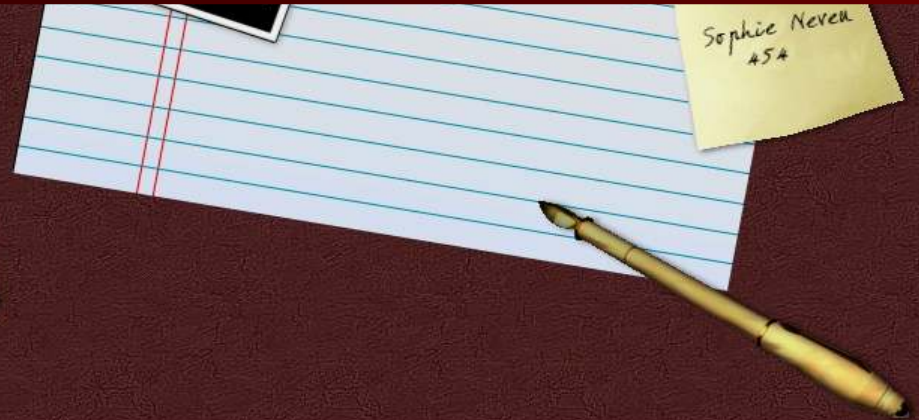


# **BREAKING THE CODE**

**WHY DO YOU  
BELIEVE WHAT  
YOU BELIEVE  
ABOUT JESUS?**



**WHAT IF THEY ARE  
CORRECT?**

**WHAT IF THE  
GOSPELS IN YOUR  
BIBLE ARE THE  
WRONG ONES?**

**WHAT IF YOU BELIEVE  
IN A MESSIAH WHO  
IS STILL DEAD?**

# **FOUR ROTTEN REASONS TO BELIEVE**

- ✠ “I’ve **FELT** it and experienced it; I just **ACCEPT** it by faith.”
- ✠ No one has ever been able to **PROVE** the Bible **WRONG**.
- ✠ **FULFILLED PROPHECIES** have proven Bible true.
- ✠ “I’ll ask my **PASTOR** about it.”

Were Matthew, Mark, Luke, and  
John ***THE RIGHT  
GOSPELS?***

Was Jesus really ***MARRIED?***

Did Jesus really ***RISE  
FROM THE DEAD?***

How do you ***KNOW?***

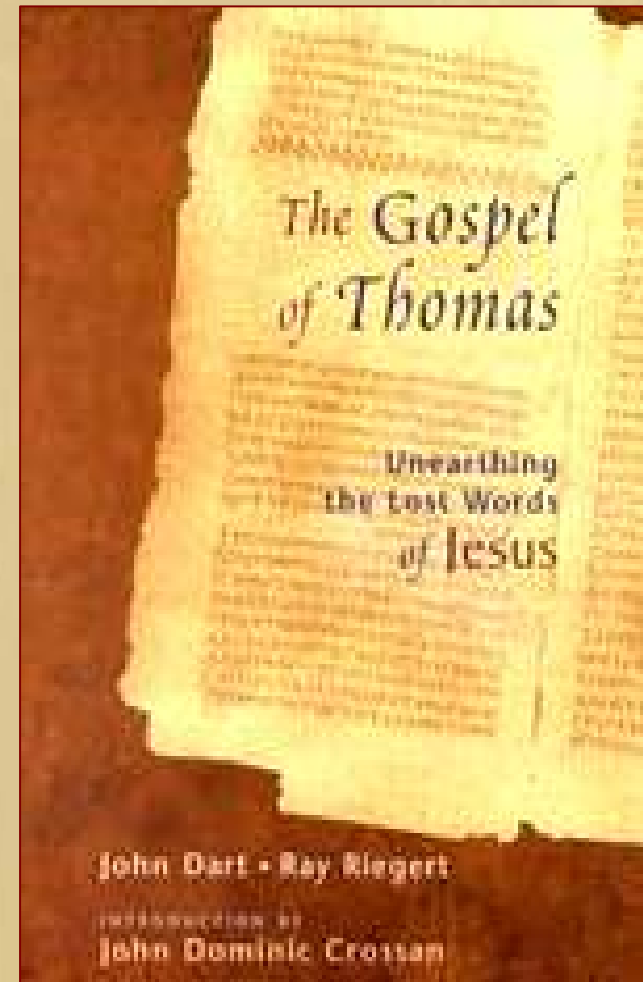
Are Matthew,  
Mark, Luke, and  
John the

***RIGHT  
GOSPELS?***

# WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?

## GOSPEL OF THOMAS

- ✦ List of supposed sayings of Jesus
- ✦ “Make [Mary] return! For women are not worthy of [eternal] life.”



