

I think that there is a deliberate order in how the Divine Principle is laid out

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In the Divine Principle, there is a deliberate order (I think) to how it's laid out. First we learn of the fundamentals of God's nature, our nature, then how things relate, based on their fundamental purpose.

Then we are told why this ideal universe was not 'achieved'. The simple story of the Fall is not told in Buddhist or Taoist terms, but in Judeo-Christian terms of Adam and Eve. Even though the Principle of Creation segment uses Bible passages as 'proof texts', they are essentially unnecessary to the narrative: quotes from Plato, Pythagoras or even Lao Tzu would have been just as cogent, and 'proof' of the universality of the teachings.

But starting with the Fall of Man chapter, we are clearly in the Christian sphere of religious teachings. And this of course is not a liberal Jewish or Christian version, but a more fundamentalist version of the Bible: 'we are sinners, we need salvation!'

Then here is my main point: how does the Christology of the following chapter make sense for us? Though we are offered a fundamental view of original sin, we then are given a low Christology of Jesus. What are the main reasons for teaching about the mission of Jesus, with an emphasis that Christianity has had it all wrong for millennia! ?

Before I answer this, I offer you a simple bare bones Christology that exists in the teachings of mainstream Christian sects, from Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and major Protestant sects. This is the understanding:

God loves mankind, and grieved at the misery that sin has caused. His plan was to 'incarnate' on earth as a human being, teach some truths, gather some followers, then sacrifice himself as a ransom for us (sinners).

Two points are fundamental: Jesus was God incarnate, and his death was his planned mission.

The DP disputes these two key teachings: Jesus was not God, and his death was 'Plan B'!

But, this is not as jarring to most people as it could have been in other centuries: people have, since the enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution, been wary of the miracles of the New Testament; psychology and medicine tells us it's not demons, but mental disorders that affect the mind and the body!

We find that a more human Jesus appeals to modern sensibilities.

The DP gives a greater sense of the pain and despair that someone like Jesus felt at his alienation from the world who completely misunderstood his purposes for teaching and healing.

My main critique about the DP view of Jesus is that it makes the same mistakes that mainstream Christians make: it mostly discards the teachings, like the meanings in the Sermon on the Mount, the parables and even the Lord's Prayer!

Jesus's actual teaching of the transformation of the human heart, and forgiveness and gratitude, humility and compassion are mostly jettisoned with the new emphasis on how the Next Messianic figure will 'Restore Mankind' through symbolic Foundations of Faith and Substance

... and the core teachings of the actual Jesus become secondary to the 'Process Jesus'!