

Should Someone be Banned from Church?

By
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From 2015 Christmas Carols the author attended weekly seminars at Macquarie Baptist Church. This was in the form of singing, Bible studying, and concluding with an evening meal and conversation. The author was eventually banned from the church on the 10th June 2018 for teaching yogic philosophy and claiming to be the next King following Messiah Jesus. Is this justified?

Bible verses about acceptance

The Bible speaks often about God's acceptance of us and how we should be accepting of others. When Jesus walked on earth, He was our perfect example of accepting others, no matter their sin or choices. Jesus extended grace and forgiveness to all and we are commanded to do the same!

Even though Scriptures tells us to seek unity and show no partiality, we are also warned to stay away from bad company. Being accepting of others and loving them as God does, doesn't mean that we allow them to become an influence in our lives. We've compiled some Bible verses below that relate to accepting others and understanding God's acceptance of us. Use these Scriptures to gain wisdom and encourage others! Here are 18 verses about acceptance. <https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/bible-verses-about-acceptance/>

Hare Krishna Temples

The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), otherwise known as the Hare Krishna movement, includes five hundred major centers, temples and rural communities, nearly one hundred affiliated vegetarian restaurants, thousands of *namahattas* or local meeting groups, a wide variety of community projects, and millions of congregational members worldwide. Although less than fifty years on the global stage, ISKCON has expanded widely since its founding by His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda in New York City in 1966. Hare Krishna Temples will always offer free spiritualized vegetarian food to anyone, welcome anyone and never reject anyone as they view every living entity as eternal souls (and not these material bodies).

The Bhagavad Gita

The Bhagavad Gita is a conversation between Arjuna, a supernaturally gifted warrior about to go into battle, and Krishna – the Supreme Personality of Godhead, his charioteer. In the course of giving Arjuna all manner of spiritual and material advice, Krishna explains karma, the self, the Supreme Self, the purpose of yoga, the difference between our self and our material body, how our environment affects our consciousness, and how to attain the perfection of life. The Gita appears as a central chapter in the Mahabharata, the history of

greater India. It is the essence of Vedic knowledge and one of the most important books of Vedic literature. Lord Krishna spoke the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna about 5000 years ago and through disciplic succession the Bhagavad Gita As It Is gives commentary on the verses by Lord Krishna by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Pradhupada. Essentially the Bhagavad Gita As It Is is the highest authoritative text to explain the universe and the commentary is "almost" 100% accurate. Therefore, teaching yogic philosophy as the highest form of knowledge should not be a reason for banning someone from church.

Spiritual encounters

In March/April 2013 a series of three separate events took place for the author of a spiritual nature at his student residence 22/122 Culloden Rd, Marsfield, Sydney. The first event featured a black bird tapping its beak on the author's front glass door several times before turning its head to look the author in the eye, and then flying off. The second event involved a black bird swooping down from the opposite apartment and pecking on the door several times/looking the author in the eye in the same spot of the previous bird before flying off. The author was standing in the kitchen of his apartment at the time when a strange feeling of energy was felt (as a force) whilst observing the bird swooping down. During this process the author's sense of hearing appeared to block the surrounding sounds and a strange 'whizzing' sound was heard of the bird flying down to the door. The third event featured the skin/feathers of a 'dead' black bird appearing in roughly the same spot that the previous birds had pecked on the door. The exact dates of these events are difficult to trace but can be confirmed to have taken place between the 27th March and the 8th April. These events occurred as a direct result of making the connection with yoga and conflict resolution within an ideology, such that 'Yoga is the most effective method to resolving conflicts'. Given that all religions are circumstantial for their period in history, it can therefore be concluded that this ideology and associated policies is a revelation that has been approved by God as a method for how society today should function to assist to bring about world peace. This is documented in 'The Book of Tristan' ([pdf](#)). The events also appear to symbolize Jesus, since the final event featured a dead bird with no body present and hence a 'resurrection'. The author's 'out-of-body' experience was such that the author was 'killed' by God and then raised from the dead. Also, the best explanation for how the feathers appeared on the author's doorstep days after the 'out-of-body' experience is such that a Spirit Being descended and placed them there and this Spirit Being was actually God, since from Vedic literature there are many incarnations of God. To be killed by God and raised from the dead in such an 'out-of-body' experience is a very high achievement that any individual can obtain. For this reason, the author has been appointed by God as the next King for the Jewish people following Messiah Jesus. It is worth noting that the author had very little understanding of religion and spiritual knowledge prior to these spiritual encounters. The significance of the author's 'out-of-body' experience whilst visualizing a bird is directly connected with the Bible. Mathew 3:16 "And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him". The author contacted the Australian Institute of Parapsychological Research about the spiritual encounters. The response was that the out-of-body experiences (which occur in about 20% of the population) was not a typical out-of-body experience which is regarded as a veridical out-of-body experience. One of the reviewers regarded it as something more of a mystical experience and therefore can be regarded

