

---

Subject: Re: Questions I would like to pose to athiests  
Posted by [MUDKIPS](#) on Tue, 19 Apr 2011 08:22:40 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Alright, time to resume my post.

Basically, what was really being decided was, what was more important: worshipping an ideal, or practicing an ideal? The decision was obviously made to worship the ideal. This was very problematic, although people at the time did not realise it.

The original jewish faith that christianity is based on evolved from and among the various polytheistic religions in the fertile crescent and around, heavily influenced by Assyrian and Babylonian religions, which in turn were influenced by Sumerian religions.

These were very focused on worshipping the king as an agent of the gods, who was given the tools to build cities, empires, you name it. This was a religion that was very much based on action, and deeds, through a system of beliefs that was reinforced with rituals and religious tablets all over the land. For instance, seals were stamped with godly symbols, and if any thief would break them he would call the wrath of that particular god upon himself.

Judaism evolved to be a monotheistic mirror of this kind of religion; based on an ideal of a promised land in which the people shall live according to the laws laid down by their god.

Jesus of Nazareth, someone other than him, or maybe the same man who went by a different line, wanted to distantiate himself from the promised land ideal, and focus more on the "good life" aspect of Judaism, ie, if everyone follows the rules and lives by these loving ideals, we might have a good world.

So, instead of following the original Aristotelean ideals of Jesus, a Platonic way of thinking was adapted. This meant more focus on the worship and belief, rather than actual acts. This meant that instead of making an effort for a more virtuous and better world, more effort was made to make people believe. This in time led to the persecution of heretics (that are now considered saints in some of the more orthodox christian ways) and the enforcement of silly doctrines, based on superstition. A lot of adaptations were made to the bible to reinforce this new way of thinking about christianity, so many that if you compare original greek manuscripts to say, a 7th century bible, you'd think they were from two completely different religions.

What is my "problem" with this? Let's have a look at the differences: Jews are known for their entrepreneurship, ingenuity and perseverance. They thrive in difficult environments (like in the early medieval ghettos in italy, or during the roman occupation where a whole new form of judaism was born) and through all their hardships have still survived.

Christians are no longer known for their compassion, which is what the original focus of christianity was. Instead they are known for their unrelenting quest to convert everyone (inquisitions, burning of heretics, conversion attempts of indians), corruption, arrogance and in modern days, pedophile priests.

(again, cant be arsed to continue, maybe later today)

---