

It was first asked of me to give a lecture on the Hiram Key. This was quickly realized to be a momentous task worthy of many meetings. Some of the topics that Felix and I discussed were Knights Templar, Gnostic Connection, Egypt, history of the Pillars and of course the subject we decided on, Jesus. We felt this to be a good starting point on which everyone has some knowledge.

The theories I am going to bring up are those presented in this book. They are not proven fact. Merely alternative theories to those presented by the church as to who Jesus was. Also, I would like to say that pulling out theories of Jesus without discussing every topic of this book is nearly impossible. My goal is to spark enough interest that each of you will take the time to read the book. While lectures can be nice when explaining documented facts all I have to offer is theory. Therefore I would like this to be more of a discussion than a lecture. Feel free to comment and ask questions when you are inclined.

The Hiram Key written in 1996 and published in England  
Authors:

Christopher Knight: born in 1950 and became a freemason in 1976. His background is in consumer psychology and is currently the managing director of a marketing and advertising agency.

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First quote of the book is from Yehoshua ben Joseph, AKA Jesus Christ:

‘Nothing is hidden that will not be made known, or secret that will not come to light. What I tell you in the dark speak in the light. And what you hear in a whisper, proclaim on the house tops.’

Someone please tell me whose life story I am telling: I was born of a virgin birth on December 25<sup>th</sup> in humble surroundings and died in order to save my people and was later resurrected?

Here is a list of other notable figures that predate Jesus who have similar stories:

Buddha (600 bc),  
Dionysus (Greek, born in a stable, turned water into wine),  
Quirinus (early roman savior),  
Attis (200 bc),  
Indra (700bc),  
Adonis (born of a virgin),  
Krishna (1200 bc),  
Zoroaster (1200 bc but introduced to the Romans in 67 bc, doctrines include baptism, a sacramental meal, belief in immortality, a savior god who died and rose again, heaven and hell),

Mithra (born of a virgin in a stable on 25 December 600 bc, his resurrection was celebrated on Easter)

Or....Jesus

Lets start with tangible ideas:

Real Name: Jesus Christ is a later Greek title...probable known in his life time as Yehoshua meaning 'Yahweh delivers' Jesus is simply a Greek interpretation of the Hebrew name Yehoshua which is also the name given during that period to 'the savior of the Jewish people'. Christ is a Greek rendering of the Jewish title Messiah which has been given the meaning 'the bringer of salvation through the redemption of sin'. Jewish tradition says that Israel's kings were also associated with messiahs. To Jews Christ meant 'a king to be' or 'a king in waiting'.

Family of Jesus:

Jesus had brothers and sisters: Matthew 13:55-56 'Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Jude? And his sisters are they not all with us?' We will get to this again soon. Besides Mary, why is his family not his biggest supporters or spoken of more in the Bible?

Stature:

Can someone please describe Jesus' image to us.

Truth: passage taken from a book called Capture of Jerusalem by Josephus which survived in a Slavonic text and was discovered in the last century which is now believed to be a transcript of Jesus' arrest warrant issued by Pontius Pilot...all other texts were destroyed by the Romans:

'...a man of simple appearance, mature age, dark skin, small stature, 3 cubits (4' 6") high, hunchbacked with a long face, long nose, and meeting eyebrows, so that they who see him might be affrighted, with scanty hair with a parting in the middle of his head, after the manner of the Nazarites, and with an undeveloped beard.'

Segregation of Groups of Jerusalem during the time:

There were 3 principle groups amongst the population.

Sadducees- priestly and aristocratic. Conservative in their religious views not believing in any existence beyond the grave- ran the country according to Roman requirements rather than Jewish ones.

Pharisees- Not priests but were devoted to Jewish Law and constantly tried to apply it in every avenue of life. Set high standards which became the landmarks of modern Orthodox Judaism

Essenes (Nasoreans-followers of Jesus "separated Jew"-lived in an area about a mile inland from the dead sea in today's west bank called Qumran... ask what symbol they used/show card – Note this was not the symbol for Jesus' followers.....fish for symbol... .)– Less understood until 1947 and the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls (in the Qumran

community). Very Strict. Religious observance made the Pharisees look like carefree hedonists. Membership was attained only through individual adult choice not by virtue of birth. The scrolls reveal that there were various levels of membership from a broad outer group to an inner sanctum. Initiation to the higher echelons required vows of secrecy that carried threats of horrible punishments should the secrets of their brotherhood be revealed to the outside world. The leader of this community around the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> decade AD was James the Just, the brother of Jesus who the Church accepts was the first Bishop of the Jerusalem Church.

Politics during this time period was a serious theological matter, the stability of the nation rested upon God's view of its worth. If the people proved worthy, they would have their own king and would destroy their enemies. For hundreds of years they had been unworthy to God and worried that he deserted them. But, as they gained strength and numbers and became more influential they started to expect the arrival of a messiah

No where in the Old Testament does it prophesy the coming of a world savior. The Jews of the time expected a leader to emerge who was an earthly king in the mould of David and however much Christians would like it to be so, Jesus was not the Messiah of the line of David, because he did not succeed in becoming the undisputed King of Israel.

