

WHY JESUS?

Easter Sunday

Pastor Michael Lee

April 4, 2010

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 (ESV)

COMPARATIVE LOOK AT TOP-TIER SPIRITUAL LEADERS

Resurrection	Still dead. Died in 1844 (killed by mob while in jail) and stayed dead.	Still dead. Died in 483 BC (reaction to wild mushroom?) and stayed dead.	Still dead. Died in 632 AD (poisoned?), and stayed dead.	Is alive. Died in approx. 30 AD (crucified) but raised back to life to live forever.
Prophecy	None. Although he frequently prophesied, almost none were fulfilled.	None. He never claimed it nor was it ever said of him that he possessed this power.	None. Although he did make some predictions about how his troops would do in a particular battle.	He could look into people's hearts and motivations; he knew specific facts about people without ever being told; he foretold future events and they were fulfilled.
Miracles	None.	None.	None.	Repeatedly defied natural law and deployed supernatural powers.
Teaching	Criticized by contemporaries as being a pious fraud, having immoral character, hungry for power and for material and sexual rewards.	Very strong proponent of moral living. As far as we know, he did his absolute best to live out the Eightfold Paths.	Admitted to killing others and acknowledged his own waywardness and selfishness. He repeatedly asked Allah for forgiveness.	Considered perfectly moral even by his enemies. He was the standard setter for compassion, encouragement for the oppressed, and justice. Unparalleled in his concern for the poor and love for sinners.
Morality	Mormonism is very attractive with its commitment to family, good works, following commandments.	Borrowed heavily from Hindu theology. Taught Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Paths.	Developed beliefs about God, angels, prophets, holy books, end times. Taught the Five Pillars of Islam.	Taught salvation by grace through faith, not works. Widely considered one of the greatest teachers of all times.
	Joseph Smith	Buddha	Mohammad	Jesus Christ

Joseph Smith

Buddha

Mohammad

Jesus Christ

CENTRAL TRUTH

Jesus is truly unique from all other spiritual leaders and trust in him as the one true God is well placed.

** LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at www.ynccla.org.

** CDs of today's message will be available next Sunday in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermon CDs are also available in the office. All sermons are viewable online at www.ynccla.org/sermons.

