

This is not intended to be an all inclusive list of claims or facts concerning the claims. Beyond merely criticizing the book I find the actual facts more interesting than the fiction. Unfortunately, because Dan Brown states everything in his book is based on fact and accurate many people will take the claims in the book seriously. Not only does the book contain bad theology, it also contains bad history, and bad art history as well... As Paul Maier, Professor of Ancient History, Western Mich Univ. said in a novel of this sort you expect the foreground story to be fictional but you also expect the background information to be accurate.

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>On The Today Show Matt Laurer asked Dan Brown "How much is this based on reality in terms of things that actually occurred?" Dan Brown replied, "Absolutely all of it. Obviously, Robert Langdon is fictional, but all of the art, architecture, secret rituals, secret societies—all of that is historical fact..."</p>	<p>Not only do Bible scholars dispute the claims made by Dan Brown but so do historians and art scholars, many of whom are not Christians. Many of the sources I listed are secular, some even pagan/wiccan.</p>	<p><i>The Today Show</i>, NBC June 9, 2003</p>
<p>Page 2 Dan Brown states: "FACT: All descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate"</p>	<p>Responding to critics many people say, "get over it, it's only a novel." True enough, but Dan Brown in his books, interviews, and even on his own web page says about the only thing fictional in his book are the main characters and his claims about Jesus and history are not fiction. He is accurate in virtually nothing.</p>	
<p>Page 2- Opus Dei is a deeply devout Catholic sect that has been the topic of recent controversy due to reports of brainwashing, coercion and a dangerous practice known as "corporal mortification."</p>	<p>The membership of Opus Dei is made up of mostly lay people, less than 3% are priests. There are no monks.</p>	
<p>Brown states the Knights Templars built Roslyn Chapel. Also claims there is a big six point star on the floor.</p>	<p>Roslyn (or Rosslyn or Rose-lyn) Chapel was built a century and a quarter after the dissolution of the Templars. There is no star of any sort on the floor.</p>	<p><i>Dan Brown and The Grail That Never</i></p>
<p>P. 2 - "The Priory of Sion—a European secret society founded in 1099—is a real organization. In 1975 Paris' <i>Bibliothèque Nationale</i> discovered parchments known as <i>Les Dossiers Secrets</i>, identifying numerous members of the Priory of Sion, including Sir Isaac Newton, Botticelli, Victor Hugo, and Leonardo da Vinci." Dan Brown states The Priory of Sion was founded to guard the secret of Jesus' marriage to Mary Magdalene.</p>	<p>The Priory of Sion was founded in the 1950s by a Frenchman named Pierre Plantard. Plantard was jailed for fraud in 1953. In the 1960s and 1970s, Plantard forged documents which "proved" that Jesus married Mary Magdalene. The forged documents showed French royalty were the descendants of their offspring. Plantard claimed he was one of these descendants of Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Later a friend of the French president was in legal trouble and Plantard was called to testify in the case. While under oath, the judge asked him about these documents about Jesus and Mary Magdalene, and he admitted he made the whole thing up. An associate of Plantard's, Philippe De Cherisey also conceded that Plantard made the whole thing up. De Cherisey admitted in 1982 to forging the famous "membership roll" and planting a copy in the <i>Bibliothèque Nationale</i> in Paris. All this was documented by several French books and a 1996 BBC documentary.</p>	<p>p. 112 James Garlow and Peter Jones, <i>Cracking Da Vinci's Code</i></p>
<p>P. 21 -President Mitterrand had the Glass Pyramid constructed with exactly 666 panes of glass.</p>	<p>It is constructed with 673 (603 diamond-shaped and 70 triangular panes).</p>	<p>http://www.glassonweb.com/articles/article/94/ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louvre_Pyramid</p>
