gen. 18:21) Jehovah didn’t know what was presently happening in Sodom without personally checking it out; his foresight as to current or future events was quite dim. **God the Father knew future events even some things Jesus did not know.** (Matt. 24:36) God the Father is all knowing while Jehovah is not.

15. Jehovah taught the Israelites to love their neighbor and to **hate** their enemies, but Jesus said, **“Love your enemies”.** (Matthew 5:45 & 46) Jesus said the **Father in Heaven** loves and does good to His enemies. The Old Testament gives an entirely different message about **Jehovah** who **hated** his enemies and often had them killed.

16. **“Jacob have I loved, but Esau I have hated”** (Romans 9:11&13, Mal. 1:2&3). Jehovah hated Esau before he was born, **“before he had done any good or evil”.** No reason is given for this hatred. The Heavenly Father hates no one. He is said to be, **“the God of Love, grace, mercy and peace”.** (1st John 4:16, Titus 1:4)

17. When the Israelites complained about having to eat manna, and wanted some meat to eat, ***“The wrath of Jehovah was kindled against the people and he smote the people with a very great plague.”*** He sent them contaminated quail that was so contaminated some of the Israelites died while they were still eating and the ***“flesh was still in their teeth.”*** (Numbers 11:33&34ASV) Out of spite and revenge Jehovah killed many Israelites. Jesus said, ***“What man is there among you who, if his son asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent?”*** (Matt.7:10) According to Jesus, Jehovah’s evil action far exceeded that of a normal human being.

18. The Israelites spoke against Jehovah and Moses, ***“and Jehovah sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people: many of the people died.”*** (Numbers 21:6 ASV) Jehovah was a murderer! ***“The Son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them”.*** (Luke (9:56)

19. ***“Ye shall not eat any thing that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it or thou mayest sell it unto an alien; for thou art an holy people unto Jehovah thy God.”*** (Deut.14:21) According to Jehovah the Israelites should **not** eat contaminated food, but they were told to give or sell it to strangers or an alien. Jesus said, ***“And just as you want men to do unto you, you do to them likewise”.*** (Luke 6:31)

20. There were two different times when Jehovah became very angry at the Israelites and threatened to kill them all. Both times Moses used Jehovah’s pride and ego and talked him out of this wholesale murder. Jehovah was very high tempered and it took very little for it to be aroused. If he ever thought his authority or respect was challenged he became very angry and his anger often led to him committing murder, not only of a single person, but also sometimes many were murdered. (Exodus 32:9-12, Num. 14:11-12-20)

21. Jehovah’s commandment was, ***“Thou shalt not steal,”*** Yet He had the Israelites steal gold, silver and clothing from the Egyptians. (Exodus 11:2&3) The same god who said, ***“Thou shalt not bear false witness,”*** lied to his prophets and deceived his people. (Jer.4:10) **Jehovah** told Moses to take vengeance on the Midianites. The Israeli army then massacred them by killing all of the men and the women that had known a man. The soldiers were rewarded with, ***“Keep the virgins for your own use”.*** (Num.31:16)

This same god who said, “***Thou shall not commit adultery***”, (Exodus 20:14) rewarded the Israeli soldiers by giving them all of their captive virgins for their own use! (Numbers 31:7, 17&18) Both of these commands came from the same god, *Jehovah*.

22. Jehovah boasted of being the creator of darkness, (Isaiah 45:7). He spread darkness over the land of Egypt, but of the God of the New Testament it is said, “***God is light and in Him is no darkness at all***”. (1 John 1:5) This again shows that Jehovah the **creator of darkness** is not and cannot be the Heavenly Father in whom “***there is no darkness at all.***” (1 John 1:5)

23. Jehovah afflicted people with leprosy (Numbers 12:10) but Jesus cured ten lepers. (Luke 17:12&15)

24. Jehovah called Isaiah to be his prophet and gave him a message that would confuse the Israelites causing them to sin. Jehovah then punished them for that sin. (Isaiah 6:9&11) He also told Ezekiel, “***If the prophet be deceived, I Jehovah have deceived that prophet, and will destroy him from the midst of the people***” (Ezek. 14:9 ASV) but Jesus called the apostle Paul to, “***Open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light --- that they may receive forgiveness of sins***”. (Acts 26:1) “***You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins.***” (Matthew 1:21) Jehovah **caused** people to sin while Jesus **saves** people from their sins.

