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CHRISTIAN ULTRA-FUNDAMENTALISM (CUF)

A TERM USED BY PSYCHOLOGIST AND EDUCATOR ROBERT J. MARZANO TO DESCRIBE THE WORLDVIEW OF CERTAIN AMERICAN CHRISTIANS. CUF CONSIDERS THE BIBLE A SACRED TEXT AND CONSIDERS STORIES SUCH AS NOAH AND HIS ARK TO BE LITERALLY TRUE. CUF IS WELL-KNOWN IN AMERICA FOR ITS VIEWS THAT HOMOSEXUALITY AND ABORTION, AMONG MANY OTHER THINGS HAVING TO DO WITH SEX OR REPRODUCTION, ARE SINS (FORBIDDEN BY GOD). THE CUF FOLKS AND THEIR SYMPATHIZERS HAVE A VERY WELL-ORGANIZED POLITICAL NETWORK, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, TELEVISION NETWORKS, AND RADIO STATIONS FOR GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT TO THE MASSES AND LAWMAKERS. THE MOVEMENT HAS HAD SOME SUCCESS IN AFFECTING LEGISLATION THAT RESTRICTS ABORTIONS, PROTECTS FETUSES, AND LIMITS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INVOLVING STEM CELLS OR HUMAN EMBRYOS. THEY HAVE ALSO HAD SOME SUCCESS IN GETTING ELECTED TO LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS WHERE THEY CAN INFLUENCE TEXTBOOKS AND CURRICULA. OF COURSE, MANY PEOPLE WITH SECULAR WORLDVIEWS ALSO OWN SCHOOLS, TV NETWORKS, AND RADIO STATIONS, AND TRY TO INFLUENCE LEGISLATION. IN FACT, MANY PEOPLE WITH SECULAR WORLDVIEWS MIGHT AGREE WITH SOME OF THE MORAL AND LEGAL POSITIONS OF CUF, BUT THEY MAY BE RELUCTANT TO SPEAK OUT FOR FEAR OF BEING ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER, MORE RADICAL, BELIEFS OF CUF.

CUF SHARES IN COMMON WITH ULTRA-FUNDAMENTALIST JEWS, MUSLIMS, AND HINDUS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THEOCRACY AS THE ULTIMATE GOAL. ONE OF THE KEY FEATURES OF CHRISTIAN ULTRA-FUNDAMENTALISM IS THAT ALL OTHER WORLDVIEWS ARE SEEN AS ENEMIES TO BE EXTINGUISHED OR AT LEAST STOPPED FROM SPREADING. THERE IS NO SECULAR WORLDVIEW THAT HOLDS A SIMILAR POSITION, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF EXTREME COMMUNISM. BUT OTHER ULTRA-FUNDAMENTALIST RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS ALSO SEEK THE ANNIHILATION OF OPPOSING WORLDVIEWS. SOME OF THESE GROUPS, SUCH AS ISLAMIC ULTRA-FUNDAMENTALISTS, SEEK TO PHYSICALLY EXTINGUISH THOSE OF OTHER RELIGIONS OR CULTURES, OR EVEN MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION WHO ARE DEEMED NOT ORTHODOX ENOUGH. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW TERRORISTS WHO HAVE ATTACKED OR MURDERED PEOPLE FOR THEIR ABORTION-RELATED ACTIVITIES, CUF SEEMS TO ADVOCATE NON-VIOLENT TACTICS. HOWEVER, WERE A GROUP OF CUFS EVER TO HOLD POLITICAL POWER IN AMERICA, THEY UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD BE JUST AS INTOLERANT AS ISLAM HAS BEEN TOWARD DEMOCRACY, LIBERTY, HUMAN RIGHTS, PLURALISM, AND ALL THOSE VALUES HELD PRECIOUS BY FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE.