# **WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?**

## **GOSPEL OF HEBREWS**

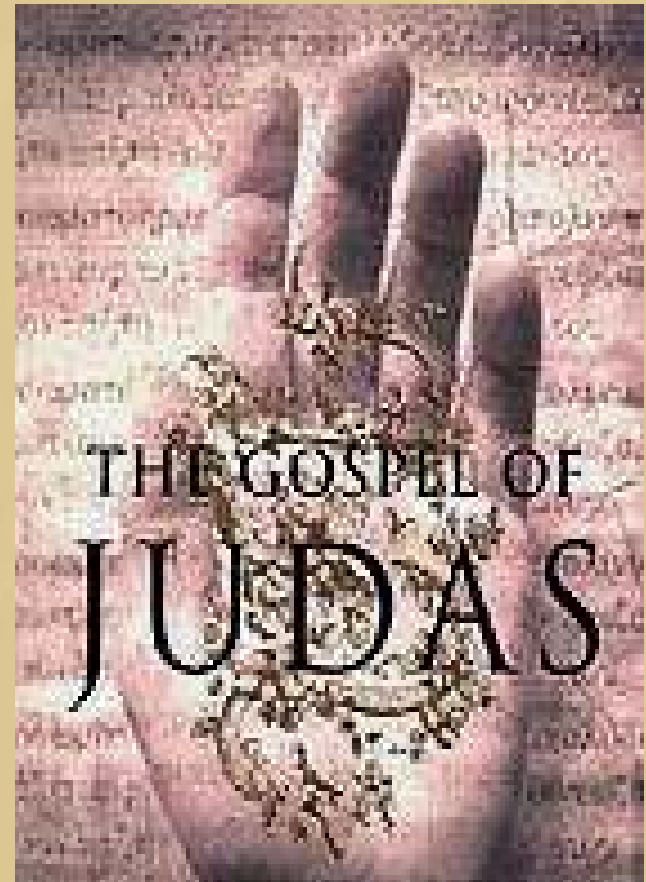
- ✦ Mary, mother of Jesus, was actually Michael the angel
- ✦ “Michael ... came into the world ... and was called Mary.”



# **WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?**

## **GOSPEL OF JUDAS**

- ✦ Jesus orders Judas to betray him
- ✦ “What you are sacrificing is merely the man I am wrapped in.”