<p>P. 36 - the original symbol for the goddesses was the pentacle "...the representative of the female half of all things—a concept religious historians call the 'sacred feminine'"</p>	<p>A spokesman for Wicca wrote "there seems to have been no single tradition concerning their meaning and use... and in many contexts they seem simply to have been decorative." Another Wiccan wrote "the origin of the magical five-pointed star is lost in the mists of time." The Greek mathematician Pythagoras (570-455 B.C.) said it meant "health" ; Empedocles (490-430 B.C.) used it to symbolize spirit, earth, fire, and water.</p>	<p><i>Full Contact Magick: A Book of Shadows for the Wiccan Warrior</i> by T. Kerr Cuhulian. <i>An ABC of Witchcraft</i>, Doreen Valiente; <i>The New Encyclopedia on the Occult</i>, John Michael Greer (2003); <i>Encyclopedia of Wiccan and Witchcraft</i>, Raven Grimassi</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 36 - the Olympics were on an 8 year cycle as a tribute to the goddess Venus and the pentacle was almost the symbol for the modern Olympic games and the 5 rings were a last minute change.</p>	<p>The Olympic games were a tribute to Zeus not Venus. The Olympic rings are a modern design by Baron Pierre DeCoubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic movement to represent the 5 continents (North and South America were considered one continent).</p>	<p>http://history1900s.about.com/od/g</p>
<p>P. 45- Brown tells us Leonardo had 'hundreds of lucrative Vatican commissions'.'</p>	<p>Actually Leonardo had just one Vatican commission, which he failed to complete.</p>	<p>Dismantling The Da Vinci Code by</p>
<p>P. 120-121 - The title <i>Mona Lisa</i> refers to the Egyptian gods Amon and Isis. The Mona Lisa was painted as a self portrait.</p>	<p>Leonardo never called the painting "Mona Lisa." The title "Mona Lisa" was never used in Leonardo's lifetime. It wasn't used until the 19th century. "Mona" is short for "Madonna" which means "lady" and "Lisa" is just the name of the most likely subject. Among scholars it's more commonly known as "La Gioconda" which refers to Lisa Gherardini's married name. The Louvre's website calls it "Portrait of Lisa Gherardini, wife of Francesco del Giocondo" (see link at right)</p>	<p>http://www.louvre.fr/llv/oeuvres/det</p>
<p>The Mona Lisa is a self portrait of Da Vinci</p>	<p>Professor Pietro C. Marani, one of the world's foremost scholars on Leonardo da Vinci and author of more than 30 volumes and numerous essays and articles on the artist and his period says Leonardo almost certainly looked quite different..."Studies of the drawing style date it to about 1490, when he would have been 48," said Marani, who spent 15 years overseeing the restoration of Leonardo's famous fresco The Last Supper in Milan... The face depicted on the yellowed paper is not that of a 48-year-old, he argues, pointing out that contemporaries described Leonardo as a handsome, energetic figure, not an old man. Pietro C. Marani is former vice-director of the Brera Museum in Milan, and a co-director of the recent restoration of Leonardo's Last Supper. He is now professor of modern art at the Politecnico di Milano. [see link on right or photo below]</p>	<p>http://www.powells.com/cgi-bin/biblio?show=Trade%20Paper:Sale:0810991594:12.98 http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnpplus/english/news/2006-02-10_795221.html http://www.recirca.com/artnews/473.shtml</p>
<p>P. 124 - Powerful men in the early Christian church 'conned' the world by propagating lies that devalued the female and tipped the scales in favor of the masculine.</p>	<p>Neither the Scriptures nor the early Christians were anti-female. For example the Bible does not blame Eve for original sin, it blames Adam. Original sin did not originate in the middle ages or after Roman Emperor Constantine (272 A.D.- 337A.D.), the Genesis account is much older than both. <i>Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned... Romans 5:12</i></p>	
<p>P. 124 - Early Christians anti-women (continued from above)</p>	<p>Paul wrote <i>There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.</i> Galatians 3:28</p>	<p><i>A Quest For Answers: The DaVinci Code</i>, McDowell (2006)</p>
<p>P. 124 - Early Christians anti-women (continued from above)</p>	<p>If the Bible was anti-female then why does it include "...Deborah's leadership, Jael's courage, Ruth's loyalty, Abigail's diplomacy, Ester's heroism, or Phoebe's service. If the Bible were anti-female we would never have heard of Philip's prophesying daughter, Aquila's wife Pricilla, or Paul's co-worker Junia. Also we would not have known that Jesus' band of disciple included women, the Samaritan women who ran into her village spreading the good news to her community." A woman was the first eyewitness of Christ's resurrection (even though in those days a woman's testimony wasn't admissible in court).</p>	<p><i>The Da Vinci Code: A Quest For Answers</i> Josh McDowell (2006).</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 124 -"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, obliterating the goddess from modern religion forever."</p>	<p>Ancient paganism was neither matriarchal nor patriarchal as it was not a unified belief system. . . Instead of there being any single 'matriarchal paganism,' there existed many different paganisms. Some did not involve a goddess.</p>	<p>http://www.jesusanddavinci.com/th</p>
