Was Jesus a Married Man?  
A Look at the Agenda of The Da Vinci Code

II Peter 2:1-3

1. But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and will bring swift destruction on themselves.

2. Many will follow their unrestrained ways, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.

3. In their greed they will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation, pronounced long ago, is not idle, and their destruction does not sleep.

The “Secrets” of The Da Vinci Code

1. That Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene and they had a child together

2. That Mary Magdalene is the Holy Grail – that the term, Holy Grail, is really a way of saying she carries Jesus’ bloodline, and that she is goddess, the Sacred Feminine

3. That Jesus wanted to make Mary the leader of the church, but jealous sexist men prevented it and covered up the secret of Jesus and Mary
THE Da VINCI CODE AGENDA

1. To downgrade Jesus’ status to that of an ordinary man
2. To replace Jesus, the true God, with another god – “The sacred feminine”
3. To promote sexual relations as means to “find spiritual wholeness and communion with God”

Agenda Item 1: To Downgrade Jesus Status to That of an Ordinary Man

The Premise: “A child of Jesus would undermine the critical notion of Christ’s divinity...” – Da Vinci Code, Chapter 60, p. 274 paperback
“The early Church feared... the secret of Jesus and Magdalene would eventually surface and challenge the fundamental Catholic doctrine—that of a divine Messiah who did not consort with women or engage in sexual union.” – p. 278

If Jesus Were Married, Would That Mean He Is Less Than God?

• God in Jesus came to earth as a man – fully and completely human
  – 2nd John 7: “Many deceivers have gone out into the world; they do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh...”
• Jesus Played by the Same Rules as We Do
  – Galatians 4:4: “God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law”
If Jesus Were Married, Would That Mean He Is Less Than God?

- The rules say it is not a sin to marry – 1st Corinthians 7:28: “However, if you do get married, you have not sinned...” (cp. II Tim. 4:1-3)
- So... if Jesus was fully human and played by the same rules as we do, and the rules say it isn’t a sin to marry, how would that make Him an imperfect human or make Him less than God – IF He had married?

What Historical Record?

“The marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene is part of the historical record.”
– Da Vinci Code, p. 245

The Five Water-thin arguments of The Da Vinci Code

Da Vinci Code Argument 1: The Gospel of Philip Calls Mary Jesus’ Companion

- Quoting The Gospel of Philip: “There were three who always walked with the Lord: Mary, his mother, and her sister, and Magdalene, the one who was called his companion. His sister and his mother and his companion were each a Mary.”
- Da Vinci Code, p. 246 “As any Aramaic scholar will tell you, the word companion, in those days literally meant spouse.”

Facts

- The Gospel of Philip wasn’t written in Aramaic, but in Greek
- The Greek word for companion is koinonos, and means something like “sister in the Lord” – it is not the Greek word for wife, gyne.
- The Gospel of Philip was written about 200 years after Jesus lived
- The disciple Philip could not have been the author (unless he lived to be over 300 years old!)
**Da Vinci Code Argument 2**
The Gospel of Philip Says Jesus Kissed Mary on the Mouth

- Gospel of Phillip according to The Da Vinci Code, p. 246:
  “And the companion of the Savior is Mary Magdalene. Christ loved her more than all the disciples and used to kiss her often on her mouth.”

**FACTS**
- The copy of this “Gospel” has holes and is missing some words…
- Gospel of Philip: “And the companion of the Savior is Mary Magdalene. Christ loved her more than all the disciples, and used to kiss her often on her mouth.”
- We don’t know where this “pseudo-gospel” claims Jesus kissed her, but this could refer to the holy kiss of the day, or be a literary device to symbolize the Gnostic imparting of secret knowledge.

**Da Vinci Code Argument 3**
In the Gospel of Philip the Disciples Were Jealous of Mary

- Gospel of Philip: The rest of the disciples said to him “Why do you love her more than all of us?” The Savior answered and said to them, “Why do I not love you like her? When a blind man and one who sees are both together in darkness, they are no different from one another. When the light comes, then he who sees will see the light, and he who is blind will remain in darkness.”

**If Jesus were really married, wouldn’t that be a silly question?**
Hello?! We’re married!
- Lee Strobel

**Da Vinci Code Argument 4**
All Jewish Men Married, So the Gospels Would Have Told Us About an Exception

- Da Vinci Code, p. 245 “Because Jesus was a Jew,” Langdon said, taking over while Teabing searched for his book, “and the social decorum during that time virtually forbid a Jewish man to be unmarried. According to Jewish custom, celibacy was condemned, and the obligation for a Jewish father was to find a suitable wife for his son.”
**Da Vinci Code Argument 4**

All Jewish Men Married, So the Gospels Would Have Told Us About an Exception

- “If Jesus were not married, at least one of the Bible’s gospels would have mentioned it and offered some explanation for His unnatural state of bachelorhood.” – Da Vinci Code, p. 249

**FACTS**

- Josephus (37-100 AD) describes Jews who did not marry and speaks of them in positive terms
  - Essenes: “There are about four thousand men who live in that way, and neither marry wives nor... keep servants”
  - Josephus was mentored under in the wilderness by Banus, who was single