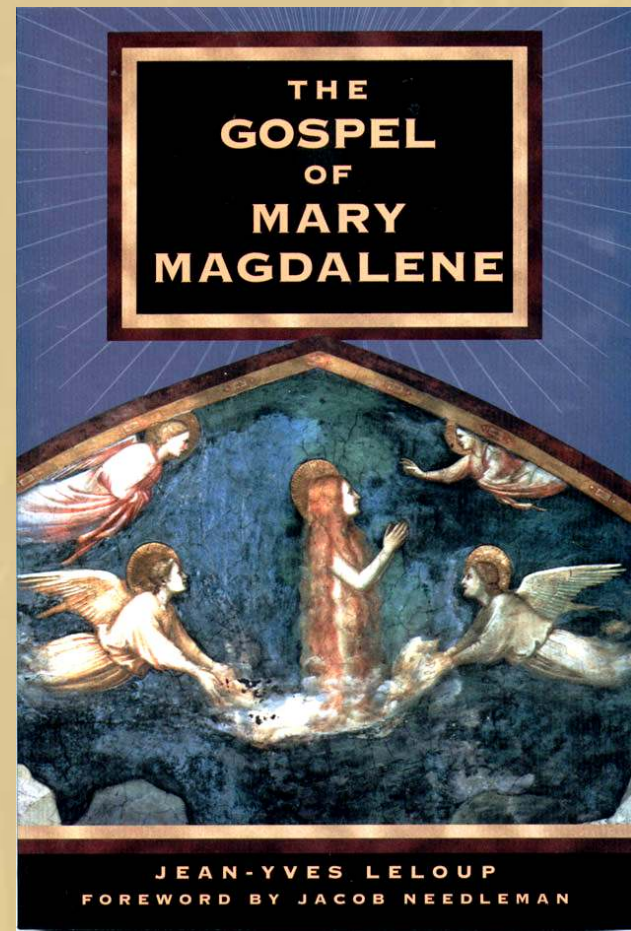




# WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?

## GOSPEL OF MARY

- ✦ Mary is the leader of the early church
- ✦ “The Savior loved her more than the other women.”



# WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?

## GOSPEL OF PETER

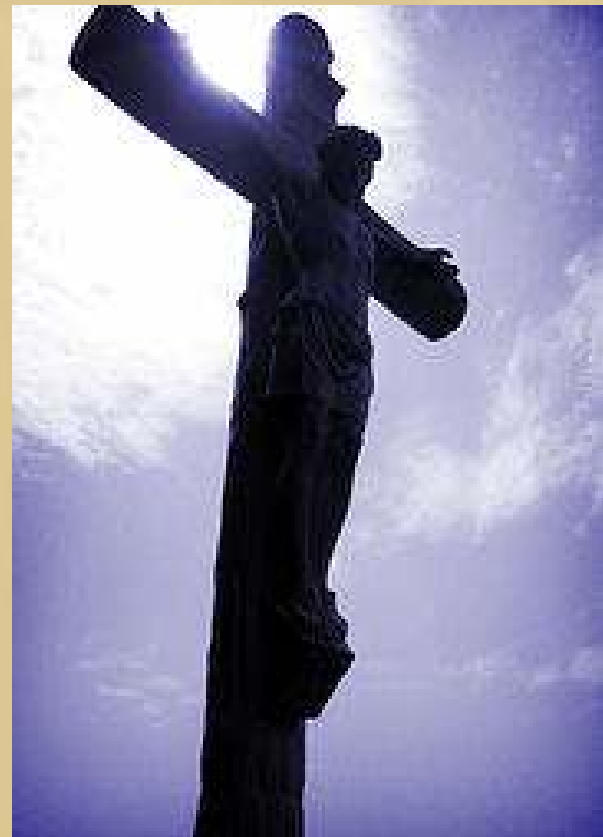
- ✠ Doesn't directly contradict Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John
- ✠ On the cross, Jesus "felt no pain."



# **WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?**

## **GOSPEL OF PHILIP**

- ✠ “My God, why have you forsaken me?”— he says these words on the cross because [God] had already left.”



 The New Testament/Orthodox Christianity

 Gnostic ("Secret") Documents

AD 150

Around AD 150  
the Gnostic  
Gospel of Thomas  
is completed.

AD 200

  
AD 150-200 Gospels of Peter,  
Philip, Mary, Hebrews, and Judas  
were written

**■ The New Testament/Orthodox Christianity**

**■ Gnostic ("Secret") Documents**

AD 1

In AD 28 or 30  
Jesus crucified



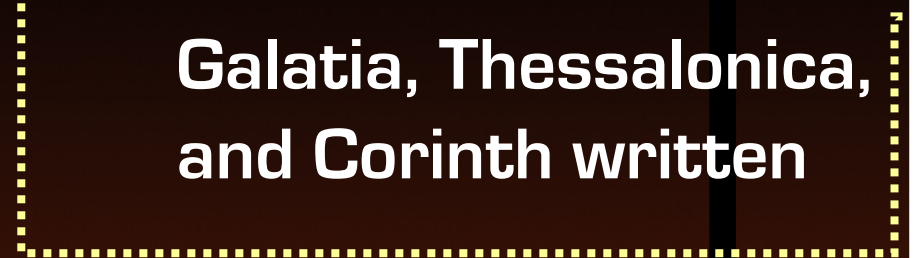
AD 50

Between AD 68–100  
Gospel of John written



AD 100

Between AD 49-57  
Paul's letters to  
Galatia, Thessalonica,  
and Corinth written