25. “***Jehovah is mighty in battle.***” (Ps. 24:8) Jehovah was Israel’s war god who led them into many battles and ordered the slaughter of thousands of people, only because they were not Israelites. (*Ethnic cleansing*) Jehovah was a god of war, but God the Father is the God of peace. (Rom. 15:33, 2nd Cor. 13:11)

26. At Elijah’s command, an angel of Jehovah brought fire down from heaven and consumed two captains and a hundred men while they pled for mercy. (2nd Kings 1:13&14) When the Samaritans offended James and John, they asked Jesus about calling fire to come down and consume them as Elijah did. Jesus rebuked them saying, “***You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. -- I did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them***”. Jehovah’s fire burned to death 102 men without mercy. Jesus told them “***You know not what manner of spirit you are of.***” (Luke 9:54) Jehovah’s spirit was to kill, but the spirit of Jesus is “***to save men’s lives.***”

Jehovah’s spirit was to kill and destroy all of whom he disliked.

(1st Samuel 15:3 ASV) “Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, - - Now go and smite the Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, - - slay both men, and women, infant and suckling.”

(Deuteronomy 20:16 ASV) “The cities and the peoples that Jehovah of hosts hath given thee, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth.”

(Ps. 137:9) O daughter of Babylon, Happy is the one who takes and dashes your little ones against the rock.”

(Hosea 13:16) “Samaria is held guilty, For she has rebelled against her God. They shall fall by the sword, Their infants shall be dashed in pieces And their women with child ripped open”. **A most gruesome crime!** This happened before by the Israeli army in Samaria. (2nd Kings 15:16)

27. These crimes and atrocities described in the Old Testament were not committed by Hitler, Stalin, Mao of China or Saddam Hussein, **but were instigated and approved by Jehovah the god of Israel**, who seemed to be amused by seeing people suffer. (Ps. 2:4) Many have taken great pains in trying to defend Jehovah for all of the crimes the Bible claims for him. Their efforts are in vain as long as they accept the Old Testament to be the *inerrant Word of God*. Much has been said and written in an effort to justify Jehovah’s evil actions, yet their *theology* forbids them to recognize Jehovah’s evil nature. Some say Jehovah changed as the Old Testament progressed. However the last book in the Old Testament shows he never changed. “***I am Jehovah and I change not.***” (Mal. 3:6 ASV) For further proof of the **evil mind** of Jehovah, he said to the priests, “***If you will not take it to heart, to give glory to my name, I will send a curse upon you, I will rebuke your decedents and spread dung in your faces***”. (Malachi 2:2&3) Jehovah’s threat to these priests displays his evil vulgar mind has no resemblance to mind of the Heavenly Father or Jesus. We are told to have “***The mind of Christ,***” (1st Cor. 2:16) The Bible does not suggest or recommend we have the mind of Jehovah!

28. “***I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory I will not give to another***”. (Isaiah 42:8 ASV) Jesus praying to God the Father said, “***And now O Father, glorify Thou Me with the glory I had with Thee before the world was***”. (John 17:5) “***And the glory which you gave me.***” (John 17:22) Jealous Jehovah (Exodus 34:14) will not give his glory to another, but the Heavenly Father **gave** His glory to Jesus. (John 17:5)

29. In His sermon on the mount, in *Matthew chapter five*, Jesus teaches in contrast to the Law of Moses at least six times. One of which was **“Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.”** (*Lev .24:20 & Matt. 5:38&39*) He continued; **“But I tell you not to resist an evil person.”** Jesus taught against taking revenge. **“Repay no one evil for evil’.** (*Romans 12:17*) Jehovah always sought revenge! While the Heavenly Father loves and is not revengeful!