**FACTS**

- Philo (20 BC- ca 40 AD) also describes Jews who did not marry and speaks of them in positive terms
  - “For no one of the Essenes ever marries a wife”
  - Described the Therapeutae, a pre-Christian Jewish religious order who remained single
- So, it is false to say that celibacy was condemned in Jesus’ day

**Da Vinci Code Argument 5**

An Organization, The Priory of Sion, Exists to Protect the Secret of Jesus’ Descendants

- When Jesus died, Mary fled from other disciples, who were jealous of her relationship with Jesus, and lived in a Jewish community in France with their child.
- Jesus’ descendants became part of the French royal bloodline
ARGUMENT 5
An Organization, The Priory of Sion, Exists to Protect the Secret of Jesus’ Descendants

- The Priory of Sion was a European society founded in Jerusalem in 1099 by a French king, immediately after he conquered the city. (Da Vinci Code, p. 157)
- The Priory’s Grand Masters included such men as Leonardo da Vinci and Sir Isaac Newton
- The society protects the secret of Jesus’ royal bloodline

FACTS

- Pierre Plantard and his friend Andre Bonhomme had organized the small group, known as Priory of Sion, in 1956, to endorse affordable housing. They abandoned their cause in 1957
- The Priory of Sion was named after a small hill outside Annemasse named Mont Sion
- Plantard used the name again when he represented himself as the true heir to the French throne and as descended from Jesus and Mary Magdalene

FACTS

- Plantard planted forged documents in the French National Library and others
- In 1993, Plantard admitted under oath he had invented the Priory’s entire history and existence
- Plantard had previously served time for fraud & embezzlement

QUESTIONS

IF JESUS WERE MARRIED...

1. Why did Jesus entrust his mother to John’s care, but not his wife?
   - John 19:25-27: “Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple He loved standing there, He said to His mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then He said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.”
Questions
If Jesus were married...

2. Why did Paul, trying to establish his own rights as an Apostle, appeal to the fact that other Apostles had the right to take their wives along – but didn’t mention Jesus’ wife?
   • 1st Corinthians 9:5 “Don’t we have the right to be accompanied by a Christian wife, like the other apostles, the Lord’s brothers, and Cephas?”

3. Why is Mary Magdalene identified by her home town (Magdala), instead of her husband, like other married women?
   • Luke 8:2-3 “Mary, called Magdalene (seven demons had come out of her); Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward”
   • John 19:25 “Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.”

So, Why Didn’t Jesus Get Married?

• Jesus was focused on His mission
  – Matthew 19:12: “There are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb, there are eunuchs who were made by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves that way because of the kingdom of heaven…”
  – John 4:34 “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work,” Jesus told them.

• Jesus was too unselfish to ask someone to marry Him only to lose Him so early in life at the cross
• When You’re God, how do You find the right girl?
• Jesus does have a bride, the church
  – Revelation 19:7-9 “The marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has prepared herself…” “Blessed are those invited to the marriage feast of the Lamb!”
Agenda Item 2:
To replace Jesus, the true God, with another — “The sacred feminine”

• “The Priory of Sion, to this day, still worships Mary Magdalene as the Goddess, the Holy Grail, the Rose [Rose means ‘Eros, the Greek god of sexual love,’ (same chapter)], and the Divine Mother.”
  — Da Vinci Code, Chapt. 60, p. 275 in paperback

To replace Jesus, the true God, with another — “The sacred feminine”

• “Constantine and his male successors successfully converted the world from matriarchal paganism to patriarchal Christianity by waging a campaign of propaganda that demonized the sacred feminine.”
  — Da Vinci Code, Chapt. 28, p 124 (133 in paperback)

“Sacred Feminines” Nothing New

• Asherah: A fertility goddess, the mother of Baal, whose worship was concentrated in Syria and Canaan and the wooden object that represented her. The Hebrew word for Asherah occurs 40 times in the Old Testament.
  — Holman Bible Dictionary

• 2nd Chronicles 15:16 “…obscene image of Asherah…”

• Deuteronomy 12:2-3: “Tear down their altars, smash their sacred pillars, burn up their Asherah poles, cut down the carved images of their gods, and wipe out their names from every place.”

Agenda Item 3: To promote sexual relations as a means to “communion with God”

To promote sexual relations as a means to “communion with God”

- Chapter 74
- “It was a spiritual act”
- “The act through which male and female experienced God”
- “A pathway to God”
- “Use of sex to commune directly with God”

“Immoral Worship” Nothing New

- Numbers 25:1-3: “While Israel was staying in Acacia Grove, the people began to have sexual relations with the women of Moab. The women invited them to the sacrifices for their gods, and the people ate and bowed in worship to their gods. So Israel aligned itself with Baal of Peor, and the Lord’s anger burned against Israel.”

“I’ll Respect You in the Morning”

- Anne Barbeau Gardiner: “Brown’s constant use of flattery to inveigle women... Brown uses women... and at the same time exclaims with enthusiasm, ‘you’re sacred, you’re sacred!’”
- Isn’t it interesting how the book speaks of a woman leading the church and of the “Sacred Feminine” – and yet, the female character Sophie is portrayed as naïve and needing to be instructed by a wiser man?
**Don’t Kid Yourself**

- Ephesians 5:3-6 “But sexual immorality and any impurity or greed should not even be heard of among you, as is proper for saints. For know and recognize this: no sexually immoral or impure or greedy person, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for because of these things God’s wrath is coming on the disobedient.”