

## **Cults and Isms of Today:**

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### **Outline Handout 2: The Marks of a Cult**

#### **I. All Cults Deny the Authority of the Bible. The Bible alone is God's Word.** Hebrews 1:1; 2 Peter 2:19-2:2

- A. Some cults weaken the authority of the Bible by claiming additional revelation.
- B. Some cults weaken the authority of the Bible by claiming authoritative or infallible interpretations.
- C. Some cults deny the authority of the Bible by rejecting part or all of the Bible.

#### **II. All Cults Deny Salvation By Grace Through Faith Apart from Works.** Ephesians 2:8-9

#### **III. All Cults Deny the Trinity**

- A. Statements by the Cults on the Trinity
- B. All cults deny the Trinity by denying the Person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is God in the flesh.
  - 1. Some cults deny His person by lowering Him toward our level as mere humans.
  - 2. Some cults deny His person by raising us toward His level as Deity.
- C. Some cults deny the Trinity by denying the Person of the Holy Spirit.

#### **IV. All Cults Deny the Work of Jesus Christ. Jesus paid the price for our sins.** 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Hebrews 9:12

- A. Some cults deny His work by claiming that it is incomplete.
- B. Some cults deny His work by claiming that it is unnecessary.

#### **V. How Should We Respond to the Cults?**

- A. We should treat others with love and respect.
- B. We should be equipped in order to avoid being swayed by the doctrines of the cults.
- C. We should always be ready to teach and defend the truth.