Between AD 70-80 Gospels of  
Matthew and Luke written



# **WHICH GOSPELS ARE THE RIGHT ONES?**

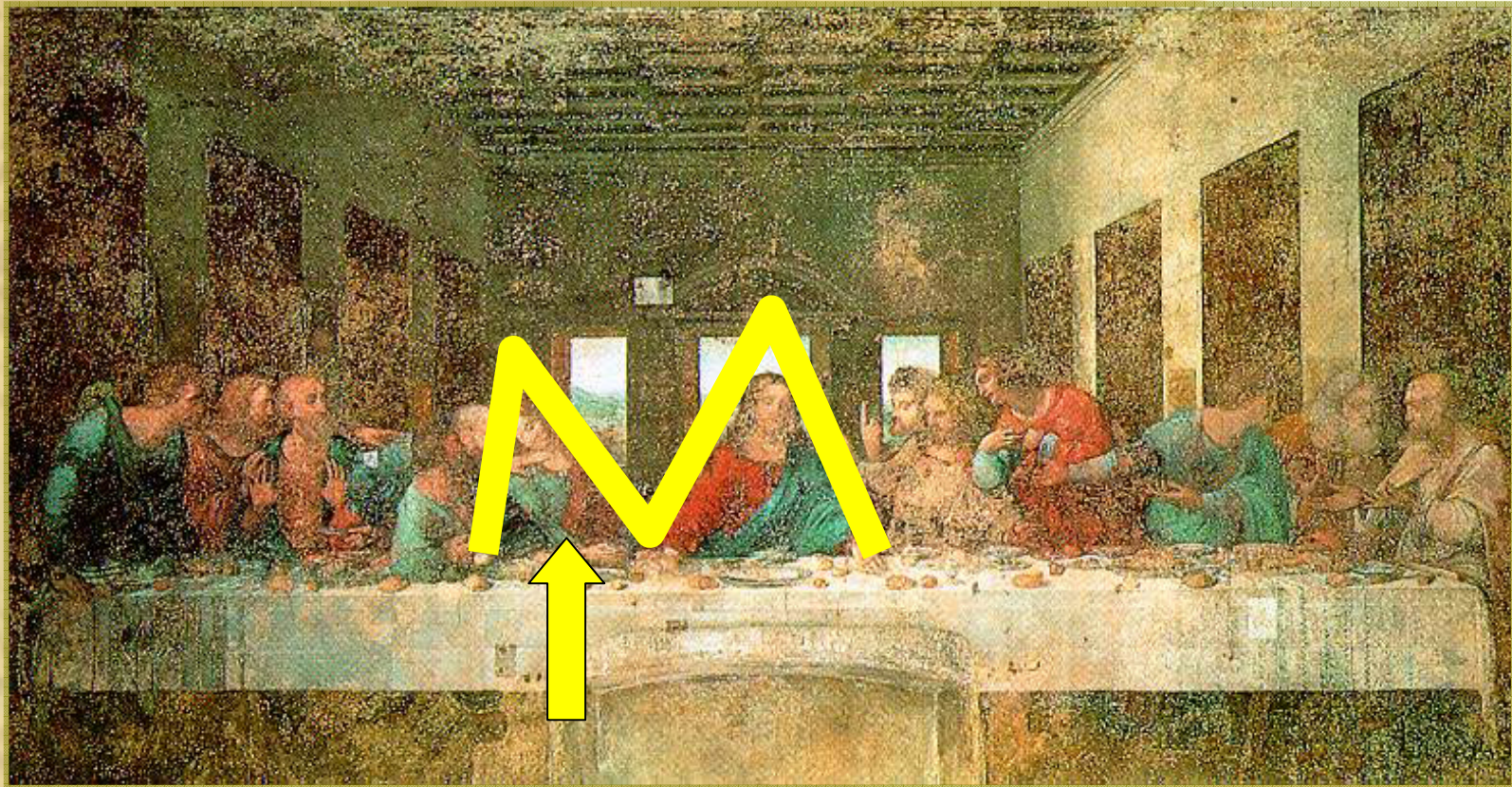
## **HOW THE NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS WERE CHOSEN**

- ✠ 1. Faith in Jesus is rooted in **HISTORY**; so, writings must be connected to eyewitnesses
- ✠ 2. There is only one God, and he **CAN'T CONTRADICT** himself; so, these writings can't contradict each other.
- ✠ 3. Faith in Jesus is for **ALL PEOPLE**; so, each writing must be used by Christians throughout the world.