THE CUF WORLDVIEW IS ALSO CHARACTERIZED BY THE BELIEF THAT AMERICA WAS ESTABLISHED AS A CHRISTIAN NATION WITH A GLOBAL MISSION OF EVANGELIZATION AND THAT LIBERAL INTELLECTUALS HAVE MISLED AMERICA INTO THINKING THAT THERE SHOULD BE A SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE (NEVER MIND THAT MOST OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS WERE NOT CHRISTIANS AND THAT JEFFERSON PREVAILED IN GETTING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION TO REFLECT VIRGINIA'S REFUSAL TO RECOGNIZE ANY RELIGION AS THE STATE'S RELIGION). ACCORDING TO THIS VIEW, LIBERAL THEOLOGIANS HAVE UNDERMINED THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE, WHILE LIBERAL SCIENTISTS AND ACADEMICS HAVE ADVANCED THE ANTI-BIBLICAL THEORY OF EVOLUTION. LIBERALS ARE REFERRED TO AS SECULAR HUMANISTS AND ARE DESCRIBED AS "AGGRESSIVE AND EVANGELISTIC AND ADEPT AT TEARING DOWN TRADITIONAL FAITH, EVEN IF IT MEANS PERMITTING THE OCCULT TO ENTER THE CLASSROOM." IN SOME CUF LITERATURE, LIBERALS AND SECULAR HUMANISTS ARE ALSO KNOWN AS NEW AGERS AND ARE THOUGHT TO BE ENGAGED IN A SYSTEMATIC EFFORT TO INTRODUCE NOT ONLY ATHEISM, MATERIALISM, AND EVOLUTION INTO AMERICAN CULTURE, BUT ALSO SUCH EVILS AS ACUPUNCTURE, BIOFEEDBACK, ENVIRONMENTALISM, HOLISTIC MEDICINE, HYPNOSIS, THE KABBALA, TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION, AND VEGETARIANISM. MOST CUF LITERATURE, HOWEVER, CLEARLY DISTINGUISHES LIBERALS FROM NEW AGERS.

TWO OF THE MOST VOCAL ADVOCATES OF CUF ARE EVANGELISTS JERRY FALWELL AND PAT ROBERTSON. THEIR RESPONSE TO THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, TERRORIST ATTACKS ON AMERICAN TARGETS REVEALS SOME OF THE ESSENTIAL BELIEFS ATTACHED TO THIS WORLDVIEW. THEY CLAIMED THAT "LIBERAL CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUPS, FEMINISTS, HOMOSEXUALS AND ABORTION RIGHTS SUPPORTERS BEAR PARTIAL RESPONSIBILITY...BECAUSE THEIR ACTIONS HAVE TURNED GOD'S ANGER AGAINST AMERICA." ACCORDING TO FALWELL, GOD ALLOWED "THE ENEMIES OF AMERICA...TO GIVE US PROBABLY WHAT WE DESERVE." ROBERTSON AGREED. THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION HAS "GOT TO TAKE A LOT OF BLAME FOR THIS," SAID FALWELL, AND ROBERTSON AGREED. FEDERAL COURTS BEAR PART OF THE BLAME, TOO, SAID FALWELL, BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN "THROWING GOD OUT OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE." ALSO "ABORTIONISTS HAVE GOT TO BEAR SOME BURDEN FOR THIS BECAUSE GOD WILL NOT BE MOCKED," SAID FALWELL. ROBERTSON AGREED.

ACCORDING TO CUF, LIBERALS HAVE CONSPIRED TO INTRODUCE RELATIVISTIC ETHICS, TOLERATION OF DIVERSE RELIGIOUS VIEWS, FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, AND SUCH ANTI-CHRISTIAN NOTIONS AS THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-ESTEEM. IN SHORT, ACCORDING TO CUF, LIBERALISM IS ORCHESTRATED BY SATAN AND WILL LEAD TO THE ANTICHRIST. OF COURSE, THIS PROPHECY MAY BE AS INACCURATE AS ALL THE OTHERS REGARDING THE END OF THE WORLD.