<p>P. 138 - <i>Madonna of the Rocks</i> painting: Leonardo "horrified" church officials by filling the painting with "explosive and disturbing detail".</p>	<p>I didn't see any disturbing detail. To see painting click on link at the right see copy at the end of this paper</p>	<p>http://www.im.ntu.edu.tw/~b90051/2v</p>
<p>P. 138 - <i>Madonna of the Rocks</i> painting: Describes the angel Uriel as "making a cutting gesture as if slicing the invisible head gripped by Mary's claw-like hand"</p>	<p>Actual painting looks like the angel is merely pointing and the woman's hand is not "claw-like."</p>	<p>http://www.im.ntu.edu.tw/~b90051/2v</p>
<p>P. 138 - <i>Madonna of the Rocks</i> painting: In the book Sophie uses the painting as a shield and backs a museum guard down by threatening to rip the painting and bends it as she presses it against her body. The book claims the painting is "a five foot canvas."</p>	<p>Bruce Boucher, the Curator of European Decorative Arts and Sculpture at the Art Institute of Chicago wrote in the New York Times (NYT) "The painting is actually more than six feet tall and painted on wood, not canvas, the "Madonna" is unlikely to be supple."" The painting is 6 1/2 feet tall. The frame alone weighs between 250 and 300 pounds.</p>	<p><i>Does the Da Vinci Code Crack Leonardo?</i> Bruce Boucher</p>
<p>P. 231 -history never had a definitive version of the Bible and the Bible has been the same since Emperor Constantine. . .the Bible evolved "through countless translations, additions and revisions.</p>	<p>The Hebrew Scriptures were collected and recognized as early as the fourth century B.C., long before Constantine (272 A.D.- 337A.D.). These books appeared in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew scriptures translated between 250 B.C. and 150 B.C. The Edict of Diocletian in 303 A.D. called for the destruction of the sacred books of the Christians, more than 20 years before the Nicaean Council.</p>	<p>Various sources. Eusibus: The History</p>
<p>P. 231- Brown claims writers falsified documents in the fourth century to say Jesus was God.</p>	<p>The Church could not have changed the Bible in the fourth century because first century secular historians recognized that Jesus was believed to be the Messiah by His disciples. More than 500 manuscripts of the New Testament exist today that date prior to the fourth century. Physical copies of parts the New Testament date back to as early as 50 A.D. and now perhaps even earlier.</p>	<p>John Rylands Papyrus; Chester Beatty and Bodmer Papyri etc.</p>
<p>Despite Browns assertions, there were claims to Jesus' divinity well before Constantine, and not all of them were from Christian sources.</p>	<p>There are several non-Christians sources in the first and second centuries that state the early Christians considered Jesus divine. Pliny the Younger (about 61-115 A.D.) is one such non-Christian who mentioned Christians in his writings, more than 200 years before Constantine or the Council of Nicaea. Pliny the Younger wrote a letter to the Emperor Trajan, in which the Governor of Bithynia consults his imperial majesty as to how to deal with the Christians living within his jurisdiction. In this letter he writes of the Christians that their lives were confessedly innocent...</p>	

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
Continued from previous	(continued from previous) no crime could be proved against them excepting their Christian belief, which appeared to the Roman as an extravagant and perverse superstition. Pliny also states that the Christians could not be shaken in their allegiance to Christ, whom they celebrated as their God in their early morning meetings. Pliny acknowledges the high moral principles of the Christians, admires their constancy in the Faith which he attributes to their worship of Christ.	
Dan Brown relies heavily on the Gnostic Gospels to make his claims (and he gets them wrong as well). What are Gnostic Gospels?	"Gnosticism" is a Greek philosophy that stresses the acquisition of "gnosis" or secret inner knowledge for salvation. Only select people are allowed this secret knowledge. Jesus death on the cross is insufficient. The New Testament teachings on the other hand were for everyone. <i>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."</i> Matthew 28:18-20; <i>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.</i> John 1:7; The three Gnostic Gospels used by Dan Brown for his argument are the Gospel of Mary, the Gospel of Philip, and the Gospel of Thomas, all of which were written some 200 years after the Gospels by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.	