**Messiah – political leader with credentials stretching back to their first king- David.**

At Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilot what was the name of the man who was released? ...  
..Barabbas

This is not a name but a title meaning 'Son of God'. 'Bar' means 'son of' and 'abba' means 'father'. Matthew verse 27; 16-17. Barabbas is called 'Jesus Barabbas'. So, the individual who was released and not crucified at the request of the crowd was, as an indisputable matter of the Gospel record, known as 'Jesus, the son of God'. The gospel states that this other 'Jesus' was accused of being a Jewish rebel who had killed people during an outbreak of insurrection. Thus Barabbas was a **Jewish fanatic**, one facing a similar accusation to the one brought against Jesus.

Is it possible that the Roman Empire felt a need to eliminate one of the 2 Jewish fanatics in an effort to keep control of that population?

Scenario 1: Two competing messiahs had sprung up amongst 2 different groups in Judaea. These 2 messiahs were at their peak of popularity at the same time. Then, they both would have been called Jesus by their followers because this name is given to the saviour of the Jewish people.

Could one of them have been 'Jesus, King of the Jews' and the other 'Jesus, son of God'?

Scenario 2: (show Card) This scenario is based on the knowledge that there is a Jewish traditional requirement for there to be 2 messiahs at a time, who would work hand in hand to achieve the final victory (Show Star of David). A kingly messiah from the tribe of Judah, the royal line of David and a priestly messiah from the tribe of Levi (Jewish priests had to be Levites). The Jesus born to Mary could not be the Kingly messiah because he was not from the house of David. The New Testament claims that the Jesus born to Mary came from the royal line of David and was supposedly born in David's City

of Bethlehem. This genealogy is based on Mary's husband Joseph who was not according to Christian belief the father of Jesus i.e. immaculate conception. Therefore he could not be the kingly messiah. However, Mary was of relation to John the Baptist, who was a Levite. So, he could have been the priestly messiah.

? 2 priestly messiah's and 1 tries to be the kingly? Which would mean you were responsible for leading you people to victory.

Jesus of Nazareth: The town of Nazareth simply did not exist at the time of Jesus. However, could they have meant 'Jesus the Nasorean' and could he have been a member of the Essenes? This sect still lives today in southern Iraq AKA **Mandaean's**. They trace their heritage back to Yahia Yuhana (show cards) better known as 'John the Baptist'. They believe that Yshu Mshiha (Jesus) was a Nasorean but one who was a rebel and heretic who betrayed secret doctrines that had been entrusted to him. Side Note: They also use ritual handshakes called 'Kushta' which is a grip given to ceremonial candidates, signifying 'Righteousness'

Military Agenda: What could he have done that gives him this reputation to this day with the Mandaean's? His people were expecting him to rise up against the Romans and take back Jerusalem.

1. Who were his disciples? "His 5 principle minders were: James and John, whom he called the 'sons of thunder'; two Simons, one called 'the zealot' (The Zealots were a [Jewish](#) political movement in the [1st century](#) AD which sought to incite the people of [Judaea Province](#) to rebel against the [Roman Empire](#) and expel it from the country by force of arms) and the other 'the terrorist' (barjona); and as Judas 'the knife-man' (sicarius: Latin for Dagger; The [Sicarii](#), a group of Jews who attempted to expel the Romans from Judea). These are not peace maker names.

2. (pg 218) He was recognized as an inner member of the Essenes and therefore held their closed secrets. He needed to recruit followers in order to have an Army large enough to defend Jerusalem. ---He started raising common people to the status of a first-year Qumranian initiate all over the place; worse still, he unilaterally 'resurrected' many of his closest followers to the highest level. Therefore, giving him his present day reputation within the Mandaean community.

Influence of Constantine the Great

-1 in 10 Romans was a Christian but there were dozens of religions within the population. Constantine feared violence and uprising.

-Convened the first international council of Christians to form a single, official view concerning Christianity and their Jewish prophet Jesus. Resulted with the Nicene Crede which sought to reconcile the differences between various Christian factions. Decided when congregations should stand and sit and whether Jesus was a man or a god, (father, son and holy ghost).

-He was not Christian but was a follower of Sol Invictus-the sun god Sol had his birthday on 25 December and this date was thought to be suitable for Jesus' birthday as well.

-ordered the destruction of any evidence that portrayed it's saviour as a mortal rather than a god. Burnt the library at Alexandria in Egypt to the ground because it was filled with literature about the Jerusalem Church (Jesus)

-the Sabbath was moved from Saturday to the sun god's day, Sunday, and the symbol of the sun found its way behind the heads of the divine and the saintly in the form of the halo.

Other Ideas of Interest:

Symbol of the Cross.....Show card

Jesus and James were NOT friends

Why do Catholics say 'amen' at the end of their prayers?

Why does the Koran state in Sura 4:157 that that it was not Jesus that died on the cross?

Could they both be right if James was seen as the true 'Jesus'?

Star of David vs. Square and Compass

Who was Paul (Saul) and what was his role in the early church?

Jesus was popular for no more than 1 year while James more than 20.

Concept of being "dead" and being "raised from the dead" according to the Nasoreans.