as something very unique. More information about typical out-of-body experiences can be found <http://www.aiprinc.org/Out-of-body-experiences/>

Truth about Jesus

The following verses are outlined in the Qur'an:

4:159 That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah";-but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not.

9:30 And the Jews say, Ezra is the son of Allah, and the Christians say, the Messiah is the son of Allah; that is what they say with their mouths. They imitate the saying of those who disbelieved before them. Allah's curse be on them! How are they turned away!.

It is also implied in The Qur'an that 'Jesus is not God and is not the Son of God'

The Bhagavad Gita As It Is refers to Lord Krishna as the Supreme Soul, fully spiritual, omnipotent and omniscient and cannot suffer the miseries that we do in this material world. Jesus had a material body. The Holy Spirit is a plenary expansion of God and is located in the heart. This is more commonly known as the Supersoul which is present in every living entity. There are 8.4 million species of life. Any human can potentially pass through a barrier, known as quantum tunnelling. Therefore, Jesus walking out of the enclosed tomb is somewhat trivial. But why did Jesus walk out of the tomb with a material body (rather than a higher spiritual body)? This is because Jesus thought he was God (when in fact he was a demigod). That is why Jesus thought he could forgive sin. So, Jesus was reincarnated at death into another demigod body. Demigods are capable of ascending to heavenly material planets but have to return to earth at some point in time to take on another body. That explains the Second Coming of Jesus. God gave Jesus healing powers, to walk on water, walk through walls and foresee the future (typical of demigods). Jesus claims that he and the Father are one. As explained previously the Holy Spirit (a plenary expansion of God is present in the heart of Jesus). The Holy Spirit (or more generally the Supersoul) is present in all living entities along with the individual soul. The soul is one ten thousandth the size of a tip of hair and is eternal and cannot be destroyed, but merely transmigrates into another body at the end of each life based on our karma. The Father is mentioned several times in the Bhagavad Gita As It Is as being God, and the Father is purely spiritual. The Father, Yahweh and Allah and incarnations of Lord Krishna – the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Jesus was not the Son of God but rather a son of God. In fact all humans are sons of God because we are part-and-parcel with God. The Qur'an states that Jesus was not killed but was made to believe so. From the Bhagavad Gita As It Is we are not these material bodies but eternal souls and therefore cannot be killed. Our bodies are changed from one form to the next at the end of each life according to our karma. If we have bad karma then we can descend to being reincarnated as an animal. Good karma will get us to a spiritual body and ascend to a spiritual planet and live in eternal bliss with God, and escape the process of death and rebirth. This is our purpose in life to obtain a spiritual body in the afterlife. There are 400,000 species of humans based on our level of consciousness (energy emitted from the soul). The material body is dead. The only thing

keeping it alive is the soul (or consciousness - energy emitted by the soul). The highest level of consciousness is walking through a wall – which is typical of demigods. Therefore, the highest form of human is in fact a demigod. There is an even higher form of life than demigods that is still not God. Jesus was the Son of Man, Messiah (meaning anointed King) and savior for the world at the point in time in history. However, Jesus was insulting God by claiming to be God and the Jews were correct in crucifying him. Therefore, Jesus failed to save the world. Hence there are no contradictions between the Bible and the Qur'an in relation to Jesus.

There are nearly 100 biblical passages discussing the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, but there is no clear indication on when and how he will return. Jesus told His disciples: "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father... Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with the hand mill; one will be taken and the other left... Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come" (Matthew 24:36, 40, 42).