ONE OF THE MORE VOCAL CUFS IS JAMES DOBSON, FOUNDER OF FOCUS ON THE FAMILY, A GROUP DEVOTED TO SPREADING THE WORD ON THE EVILS OF SUCH THINGS AS SEXUAL EQUALITY, HOMOSEXUALITY, ABORTION, AND LIBERAL JUDGES. DOBSON CALLS A JUDGE LIBERAL IF HE OR SHE WON'T USE THE PERSONAL VALUES OF THE CUFS AS A GUIDE IN MAKING DECISIONS. DOBSON CRITICIZES JUDGES FOR MAKING DECISIONS ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN PERSONAL VALUES WHENEVER THEY RULE ACCORDING TO THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW AND THE CONSTITUTION BUT AGAINST DOBSON'S PERSONAL VALUES. THIS IS A VERY EFFECTIVE SMOKESCREEN AMONG CUFS. AT A TELEVISED REVIVAL MEETING HELD IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, AT THE HIGHVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH ON APRIL 24, 2005, DOBSON TOLD VIEWERS THAT THE JUSTICES ON THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT ARE "IMPERIOUS AND DETERMINED TO REDESIGN THE CULTURE ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN BIASES." THE JUSTICES ARE THE ARCHITECTS OF THE "BIGGEST HOLOCAUST IN WORLD HISTORY." THEY ARE "OUT OF CONTROL," HE SAID, AND THEY "NEED TO BE REINED IN." "FOR 43 YEARS [SINCE THE COURT FOUND ORGANIZED PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNCONSTITUTIONAL], THE SUPREME COURT HAS BEEN ON A CAMPAIGN TO LIMIT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY," HE SAID. IN OTHER WORDS, AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY IS AS ANATHEMA TO CUF AS RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE. UNDER THE GUISE OF DEFENDING BOTH AMERICA AND CHRISTIANITY, DOBSON AND HIS CREW WANT TO SUBVERT THE CONSTITUTION WHILE CLAIMING THAT THOSE WHO ARE UPHOLDING IT ARE THE ONES WHO ARE SUBVERTING IT--A CLEVER TRICK, IF YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH IT. THE FRAMERS CREATED A BILL OF RIGHTS AND AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY TO PREVENT SECTS SUCH AS THE CUFS FROM IMPOSING THEIR PERSONAL VALUES ON THE REST OF US.

TONY PERKINS IS ANOTHER VOCAL CUF. HE IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL, ANOTHER ANTI-CONSTITUTIONAL GROUP CLAIMING TO BE DEFENDING "THE FAMILY, FAITH, AND FREEDOM." WHAT PERKINS WANTS FOR AMERICA IS THE SAME THING DOBSON DESIRES: A CHRISTIAN THEOCRACY CREATED IN THEIR IMAGE OF CHRISTIANITY AS CUF.

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THE SCIENCE SEGMENT

WORKERS RENOVATING BETHLEHEM HOUSE ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVER UNTOUCHED ANCIENT TOMB

WORKERS RENOVATING A HOUSE IN THE TRADITIONAL TOWN OF JESUS' BIRTH ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED AN UNTOUCHED ANCIENT TOMB CONTAINING CLAY POTS, PLATES, BEADS AND THE BONES OF TWO HUMANS, A PALESTINIAN ANTIQUITIES OFFICIAL SAID TUESDAY.

THE 4,000-YEAR-OLD TOMB PROVIDES A GLIMPSE OF THE BURIAL CUSTOMS OF THE AREA'S INHABITANTS DURING THE CANAANITE PERIOD, SAID MOHAMMED GHAYYADA, DIRECTOR OF THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY'S MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ANTIQUITIES.

