

Thomas Jefferson on Christianity

All quotes taken from "Thomas Jefferson: Forerunner to the Restoration" by John J. Stewart

"The genuine and simple religion of Jesus will one day be restored; such as it was preached and practiced by Himself."

- Thomas Jefferson, 1820

"It is too late in the day for men of sincerity to pretend they believe in the Platonic mysticism that three are one, and one is three; and yet that the one is not three, and the three are not one . . . But this constitutes the craft, the power and the profit of the priests. Sweep away their gossamer fabrics of fictitious religion, and they would catch no more flies....(1)

Of all the systems of morality, ancient and modern, which have come under my observation, none appear to me so pure as that of Jesus.
(2)

"Had the doctrines of Jesus been preached always as pure as they came from his lips the whole civilized world would now have been Christian." (3)

"I am a Christian, in the only sense in which he wished any one to be; sincerely attached to his doctrines, in preference to all others." (4)

1 Letter to John Adams, 1813

2 Letter to W. Canby, 1813

3 Letter to Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, 1822

4 Letter to Dr. Benjamin Rush, 1803

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