

# Osiris, Mithras, & Jesus?

What if I said there are other figures who could be connected to a virgin birth, visited by 3 wise men, had 12 disciples, called the good shepherd, savior, redeemer, the way, the truth and the light, shared a last meal along with a crucifixion and resurrection on the third day?

Today we're considering Mithra & Osiris. One pre-dates Jesus' time and the other was a contemporary, though it was based on an older god who predated Jesus. Major claims are made, stating that Jesus is simply a copycat of older religious myths.

## Osiris - Egyptian Mythology

- Found in many ancient text (such as the Pyramid Texts, Coffin Texts, etc.). He was a god and primeval king of Egypt.
  - Myth 1: Osiris' birth was announced by three wise men, which were seen as the three stars of Orion's belt and these stars point to Osiris' star in the east, Sirius.
    - No literature speaks of wise men. Bible doesn't speak of three wise men.
  - Myth 2: Osiris' flesh was eaten in a ritual-like communion represented as cakes of wheat.
    - No evidence.
  - Myth 3: The 23rd Psalm was copied from texts which called Osiris the Good Shepherd.
    - No evidence.
  - Myth 4: The Lord's Prayer was taken from a prayer dedicated to Osiris, which reads, "O Amen, O Amen, who are in heaven."
    - No evidence.
  - Myth 5: Osiris was called the God of the vine.
    - No evidence. Neither was Jesus.
  - Myth 6: Osiris was also referred to as King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the Resurrection, and the Life.
    - No evidence. Called "god above gods", but that wasn't unique.
  - Myth 7: He was resurrected and served as hope for all humanity.
    - He never returned to a physical existence. He became the powerful lord of the dead in the underworld. He was cut up into 14 pieces by his brother. His sister (queen/wife) collected 13 and he had a sort of spiritual return.

## Mithras - Roman Mystery Cult of Mithras

- There are zero writings from those who worshipped Mithras. No narratives, mythologies, origin stories or theologies. No writings at all. Aside for a few historians, the only evidence we have of the god is archaeology. Inspired by an older Persian/Iranian god, but not the same.
  - Myth 1: Mithras had a virgin birth:
    - They have sculptures of Mithras being born from a boulder/rock with a dagger and torch. We don't know about the myth tied to the sculpture. That's it.
  - Myth 2: Mithras had 12 disciples.
    - He does appear with Zodiac symbols, but they must have thought of him in astrological terms.

- Myth 3: Died on a cross? Celebrated a "Last Supper?" Visited by Magi?
  - No source or archaeological sources. They originated from non-scholarly writers from the 18th-19th century. They make claims with no support or sources. Made up.
- Myth 4: He was born on December 25th.
  - Just a Christian tradition. No evidence for Mithras either. This comes from discussion in the 3rd century BC. Clear that religions under the Roman Empire were fighting over whose god December 25th should be attributed to.

Comparisons to Christ didn't come until the 18th-19th century by the hands of amateur archaeologists who made sloppy attempts to make connections.

Jesus - the Son of God

- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Died, buried, resurrected. Appeared to men.
- Luke 24:36-43 Physically resurrected.