WORKERS IN A HOUSE NEAR THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY UNCOVERED A HOLE LEADING TO THE GRAVE, WHICH WAS ABOUT ONE METER (YARD) BELOW GROUND, HE SAID. THEY CONTACTED ANTIQUITIES OFFICIALS, WHO PHOTOGRAPHED THE GRAVE INTACT BEFORE REMOVING ITS CONTENTS.

THEY DATED THE GRAVE TO THE EARLY BRONZE AGE, BETWEEN 1,900 B.C.E AND 2,200 B.C.E.

JERUSALEM-BASED ARCHAEOLOGIST AND HISTORIAN STEPHEN PFANN CALLED THE FIND "AN IMPORTANT REFERENCE TO THE LIFE OF THE CANAANITES," ADDING THAT IT COULD GIVE A GLIMPSE INTO LIFE IN THE AREA BEFORE THE TIME WHEN THE BIBLICAL PATRIARCHS ARE SAID TO HAVE LIVED.

WHILE MANY ARTIFACTS EXIST FROM THIS PERIOD, INTACT GRAVES ARE RARE, MAINLY BECAUSE OF LOOTING, HE SAID.

INTACT GRAVES ARE MORE USEFUL TO SCHOLARS BECAUSE THEY SHOW HOW ITEMS WERE ARRANGED.

"EVERY TIME A NEW TOMB IS FOUND, IT ADDS TO THE PICTURE," PFANN SAID.

THE FINDINGS WILL BE HOUSED IN THE BETHLEHEM PEACE CENTER, A CULTURAL CENTER NOT FAR FROM WHERE THE TOMB WAS DISCOVERED.

JUST A NOTE REGARDING THIS STORY:

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE, NOAH'S FLOOD OCCURRED AROUND 2300 B.C.E. IN 1900 B.C.E. ALL HUMANS LIVED IN THE IRAQI CITY OF BABEL.

THEREFORE FUNDAMENTALIST CHRISTIANS MUST CHALLENGE THE DATING OF THIS DISCOVERY AS IT CONFLICTS WITH THEIR ANCIENT HOLY SCRIPTURES.

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THE ARENA GOES ABROAD

IRAN BANS ELECTION PROTEST FOOTBALLERS ALI KARIMI, MEHDI MAHDAVIKIA AND TWO OTHERS ARE 'RETIRED' AFTER SPORTING GREEN WRISTBANDS IN WORLD CUP QUALIFIER IN SEOUL

THEIR GESTURE ATTRACTED WORLDWIDE COMMENT AND DREW THE ATTENTION OF FOOTBALL FANS TO IRAN'S POLITICAL TURMOIL. NOW THE COUNTRY'S AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN REVENGE BY IMPOSING LIFE BANS ON PLAYERS WHO SPORTED GREEN WRISTBANDS IN A RECENT WORLD CUP MATCH IN PROTEST AGAINST MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD'S DISPUTED RE-ELECTION.

ACCORDING TO THE PRO-GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER IRAN, FOUR PLAYERS – ALI KARIMI, 31, MEHDI MAHDAVIKIA, 32, HOSEIN KA'ABI, 24 AND VAHID HASHEMIAN, 32 – HAVE BEEN "RETIRED" FROM THE SPORT AFTER THEIR GESTURE IN LAST WEDNESDAY'S MATCH AGAINST SOUTH KOREA IN SEOUL.

THEY WERE AMONG SIX PLAYERS WHO TOOK TO THE FIELD WEARING WRISTBANDS IN THE COLOUR OF THE DEFEATED OPPOSITION CANDIDATE MIR HOSSEIN MOUSAVI, WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY DEMONSTRATORS WHO BELIEVE THE 12 JUNE ELECTION WAS STOLEN.

MOST OF THE PLAYERS OBEYED INSTRUCTIONS TO REMOVE THE ARMWEAR AT HALF-TIME, BUT MAHDAVIKIA WORE HIS GREEN CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND FOR THE ENTIRE MATCH. THE FOUR ARE ALSO SAID TO HAVE BEEN BANNED FROM GIVING MEDIA INTERVIEWS.