Was Jesus

**MARRIED?**

# ***THE LAST SUPPER***



*The Last Supper (before most recent restoration, 1979-1999)* Leonardo Da Vinci (1497) Milan, Italy



# **WAS JESUS MARRIED?**

## **GOSPELS OF MARY AND PHILIP**

- ✠ “The Savior loved her [Mary] more than the other women.”
- ✠ “Mary was his companion.”
- ✠ “Jesus kissed her on ...”



Was Jesus really

***RAISED***

***FROM THE***

***DEAD?***

# **WAS JESUS REALLY RAISED FROM THE DEAD?**

## **WHAT IF IT WAS AN ILLUSION?**

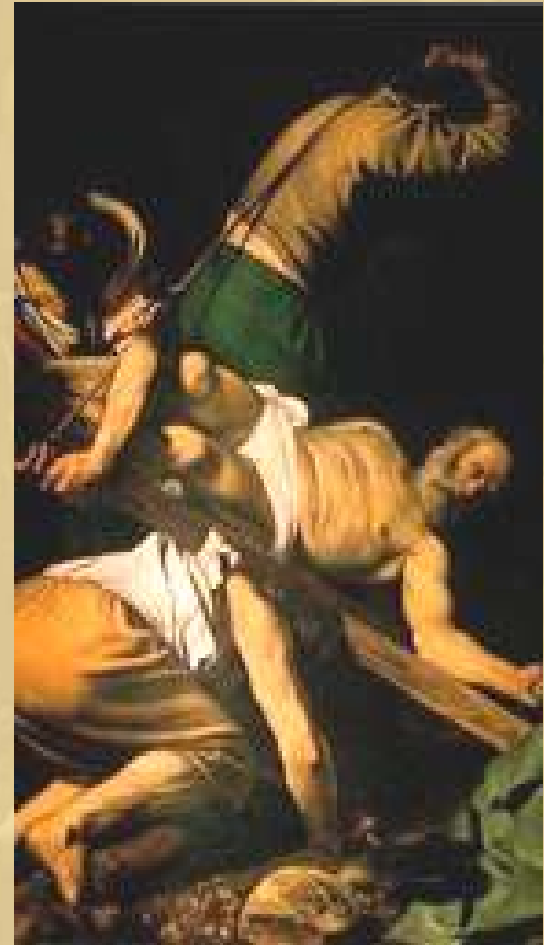
- ✠ It is unlikely that 500 people would share the same delusion at the same time (1 Cor. 15:3-8).
- ✠ Disciples claimed that touched and ate with Jesus (Luke 24:42; John 20:27).



# **WAS JESUS REALLY RAISED FROM THE DEAD?**

## **WHAT IF THE APOSTLES LIED?**

- ✠ The apostles endured death and torture stating that Jesus really rose from the dead.
- ✠ *People may die for a lie but few will die for something that they know to be a lie.*



# ***WAS JESUS REALLY RAISED FROM THE DEAD?***

Only something as  
unexpected as a  
***RESURRECTION*** can  
explain why people in the  
ancient world would  
***WORSHIP*** a man who  
had been ***CRUCIFIED***



The very word "**CRUCIFY**" was a **WULGAR WORD** in the ancient world



***WHOSE GOSPEL ARE  
YOU LIVING?***





# ***HOMEWORK***

- ✠ Think of several ***REASONS*** why people ***DON'T BELIEVE*** that the Bible tells the truth about Jesus Christ.
- ✠ Work together as a family to write well-reasoned ***RESPONSES*** to these doubts.