

RELATIONSHIP TO JESUS.

Jesus' "brothers", James as well as Jude, Simon and Joses are mentioned in Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3 and by Paul in Galatians 1:19. Since James' name always appears first in lists, this suggests he was the eldest among them. Even in the passage in Josephus' Jewish Antiquities (20.9.1) the Jewish historian describes James as "the brother of Jesus who is called Christ,". Paul refers to James, at that time the only prominent Christian James in Jerusalem, as an Apostle, hence his identification by some with James, son of Alphaeus.

It is believed by some that the Jerusalem of Christ's time was un-influenced by the Greeks which had occupied it for nearly 250 years. They would claim that the Mosaic Law advised married couples to be fruitful and have many children and that this would indicate, assuming Mary and Joseph were devout Jews, that they would have had more children after Mary gave birth to Jesus, thus making James a full brother of Jesus assuming Jesus was the biological son of Joseph, and not miraculously conceived. Unfortunately all of these assumptions would be based on bad scholarship.

For proponents of the doctrine of Jesus' virgin birth, the claim that James may have been a full brother of Jesus is unacceptable; at most James and the other brethren of Jesus would have been co-uterine half-brothers. Those who assert that James and his brethren are not full or half-siblings of Jesus (the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and some Protestant churches) point out that Aramaic and Hebrew tended to use circumlocutions to point out blood relationships; it is asserted that just calling some people "brothers of Jesus" would not have necessarily implied the same mother. Rather, something like "sons of the mother of Jesus" would have been used to indicate a common mother. Scholars and theologians who assert this make much of Jesus being called "the son of Mary" rather than "a son of Mary" in his hometown (Mark 6:3). James could also have been the stepbrother of Jesus. If Mary was a lifelong virgin, this would mean that James and the other "brethren of Jesus" could not have been born of Mary. Joseph would then have had a previous marriage before Mary and already had children.

This view is first found in the apocryphal Gospel of James from the 2nd century. According to this reasoning, James is an older stepbrother of Jesus; indeed all of Jesus' supposed brothers and sisters would have been stepbrothers and sisters rather than full siblings. This belief is endorsed especially in Eastern Orthodoxy and among some Roman Catholics. However, according to another Roman Catholic tradition (found in Jerome and Augustine's writings), Joseph was not married prior to Mary and the brothers of Jesus were actually cousins. According to the apocryphal First Apocalypse of James, James is not the earthly brother of Jesus, but a spiritual brother. James could also have been cousin to Jesus, along with the other named "brethren". This is justified by the claim that cousins were also called "brothers" and "sisters" in Jesus' postulated native language, Aramaic; it and Hebrew do not contain a word for "cousin". Furthermore, the Greek words adelphos and adelphe were not restricted to their literal meaning of a full brother or sister in the Bible; nor were their plurals.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE TEACHINGS OF MACCELLO

Brother Maccello: I ask you to consider what you have just read, God also said when Christ was baptised, this, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. He did not say this is my *only* begotten Son in whom I am well pleased as is written in your Holy book. So as I have said earlier, you are a child of God. If this is so then he is your Father and if he is your Father you are his daughter, as all of you are daughters and sons of God.

Sister Valerie: Muhammad said in the Qur'an in his teachings he said that, God was an entity on his own and he had no children and this is one of the things that have caused a lot of conflict between the Islamic faith and the Christian faith.

Brother Maccello: God is one spirit, this is so and you are a spirit, you are a part of this God power, which is upon this Earth Plane, these teachings you speak of, I have said before, worship your God however you conceive him to be. In the lands of Silver Waters for instance, they see their God Manitou as a great white warrior father, in the lands of Kim Su San they see him as a Buddha who is the father of all. It is not for your understanding, the book of Qur'an; it's for the understanding of those of that faith and of that culture. God interprets his law according to the cultures of man and he interprets his image according to the way they can identify best with this. So this sets up, as you have said, quite truly perhaps, a barrier between the one walk of life and another but the Father in his wisdom has placed these things here in fervent prayer and hope that man will search his heart and eventually find the truth and the proof of his love by allowing man to see God however he may conceive him to be in his heart.

Do not concern yourselves too much with the Qur'an, it is for this culture and for this way of life as was Muhammad, but you see, whatever man conceives God to be, the one great important and most beautiful thing of all this, evolves that he is a God of love, he is a creator of all things and the Father of mankind and it is this love, which we have for him, that one day will bridge over these misunderstandings and misinterpretations, which only man alone has put there, then we will come to a universal truth and a universal understanding one with another. There are many things written in your Holy book, as you are fast coming to discover, which God did not write, Christ did not write them, man wrote them. God did not write the Qur'an, man wrote the Qur'an, Muhammad never wrote the Qur'an, man wrote these things and because some man somewhere in the distant past of time felt in his heart that he wanted to separate his people from the Christian way of life, and because a Christian wanted to separate his people from the Muhammad way of life, the Islam way, they concocted many stories knowing they would conflict and they do this today. Even today they have not learnt, still they do it and still they will go on doing this thing creating confusion and misunderstanding in the hearts of men and each time they will blame the Profits. Did not Christ say as Brother John read to you this night "I have not come to destroy the law or the Profits, not the law of the Profits but the law or the Profits, but I have come to fulfil. And he was teaching in his lifetime a universal love, he did not want Jew to be against a Christian, he did not want Christian and Jew to be against Islam, he wanted them to love one another as he has loved us and man has created these laws for himself and he has created divisions among himself. Has he not said also that father will rise up against a son and a son will rise up against his brother and likewise and has this not become so, because they will not agree? They cannot find it in their hearts to accept the truth of the universal love of God for all mankind where ever he originates from, whatever his destiny must be, the love of God, the love of Christ, the love of a Christian, the love of Buddha, the love of Tao, the love of Islam, of Muhammad, of all these Prophets which have walked the Earth before you. It's a universal love placed upon this Earth Plane of yours man may take of it and create of it what he will and this he has done and in so

doing, because of his jealousy one with another, he has created confusion in the hearts of all who believe. And so this confusion will go on until one day man will once again come to understand, as I have told you before, as I have heard Brother Brian say this night, I am a child of God and this is the simple answer to it all. I am no more no less than a child of God whether it is in this world or the next, or the next, or the next or on this plane be it as it is and no one, no one on this Earth Plane or on any other plane of awareness can alter this. You are a child of God create within your heart whatever truth whatever love whatever joy this holds manifest for you and accept your fellow men for who they are and what they are and not for what those in past years have decided in their divisions, one against another, to create in the hearts of men.

Brother Gustus Emmanuel.

Shall we join now and talk with the Father.

Oh Lord, thou who are the creator of all things, create in these thy children a spirit of peace and love and an eternal understanding of your joy and love in Christ Jesus thy Son, that this love may become manifest in their hearts and inspire them to do thy will in thy name and in thy Holy cause for mankind.

Dear Lord our Father, in thy name I bless each and every one of these thy children that they may see the light of thy love within their hearts and they may receive the joy and the sorrow and the pain that they may know that thou live in them from this time forth and even for evermore.

Enrichen their being O Father touch their understanding and their recognition of themselves in thee and may it be thy will Oh Lord, that thine eternal grace shall dwell within their hearts and homes and shall uplift them and strengthen them and glorify their holy cause in thee. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is manifest in the only one true living God that we may know and learn of him and understand that we are thy children born of thy peace and of thy grace?

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord make his light to shine upon you, may he make his countenance to dwell upon you and within you, and may he bless you from this day forth and even for evermore, through Christ Jesu's love. Amen.

God bless you my children. Walk as one, walk in peace, walk in love.