Page 231- More than eighty gospels were considered for the New Testament, and yet only four were chosen for inclusion—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.	Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were written just a few decades, or less, after Jesus' death. Gnostic gospels like The Gospel of Thomas were written 200 years later. <i>No historical evidence that the Council of Nicaea discussed the Gnostic gospels or anything pertaining to the canon. "Twenty rulings were issued at Nicaea...not one of them refers to issues regarding the canon."</i>	<i>DaVinci Deception, Erwin Lutzer.</i> For more see Note 61 for Chapter Three of <i>The Da Vinci Code: A Quest for Answers.</i>
Page 231- More than eighty gospels...only four were chosen for inclusion—(continued from previous).	Besides Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, history reveals there were only twelve other gospels in circulation during this time but most of them were regarded as frauds from the beginning..What early Christians leaders wrote between A.D. 95 and 170: Clement , a leading elder in the church at Rome, wrote in his epistle to the Corinthians (c. A.D. 95), he cites portions of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and introduces them as the actual words of Jesus; Papias , the bishop of Hierapolis in Phrygia and author of Exposition of Oracles of the Lord (c. A.D. 130), cites the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; Justin Martyr , foremost apologist of the second century (A.D. 140), considered all four Gospels to be Scripture;	Gary R. Habermas, <i>ANCIENT Evidence For The Life Of Jesus</i> (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1984), p. 65; Habermas, p. 66; Geisler and Nix, p. 186; Geisler and Nix, p. 190; Geisler and Nix, p. 190; Geisler and Nix, p. 190;
Page 231- (Continued from previous)	The Didache , an ancient manual of Christianity that dates between the end of the first century and the beginning of the second century, cites portions of the three synoptic Gospels and refers to them as the words of Jesus. This manual quotes extensively from Matthew's gospel; Polycarp, a disciple of the apostle John, quotes portions of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and refers to them as the words of Jesus (c. A.D. 150);	
Page 231- (Continued from previous)	Irenaeus , a disciple of Polycarp (c. A.D. 170), quoted from 23 of the 27 New Testament books, omitting only Philemon, James, 2 Peter, and 3 John; The Muratorian Fragment dates to about A.D. 175, and lists the four canonical gospels as well as listing 23 of the 27 books in the New Testament; Papyrus 45 , dated around A.D. 200, has all four canonical gospels together.	

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 232 - Christians and pagans began warring and the conflict grew to such proportions that it threatened to rend Rome in two.</p>	<p>There is no historical evidence of warring between Christians and pagans. Many Christians chose to die a martyr's death, not fighting the pagans. Pagans in Jesus' lifetime meant anyone who wasn't Jewish or Christian. Rome had no "official religion," not even Emperor Worship <i>per se</i>. The empire had a policy of mutual toleration in which all religions were accepted as long as they tolerated all others. Christians were persecuted because they said there was only one God.</p>	<p>P. 36-37</p>
<p>P. 232-233- Roman Emperor Constantine chose Christianity as the "official religion"</p>	<p>Constantine issued the Edict of Milan in 313 A.D. which said that Christians were no longer to be persecuted. It did not, nor had Constantine ever, establish Christianity as an official religion. See link for text of the edict. Among other things it says "...[we] grant to the Christians and others full authority to observe that religion which each preferred...we have given to those Christians free and unrestricted opportunity of religious worship...we have also conceded to other religions the right of open and free observance of their worship for the sake of the peace of our times..."</p>	<p>http://gbgm-umc.org/UMW/Bible/m</p>
<p>P. 232 - In 325 A.D. Constantine unified Rome under a single religion and he chose Christianity.</p>	<p>Constantine did become a Christian but he never made it an "official" or "state" religion. The <i>Edict of Milan</i> in 313 A.D. merely declared that Christianity was to be tolerated. The <i>Council of Nicaea</i> in 325 we convened to resolve doctrinal issues.</p>	