30. Concerning the Heavenly Father, Jesus told the Pharisees, **“You have never heard His voice nor seen His form.”** (*John 5:37*) John said, **“No one has seen God at anytime”.** (*John 1:18, 1st John 4:12*) According to the Old Testament Jehovah had been both visually **seen** and **audibility heard** several times. **“So Jehovah spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.”** (*Exodus.33:11*) Moses also saw him. **Jehovah was visible but God the Father is Spirit and invisible.** Paul used the expression, **“the invisible God”.** (*Col.1:1’5*)

31. The Old Testament records several occasions when Jehovah made decisions he later **repented** of. A few of these are: **“It repented Jehovah that he had made man on the earth,”** (*Gen. 6:6*). **It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king,** (*1 Sam.15: 11*)

“Jehovah repented of the evil that he said he would do to the Ninevites, (*Jonah 3:10*) **“And Jehovah repented of the evil that he thought to do to his people”,** (*Exodus 33:14*) The Heavenly Father is **“the only true God”**, (*John 17:3*) and does nothing to repent of.

32. Jesus had the following to say, **“No one knows the Son but the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and he to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.”** (*Matthew 11:27*) According to Jesus, the Heavenly Father was not known in the world until He revealed Him. He told the Jews, **“It is my Father who honors Me, of whom you say He is your God. Yet you have not known Him”.** (*John 8:54*) Jesus once and for all confirms to the Pharisees, the Heavenly Father was not the God of their religion neither was He known in the Old Testament. He was not known until Jesus revealed Him. (*Matthew 11:27*)

33. The twelve apostles were devout Jews and had been taught to pray to Jehovah. Jesus changed this by telling them, **“In this manner, therefore pray: Our Father who art in Heaven”**, (*Matthew 6:9*). This change Jesus made unto whom their prayers are to be addressed generally goes unnoticed. His disciples were no

longer to pray to Jehovah but to the Heavenly Father. (*Matthew 6:9 & Luke 11:2*) It is very obvious why Jesus made this change; Jehovah was not His god! Jesus always prayed to the Father (*John 17:1, 5 & 25, Luke 22:42*) Jesus would not have made this change if Jehovah were Heavenly Father. His final prayer was to the Father, asking Him to receive His Spirit. (*Luke 23:46, Matt. 26:39*)

34. The conversation Jesus had with the woman at Jacob's well brings out an interesting point. '*She said the Jews worshipped in Jerusalem and her fathers said this mountain was the place to worship*'. The answer Jesus gave her should not be overlooked, He said, "***Woman believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem worship the Father***". (*John 4:21*) Her fathers worshipped the golden calf on mount Gerizim in Samaria the Jews worshipped Jehovah in the Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus **actually** told her the **Heavenly Father was not worshipped in either place**. (*John 4:23&24*)

35. The Scripture tells us why the Jews rejected Jesus. "***He (Jehovah) blinded their eyes and hardened their heart***". (*John 12:37-40*) The god of the Pharisees blinded their minds and hardened their hearts so they could not believe in Jesus. Paul said, "***None of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory***." (*1 Cor.2:8*) Jehovah was the god of the Jewish world (*age*) of which Paul said, '***The god of this world blinded the minds of them which believe not***.' (*1st Cor. 4:4*) Jesus was to "***recover the sight of the blind***." (*Lk. 4:18*) Jehovah blinds but the Heavenly Father opens blind eyes.

36. Jesus had more to say about the ruler of the world: "***Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world (age) is cast out***." (*John 12:31*) And again, "***for the ruler of this world (age) is coming, and he has nothing in Me***." (*John 14:30*) **Please note:** I am very much aware of the common **spin** on the "**ruler of this world (age)**" and "**the god of this world**". Most Bible scholars jump to the conclusion these passages have reverence to the devil as being the god of this world, this has a **real problem**. How can Christians have two gods and be Monotheists? The Bible never says the devil is a **god** or that he is **ruler of this world**. The world to which Jesus and Paul were addressing was the Jewish world of which Jehovah was the **Prince and Ruler**. The devil could not have offered the kingdoms of Jehovah's

world to Jesus unless Jehovah gave him the authority. See Job 1:7 – 12 ASV.

