

Gods & Saviors Throughout History: "The Many Faces of The Jesus Narrative"

Edited by Paul F. Kisak

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The study of Jesus Christ in comparative mythology is the examination of the narratives of the life of Jesus in the Christian gospels, traditions and theology, as it relates to Christian mythology and other religions. For over a century, various authors have drawn a number of parallels between the Christian views of Jesus and other religious or mythical domains. These include Greco-Roman mysteries, ancient Egyptian myths and more general analogies involving cross-cultural patterns of dying and rising gods in the context of the Christ myth theory. There are at least a dozen "crucified" self-proclaimed gods that have had "apostles" that record these gods as having experienced an immaculate conception, a virgin birth, had stars or signs marking their birth, were 'born' on 25 December, performed miracles (many the same as Jesus), promised an afterlife, risen from the dead, and proclaimed many prophecies. The parallels are undeniable. Most all of them predate the Christian record by hundreds or thousands of years. Many of these self-proclaimed gods have better records that reflect their works and teachings than the Christian record. Examples include Zoroaster and Mithra of Persia (present day Iran), Buddha Sakia of India, Krishna of Hindustan, Appollonius of Greece, Simon Magus, Ra, Osiris and Horus of Egypt, Crite of Chaldea, Salivahana of Bermuda, Odin or Thor of the Scandinavians, Zulis, or Zhule, Baal and Taut, "the only Begotten of God" from Phoenicia - most of which have the "Madonna & child" theme in their associated literature and art. It is not of paramount importance that every item of comparison be exactly the same. The meme or trend in the narrative is what needs to be known when applying critical thought to the history of God in literature and art. A number of parallels have been drawn between the Christian views of Jesus and other religious or mythical domains. The idea of myth and the evolution of 'the legend' needs to enter the discussion of belief systems. This book explores the narrative of Gods & Saviors Throughout History.



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