

Jesus of Nazareth

Various Scriptures

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I. The Antichrist and the Docetists (cf. 1 Jn 4:1-3)

II. The Knowledge of Gnosticism

A. Valentinus the Gnostic

B. Dualism at its Heart

1. Matter the Prison of Spirit

2. The Key to the Prison: Knowledge (*gnosis*)

3. Bipolar Conduct in the Prison House

III. The Folly of Gnosticism

A. Arbitrary

B. Anti-historical and Anti-biblical

1. Jesus came from... (cf. Mk 1:9; 16:6)

Excursus: Did Jesus exist?

2. Jesus felt... (cf. 1:41; 3:5; 6:6, 34; 8:12; 10:21; 14:34; 15:34)

3. Jesus touched... (1:31, 41; 3:10; 5:27, 41; 6:5, 56; 7:33; 8:23-25; 9:27, 36; *ad nauseum*)

C. Hopeless

IV. Application

A. The Real Conflict: Flesh versus Spirit (Gal 5:16-26)

B. The Goodness of Creation (cf. Heb 4:15; 5:7-8; 1 Cor 6:12-14; Is 61)

C. The Blessing of Materialism (cf. Esther 9:19, 21-22; 2 Tim 4:1-5)

V. Conclusion