THE FATE OF THE OTHER TWO PLAYERS WHO WORE THE WRISTBANDS IS UNKNOWN. NONE OF THE TEAM MEMBERS WERE GIVEN BACK THEIR PASSPORTS UPON RETURNING TO TEHRAN AFTER THE MATCH, WHICH ENDED IN A 1-1 DRAW – A RESULT THAT ENDED IRAN'S HOPES OF QUALIFYING FOR NEXT YEAR'S TOURNAMENT.

KARIMI IS ONE OF IRANIAN FOOTBALL'S BEST-KNOWN STARS, HAVING PLAYED FOR THE GERMAN CLUB BAYERN MUNICH. KA'ABI PLAYED FOR LEICESTER CITY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS DURING THE 2007/8 SEASON. HASHEMIAN AND MAHDAVIKIA PLAY FOR THE GERMAN TEAMS BOCHUM AND EINTRACHT FRANKFURT.

THE GESTURE ACUTELY EMBARRASSED IRANIAN OFFICIALS. THE TEAM'S CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, MANSOUR POURHIEDARI, INITIALLY CLAIMED THE WRISTBANDS HAD BEEN INTENDED AS A RELIGIOUS TRIBUTE TO A REVERED SHIA FIGURE IN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD DELIVER A VICTORY ON THE PITCH.

IRAN'S HARDLINE MEDIA HAVE SINCE LINKED THE PROTEST TO THE ARREST ON SATURDAY OF MOHSEN SAFAYI FARAHANI, WHO HEADED THE COUNTRY'S FOOTBALL GOVERNING BODY UNDER THE FORMER REFORMIST PRESIDENT, MOHAMMAD KHATAMI. HE IS ONE OF SEVERAL DOZEN OPPOSITION POLITICIANS, INTELLECTUALS AND JOURNALISTS TO HAVE BEEN DETAINED.

HEZBOLLAH, A PRO-AHMADINEJAD WEBSITE, ACCUSED FARAHANI, A MEMBER OF THE PRO-REFORM ISLAMIC PARTICIPATION FRONT, OF BRIBING THE PLAYERS TO WEAR THE SYMBOLS. FARAHANI WAS ONE OF SEVERAL PROMINENT FIGURES ACCUSED BY AHMADINEJAD OF CORRUPTION DURING THE RECENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

AHMADINEJAD, A KNOWN FOOTBALL FAN, HAS TAKEN A CLOSE INTEREST IN THE SPORT'S AFFAIRS. IN 2006 IRAN WAS BANNED FROM INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION BY THE WORLD GOVERNING BODY FIFA AFTER CLAIMS OF IMPROPER INTERFERENCE BY HIS GOVERNMENT. THE BAN WAS LATER LIFTED.

THIS YEAR THE NATIONAL TEAM COACH ALI DAEI WAS SACKED, REPORTEDLY ON AHMADINEJAD'S ORDERS, AFTER A 2-1 HOME DEFEAT BY SAUDI ARABIA.

MY PERSPECTIVE:

AS A RATIONALIST RELYING UPON NEWS REPORTS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE CAREFUL BEFORE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS.

MOST OF US DESPISE AHMADINEJAD, AND SO IT IS EASY TO SIDE AGAINST HIM AND ASSUME THAT HE STOLE THE ELECTION. BUT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT HE REALLY DID WIN THE ELECTION AND THAT THE LOSER'S ARE PLAYING UPON THE WORLD'S EMOTIONS.

I DO NOT KNOW WHO REALLY WON THE ELECTION. I PROBABLY WILL NEVER KNOW - AND NEITHER WILL YOU.