From the Bible it is revealed that Jesus received a material body after the crucifixion rather than a spiritual body. This further implies that Jesus was insulting God by claiming to be God. It can be argued that this material body was in fact another demigod body, since demigods are capable of ascending to demigod planets. Whilst Jesus was on this demigod planet he was still claiming to be God and after dying on this demigod planet was reincarnated into a lower form of life as a human – arguably being the author based on the spiritual encounters that reflect Jesus. This is the law of karma. Life is eternal and we reincarnate into another species of life based on our karma until we obtain a spiritual body and escape the re-birth and death process. Based on the spiritual encounters that took place at Macquarie University Village that reflect Jesus and hence the author quite possibly being the Second Coming of Jesus, should not be a reason from banning someone from church for claiming to be the next King following Messiah Jesus.

Macquarie Baptist Church constitution

<http://www.macquariebaptist.org.au/wp-content/uploads/MBC-Constitution-2018-1.pdf>

4.6 Exclusion of Members. Should any member become an offence to the Church and to its good name by reason of immoral or un-Christian conduct, the Church may terminate his membership, but only after due notice following enquiry by the Leadership Team in a spirit of meekness, and after faithful effects have been made to bring such member to repentance and amendment.

The author has shown somewhat scientifically the truth about Jesus and that there are no contradictions between the Bible and the Qur'an in relation to Jesus. Therefore, there was no offence to the church.

Termination letter from the Senior Pastor Tim Blencowe

Hi Tristan

Thanks for the chance to meet up today to talk about where things are up to for you. As you mentioned, you're certainly managing a lot at the moment with the ongoing issues around

mental illness affecting you and your family, and the anxieties of long term unemployment. Thanks for making the time to meet.

An Email for Clarity

I wanted to follow up our conversation with an email so as to make sure our communications are clear and there's no misunderstandings. As mentioned, I had chatted to McClure earlier in the day about the conversation I was going to have with you as he has had similar concerns, and you've been mentioning how Greg has also been engaging with you, so I've included McClure and Greg on this email so that they are in the loop on where things are up to.

Your Connection with MBC is Changing

As we discussed today, you've always been warmly welcomed at MBC over these recent years, but as you've been learning more about what the Bible says about Jesus it's been clear that you are coming from a very different place in your thinking. We've been happy to tolerate that, but the difference now is that you have decided to publish the attached document via your facebook group and are now proactively circulating and propagating extracts from that document along with your philosophical ideas and religious teachings whereby you proclaim yourself as God-appointed king and effectively the world leader of a new religious movement. I have strongly urged you today to not go the way you are going, and to repent of these claims. I've also made clear that if you continue in this way it will bring your relationship with MBC to an end. It's one thing to attend our public gatherings as someone who is seeking truth and finding out about the claims of the Bible, but its another thing to claim to have found alternative truth and to seek to gather a following to that truth. I will also communicate with Christian Union and Navigators to let them know the situation.

If this is the choice you make I'd like for us to finish well

You've become a friend to many at MBC and that will continue to be the case I'm sure. I think many of us appreciate your kind nature. If you really have decided to go take this path that leads you away from MBC then I'd like to have the opportunity to have you visit with us one more time on a Sunday night so that we can say thanks for your time with us. As mentioned today, that should probably be this coming Sunday. I would be very happy to print off copies of the attached document and hand them out to people as a way of helping them understand the decision you have made and the direction you are going. As we talked more about this today, I suggested to you that this needn't happen this Sunday, and that instead you should take the next couple of weeks to seriously consider what you are doing. If you are happy to hold off making any more internet posts and religious claims for the next few weeks, then we would be happy for you to continue with us on Sundays while you make your decision.

Why I think you are going the wrong way

As explained today, there are a number of reasons why I think you are going the wrong way in making these claims...

(1) You are going against what God clearly says in the Bible and putting yourself in great danger of God's judgement. Your religious outlook is similar to Bahai, attempting to take portions of various religions and claiming to have a superior path that supposedly brings them all together. This is not new and is based on a faulty understanding of each of the religions you seek to represent. It is definitely not Christian and does not accord with the Bible in any way.

(2) Your religious claims have an extremely flimsy basis. Having experienced a subjective encounter involving a vision of a bird, you have concluded that the blog post you had just written at the time was therefore being confirmed as true by God appearing to you as a bird. As you mentioned today, the other two experiences mentioned in your paper, one from a guy called Paul and another one from a guy called Tim, do not substantiate your claims in any way, except that they suggest that other people may have subjective experiences too. This is a unique claim. The world is full of subjective experiences. I suggest this one experience of yours is an extremely thin basis on which to claim that you are leader of a new world religion and the appointed representative of God on earth.