<p>P. 232-233- Constantine was a lifelong pagan who was baptized on his deathbed, too weak to protest.</p>	<p>Constantine (272-337 A.D.) converted to Christianity in 312 A.D. after a vision he had the night before a battle to overthrow Roman Emperor Maxentius. Historians do not doubt the sincerity of Constantine's conversion. "...debate over the veracity of his faith because he was baptized only on his death bed was in fact a reasonably common practice at the time, for at the point of death one could sin no further."</p>	<p><i>Decisive Moments in the History of Ch</i></p>
<p>P. 232-233 - The official religion during the time of Constantine was Sun Worship.</p>	<p>Sun worship was practiced in Rome, but it was not the official religion.</p>	<p>various</p>
<p>P. 232 - Nothing in Christianity is original. The pre-Christian god Mithras was born December 25, died, was buried in a rock tomb, and then resurrected in three days.... The newborn Krishna was presented with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Even Christianity's holy week is stolen from the pagans.</p>	<p>Mithras was not called "the Son of God." or "light of the world" in Mithraic literature. Mithraic scholar Richard Gordon says there is "no death, burial and resurrection of Mithras. None." Mithras didn't even gain a foothold in the Roman Empire until after 100 A.D., well after Christianity had begun to spread and after the books of the Bible were written.</p>	<p><i>Image and Value in the Greco-Roman</i></p>
<p>P. 232 - [more on Mithras]</p>	<p>MJ Vermaseran, a specialist on the cult of Mithras, certifies that no Mithraic movement can be dated earlier than the end of the first century A.D. and extensive investigations at Pompeii, buried beneath the ashes of Vesuvius in 79 A.D., have not produced a single image of Mithras.</p>	<p><i>Mithras: The Secret God</i></p>
<p>P. 232 - [more on Mithras]</p>	<p>It was other religions that adopted parts of Christian teachings and practices in order to stem the tide of departing adherents or to attract Christians.</p>	<p><i>Mystery Religions and Early Christianity in Historical and Literary Studies</i>, 1968 by Bruce Metzger</p>
<p>P. 232 - [more on Mithras]</p>	<p>"The cult of Mithras was continually evolving, adapting itself into the needs of a particular group or culture...the specific myths about Mithras' miraculous birth and becoming a "savior god" were modeled after the stories of Jesus and developed after Christians came to Rome in the first century.</p>	<p><i>The Da Vinci Deception</i> by Erwin Lutzer</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 232-233 - Christianity honored the Jewish Sabbath of Saturday, but Constantine shifted it to coincide with the pagan's veneration of the sun.</p>	<p>And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight. Acts 20:7; <i>On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.</i> 1 Corinthians 16:2; <i>I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet...</i> Revelation 1:10; The first day of the week and "the Lords Day" was Sunday.</p>	
<p>P. 232-233 - [more on the Sabbath and Sunday]</p>	<p>Justin Martyr (100 A.D. – 165 A.D.) "...and on the day called Sunday there is a gathering together to one place of all those who live in the cities or in the country, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read..."</p>	<p><i>First Apology</i> by Justin Martyr, in the <i>Ante-Nicene Fathers</i></p>
<p>P. 232-233 -At the Council of Nicaea: many aspects of Christianity were debated and voted on" to include the divinity of Jesus. Jesus' establishment as the 'Son of God' was officially proposed and voted on by the Council of Nicaea.... [and it was] a relatively close vote at that....Until that moment in history, Jesus was viewed by his followers as a mortal prophet"</p>	<p>The Council of Nicaea did not debate whether Jesus was divine or merely mortal, nor did it determine which books to include in the Bible. The idea of Jesus as the Son of God was not officially proposed and voted on, that was already established and accepted. What was discussed and voted on was whether or not Jesus had always been co-existent and co-equal with God. One or two of the members said that Jesus didn't exist until he was born, they didn't argue against Jesus' divinity. The vote was 316 to 2. [Jesus]"...asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven." Matthew 16:15-17; [Jesus said] " ...I and the Father are one." Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God." John 10:30-33</p>	<p>http://www.probe.org/content/view/</p>