37. Last but not the least, Under Jehovah's law they were to take oaths, (*Deut. 6:13*) but Jesus said, ***"I say unto you, swear not at all, --But let your 'Yes' be Yes' and your 'No' be 'No'. For whatever is more than these is from the evil one"***. (*Matt. 5:33&37*) Is Jesus really saying Jehovah who required the taking of oaths is **'the evil one'?** It certainly appears so; the Old Testament confirms Jehovah to be the creator of evil! (*Isaiah 45:6&7*)

Over and over again, The Bible confirms

The Antithesis between Jehovah and the Heavenly Father

Jehovah has proven to be of the same nature and character throughout the Old Testament. *He is selfish, vindictive, a racist, ethnic cleanser, child murderer, genocidal war god who boasts of being "Jealous" (Exodus 34:14) and "The creator of evil". (Isaiah 45:6&7)* The Old Testament presents overwhelming evidence this to be the very character of Jehovah who boasted saying, ***"I am Jehovah, I change not"***. (*Mal. 3:6 ASV*) If one believes the Old Testament to give an *inerrant* truthful record, then there is no way in which its truth about Jehovah can be avoided. Therefore, neither the Old Testament nor its god are Christian and have no place in the Christian Faith.

The Apostle Paul had the following to say about the Old Testament, ***"We use great plainness of speech; - For until this day the same veil (blindfold) remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, the veil is taken away in Christ. --- But even to this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart."*** (*2nd Cor. 3:12&14&15*) This is passage of scripture is self-explanatory.

Conclusion

Christians, who **do not** accept the Jewish god Jehovah to be their God, **are not alone**. *"Even before Marcion and the great Gnostic theologians appeared upon the scene, there were apparently many Christians who declined to accept the God of the Jews, when converted to Christianity. To be a Christian did not necessarily carry with it the acceptance of the Jewish god"*. The God of the early Christians, by Arthur C. McGiffert 1924.

Paul told the Christians at Galatia who had backslid into Judaism, they were ***deceived, foolish, bewitched, and had become "estranged from Christ and had fallen from grace"***. (*Gal .3:1-*

3&5:4) He also referred to Judaism as rubbish. (*Phil.3:8*) He told the Corinthians, ***reading the Old Testament and the writings of Moses would veil (blindfold) the heart to Christ.*** (*2ndCor. 3:12-15*) From all indications Paul was the only Apostle who rejected any part of Judaism to be incorporated into the Jesus Movement.

Barnabas A.D.130, Basilides A.D 125, Cerdon 140 A.D. and Marcion A.D.120-150 along with the Gnostic Christians all followed Paul's view of the Old Testament, that it is not Christian!

“The early Christian movement did not require the acceptance of the Jewish god as the God of Jesus.” (The God of the early Christians McGiffert) The Gentile Christians thought it not logical to accept the jealous and warlike Hebrew tribal god to be their God.

The ‘*orthodox*’ historians have so well concealed the second century controversy over the ***antithesis*** of the Gods in the Old and New Testaments, known as the Marcion Controversy, that it is scarcely known by today's Christians. Present day Bible scholars continue to ignore the facts of this event. This has resulted in today's gross ignorance of the beliefs, sufferings and conflicts of the second century Christians. Christians have been taught to follow the early Roman Church in claiming Jehovah to be the Christian God. Today's Christianity is therefore known as ‘Judaic and seeing no inconsistency in having a god that is both **evil and good.**

If Jehovah were a man in our society committing the evil crimes the Bible records of him, he would either be in a mental institution or locked up in prison. Yet, in sincere ignorance, Christians worship him as the God of love and peace, singing **“Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah,”** really believing they are worshipping the Heavenly Father!

“The Christian concept of God must therefore be stated exclusively and without remainder in terms of the redemption wrought by Christ. Thus God may not and cannot be anything other than the God in the sense of merciful and redeeming love”.

The Gospel of the Alien God, page 13 by Adolf von Harnack. Berlin, June 1920
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In Appreciation

I'm greatly indebted to Ray Embry, a dear brother in Christ, who in 1980 introduced me to the contrasts (antithesis) that exist between Jehovah of the Old Testament and the Heavenly Father of the New Testament. At first I was shocked and in unbelief, but as I searched the scriptures with this in mind, this truth came alive and completely rearranged my understanding of the Old and New Testaments. crb

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The writings by Daniel Mahar have also been a great help.

Many other sources including early Christian historians and Bible scholars were also used.

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