(3) As explained today, I think that your mental illness is leading to your experience of religious delusion. It is not uncommon for some mental illnesses to involve such delusions, where people believe that they are the messiah or a divine representative. I really appreciate that you are able to be honest with yourself about the fact that you suffer with mental illness, so I strongly urge you to take seriously the implications of that and accept there must be a connection.

(4) I do not believe you have a serious following for your ideas. Your facebook group is called "strategic games" and is associated with your website. It is not surprising that a web presence with that name has attracted numbers of people who are no doubt interested in "games", "strategy" or "strategy games". But having people subscribe to your site on that basis does not mean that they are interested in your religious claims or are supportive of them in any way. I think it's wrong that you refer to this as your "interest group" when no-one is dialoging at all with your ideas or reading or circulating the paper you have written.

(5) As mentioned today, I think you are making false claims about yourself. I don't think you mean to be deceptive, but I do think that you are twisting the facts so as to convince yourself of a number of things that are not really true. First, it's not true that you have the occupation of "academic researcher". To hold such a position you would need to have a formal post with a recognised institution. You may have had this many years ago, but it's not the case now. I'm sure you do lots of research, but anyone can do that. Second, your "adjunct" positions with Swinburn uni and Adelaide uni were unpaid roles which did not involve any teaching or lecturing of any kind, and yet the way you write your document it makes it sound otherwise. These roles were undoubtedly openings that were given to you to develop your statistical work to do with gaming prediction but which do not seem to have resulted in tenure. Third, I don't think you should be claiming your mathematics PhD or a book you once wrote as some kind of qualification for the claims you are making. There is no connection. And fourth, as mentioned above, your facebook group does not represent an "interest group" as you claim. It's not real.

(6) I believe that you are searching for identity and purpose for your life. I really feel for you Tristan. Ten years ago your mind was wonderfully busy with the amazing mathematical and statistical work you were doing at that time. As mentioned today, it seems to me that your mind is very active and that these ideas have become something of an obsession for you. I think you've been dwelling on the ideas far too much and have started convincing yourself that you see connections that really are not there. I think underneath it all you want to find purpose and meaning for your life, and you want to feel like the capacity of your mind is being used to its potential.

(7) I think there is an unhealthy elevation of yourself that you should repent of. I have noticed how much you talk about the reward you are seeking for all your thoughts and ideas, and you talk about how the university research you once did was worth millions of dollars that you

were never paid. I think there is a worrying tendency to want to be recognised as someone great. I really think you are searching for a sense of worth and value and this is feeding the delusion that you have been specially appointed by God as king.

Please Do Change Your Mind

Tristan, please listen to us as your friends. Please recognise that the claims you are making are not based on reality are are connected with the illness you have been suffering from for some time. Please allow us to help you to get the psychological help and emotional support that you need. And in the meantime, I urge you to hear the call of Jesus to repent, and to submit your life to following Him and the Way, the Truth and the Life. In Him you will find the identity, purpose and joy that you are searching for.

I am praying for you Tristan.

Sincerely,

Tim Blencowe

Note that Tim Blencowe is making threats about contacting Macquarie Christian Union and Navigators, and yet the author has been and is still most welcomed in both these groups at Macquarie University. Macquarie Baptist Church (MBC) is not part of the university. This implies that MBC is a cult and current members should leave the church. Also, the author has attended and is most welcomed at Hillsong Church, and further the author has been invited by many students at Macquarie University to attend their church. It should also be noted that the author is Jewish and a highly valued member of The Great Synagogue Sydney <https://www.greatsynagogue.org.au/>

Also, Tim Blencowe states “Your religious outlook is similar to Bahai, attempting to take portions of various religions and claiming to have a superior path that supposedly brings them all together. This is not new and is based on a faulty understanding of each of the religions you seek to represent. It is definitely not Christian and does not accord with the Bible in any way”. God is perfect and would not have contradictions and the author has shown that there are no contradictions between the Bible and the Qur’an in relation to Jesus. This finding is critically important to unite the three Abrahamic religions and help establish world peace.