<p>P. 232-233 -At the Council of Nicaea: Jesus wasn't "Son of God" or divine until the council voted on it [continued]</p>	<p>Josephus (36 – 100 AD), a first century Jewish general and secular historian wrote "At this time a wise man who was called Jesus, and his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and the other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon their loyalty to him. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion, and that he was alive. Accordingly they believed that he was the Messiah, concerning whom the Prophets have recounted wonders.</p>	<p><i>Antiquities of the Jews</i> 18:63-64 by Flavius Josephus http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/2848 http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/JOSEPHUS.HTM http://bible.crosswalk.com/History/BC/FlaviusJosephus/</p>
<p>P. 233 -Jesus was a "mortal prophet... a great and powerful man, but a man nonetheless. A mortal." Many scholars claim that the early Church literally stole Jesus from His original followers, hijacking His human message, shrouding it in an impenetrable cloak of divinity, and using it to expand their own power.</p>	<p>[Jesus asked] Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:15-16; And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!" Mark 15:39; <i>Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.</i> Luke 4:41; <i>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.</i> John 1:1-3</p>	

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<p>P. 233 -Jesus was a "mortal prophet... a great and powerful man, but a man nonetheless. A mortal." [continued from previous]</p>	<p>Justin Martyr (100 – 165) wrote of Christ “being first-begotten Word of God, is even God... both God and Lord of Hosts; Irenaeus (130-202) wrote of Jesus “Our Lord and our God, and Savior, and King.” Clement of Alexandria (AD 150-215) called Jesus "truly most manifest Deity, He that is made equal to the Lord of the Universe; because he was His Son."</p>	<p>Justin Martyr: <i>First Apology</i>, Ante-Nicene Fathers; Irenaeus: <i>Against Heresies</i>; Clement: <i>Exhortation to the Heathen</i></p>
<p>P. 234 - The four gospels were chosen to make people believe Jesus was divine in order to strengthen their power.</p>	<p>If that were the case a Gnostic gospel, The Gospel of Thomas would have certainly been included by Constantine as it relates several miracles performed by Jesus, such as when he (according to this gnostic gospel) made a clay bird as a child and turned it into a real bird. Theologian and Christian scholar Origen (185-232 A.D.), who died more than 50 years before Constantine became emperor, wrote regarding the gnostic gospels that he and others knew about them, "Never-the-less, among all these we have approved solely what the church has recognized, which is that only the four gospels should be accepted." Dr. FF Bruce, "by A.D. 180 the idea of the fourfold Gospel had become so axiomatic throughout Christendom that it could be established as fact as obvious and inevitable and natural as the four cardinal points of the compass or the four winds.</p>	<p>Darrell L Bock, <i>Breaking the Da Vinci Code; The Books and the Parchments: How We Got Our English Bible</i> by FF Bruce</p>
<p>P. 234 - Constantine commissioned and financed a new Bible, which omitted those gospels that spoke of Christ's human traits and embellished those gospels that made Him godlike. The earlier gospels were outlawed, gathered up, and burned.</p>	<p>Constantine did not choose which books to include. Many church fathers stated 150 years before Constantine that there were four gospels.</p>	<p>http://www.jesusanddavinci.com/th</p>
<p>P. 234-235 "Fortunately for historians... some of the gospels that Constantine attempted to eradicate managed to survive. The Dead Sea Scrolls were found in the 1950s hidden in a cave near Qumran in the Judean desert."</p>	<p>The Dead Sea Scrolls were originally found in the winter of 1946/47 though more scrolls were found later over a period of time. The Dead Sea Scrolls do not contain any of the gospels Constantine supposedly tried to destroy. There are no gnostic gospels in the Dead Sea Scrolls.</p>	<p>http://www.jesusanddavinci.com/theology/crashdavincicode.html#Question_1 http://www.ibiblio.org/expo/deadseascrolls.exhibit/world.scrolls.html</p>
<p>P. 234- The Nag Hammadi gospels "highlight glaring discrepancies and fabrications ... [in] the modern Bible." Of the Nag Hammadi texts Brown says there were 80 gospels written in Aramaic in scroll form.</p>	<p>The gnostic Nag Hammadi texts contained 52 gospels (not 80, and only 5 could really be called gospels), were written in Greek then Coptic (not Aramaic) and were in book form (not scrolls).</p>	<p>http://www.jesusanddavinci.com/theology/crashdavincicode.html#Question_1 http://www.bartleby.com/65/na/NagHamma.html</p>