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FAMOUS QUOTES

JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH (4 BCE –29 ACE), IS THE CENTRAL FIGURE OF CHRISTIANITY, AND WITHIN MOST DENOMINATIONS HE IS VENERATED AS THE SON OF GOD AND AS GOD INCARNATE. CHRISTIANS ALSO VIEW HIM AS THE MESSIAH FORETOLD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT; JUDAISM REJECTS THIS CLAIM. ISLAM CONSIDERS JESUS A PROPHET, WHILE SEVERAL OTHER RELIGIONS REVERE HIM IN SOME WAY.

THE PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION REGARDING JESUS' LIFE AND TEACHINGS ARE THE FOUR CANONICAL GOSPELS, ESPECIALLY THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS, THOUGH SOME SCHOLARS ARGUE THAT OTHER TEXTS (SUCH AS THE GOSPEL OF THOMAS) ARE AS RELEVANT AS THE CANONICAL GOSPELS TO THE HISTORICAL JESUS. MOST CRITICAL SCHOLARS IN THE FIELDS OF HISTORY AND BIBLICAL STUDIES BELIEVE THAT SOME PARTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT ARE USEFUL FOR RECONSTRUCTING JESUS' LIFE, AGREEING THAT HE WAS A JEW WHO WAS REGARDED AS A TEACHER AND HEALER. THEY ALSO GENERALLY ACCEPT THAT HE WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN THE BAPTIST, AND WAS CRUCIFIED IN JERUSALEM ON THE ORDERS OF THE ROMAN PREFECT OF JUDAEA, PONTIUS PILATE, ON THE CHARGE OF SEDITION AGAINST THE ROMAN EMPIRE. ASIDE FROM THESE FEW CONCLUSIONS, ACADEMIC STUDIES REMAIN INCONCLUSIVE ABOUT THE CHRONOLOGY, THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF JESUS' PREACHING, HIS SOCIAL CLASS, CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND RELIGIOUS ORIENTATION. SCHOLARS OFFER COMPETING DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS AS THE AWAITED MESSIAH, AS A SELF-DESCRIBED MESSIAH, AS THE LEADER OF AN APOCALYPTIC MOVEMENT, AS AN ITINERANT SAGE, AS A CHARISMATIC HEALER, AND AS THE FOUNDER OF AN INDEPENDENT RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT.

CHRISTIAN VIEWS OF JESUS CENTER ON THE BELIEF THAT JESUS IS DIVINE, IS THE MESSIAH WHOSE COMING WAS PROPHESIED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, AND THAT HE WAS RESURRECTED AFTER HIS CRUCIFIXION. CHRISTIANS PREDOMINANTLY BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE "SON OF GOD" (GENERALLY MEANING THAT HE IS GOD THE SON, THE SECOND PERSON IN THE TRINITY), WHO CAME TO PROVIDE SALVATION AND RECONCILIATION WITH GOD BY HIS DEATH FOR THEIR SINS. OTHER CHRISTIAN BELIEFS INCLUDE JESUS' VIRGIN BIRTH, PERFORMANCE OF MIRACLES, ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN, AND A FUTURE SECOND COMING. WHILE THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY IS WIDELY ACCEPTED BY CHRISTIANS, A MINORITY INSTEAD HOLD NONTRINITARIAN BELIEFS CONCERNING THE DIVINITY OF JESUS.

IN ISLAM, JESUS IS CONSIDERED ONE OF GOD'S IMPORTANT PROPHETS, A BRINGER OF SCRIPTURE, AND A WORKER OF MIRACLES. JESUS IS ALSO CALLED "MESSIAH", BUT ISLAM DOES NOT TEACH THAT HE WAS DIVINE. ISLAM TEACHES THAT JESUS ASCENDED BODILY TO HEAVEN, RATHER THAN THE TRADITIONAL CHRISTIAN BELIEF OF THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS.

"THOU HYPOCRITE, FIRST CAST OUT THE BEAM OUT OF THINE OWN EYE; AND THEN SHALT THOU SEE CLEARLY TO CAST OUT THE MOTE OUT OF THY BROTHER'S EYE."