<p>P. 235 refers to the <i>Last Supper</i> as a <i>fresco</i>.</p>	<p>A common error but still an error. A "fresco" is paint mixed with plaster. Tamera is painted on stone or a dry wall. The Last Supper is Tamera. "...The technical problems with the <i>Last Supper</i> began as soon as Leonardo started to paint it. He jettisoned the traditional fresco technique of applying paint to wet plaster, a method unsuited to Leonardo's slow and thorough execution, and created the work instead with an experimental technique that involved painting directly on the dry plaster...."</p>	<p>http://www.powells.com/cgi-bin/bib</p>
<p>The <i>Last Supper</i> by Leonardo Da Vinci</p>	<p>Leonardo's own notes and sketches clearly identifies who each person in the painting is. "What Leonardo was portraying was not the moment of consecration as Brown suggests but the moment of betrayal when the apostles claimed they would never abandon or betray Jesus Christ."</p>	<p>Steve Kellmeyer, author of <i>Fact or Fiction In The Da Vinci Code</i>, in an interview in <i>The Da Vinci Code Deception</i>.</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 236 - Last Supper Painting: "Oddly, Da Vinci appears to have forgotten to paint the Cup of Christ." Brown makes the claim since there is no chalice and the person on Jesus' left looks feminine that it must be Mary Magdalene and not the Apostle John and that Mary Magdalene (actually her womb) is the Holy Grail, not the cup Jesus drank from.</p>	<p>The Gospel accounts refer to only Jesus using a cup. Matt 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7:28; John 13:1-30. No Bible scholar or informed historian would be surprised at all that there is no jewel-encrusted chalice in Leonardo's painting.</p>	<p><i>The Da Vinci Code: A Quest For Answers</i> Josh McDowell (2006).</p>
<p>P. 243-244 -claims the person next to Jesus is Mary Magdalene pointing out "flowing red hair, delicate hands, and the hint of a bosom." The <i>Last Supper</i> "practically shouts at the viewer that Jesus and Magdalene were a pair."</p>	<p>The Apostle John was the youngest apostle. Renaissance artists painted "wise teachers" as older, bearded men while they painted the protégés as beardless effeminate youths. Look at the painting yourself. Look at the painting of John the Baptist also by Leonardo, he looks leffeminate too (click on link at right or at end of article). Slate magazine articles by Sian Gibby "Mrs. God", Nov 3, 2003 "...If Da Vinci thought John looked like a girly man, that's one thing. But a girlish-looking figure in a painting isn't proof that Mary was present at the Last Supper, let alone that Jesus and Mary were married. And, by the way, if Mary was sitting in John's seat at the Last Supper, where was John?" http://www.slate.com/id/2090640</p>	<p>http://www.louvre.fr/llv/activite/detail</p>
<p>P. 245 -The marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene is part of the historical record.</p>	<p>No first or second century texts ever suggested that Jesus was married. Despite claims of scores of historical references of Christ's marriage, only two obscure references in pre-Medieval literature exists: (a) the Gnostic Gospel of Phillip (circa late 3rd Century A.D.); (b) Gnostic Gospel of Mary Magdalene (circa 3rd century A.D.) and neither specifically states that Jesus was married.</p>	
<p>The Gnostic Gospel of Philip- Brown writes "...as any Aramaic scholar will tell you, the word <i>companion</i>, in those days, literally meant <i>spouse</i>..."</p>	<p>"The Gospel of Philip was written in Coptic, not Aramaic, and the word "companion" refers to a friendship, not a marriage." Many Greek words were adopted in the Coptic language around 200 B.C. and the word for companion in Greek refers to a business partner.</p>	<p>Erin Lutzer in an interview in <i>The Da Vinci Code Deception</i>.</p>
<p>Text cited from the Gnostic Gospel of Philip: "And the companion of our Savior is Mary Magdalene. Christ loved her more than all the other disciples and used to kiss her often on the mouth. The rest of the disciples were offended by it and expressed disapproval. They said to him, "Why do you love her more than all of us."</p>	<p>The actual text is in very poor condition and reads: "And the companion of [] is Mary Magdalene. [] loved her more than [] the other disciples and used to kiss her often on the [] The rest of the [] were offended by it and expressed disapproval. They said to him, "Why do you love her more than all of us."</p>	
<p>P. 245 -it would have been unusual for Jesus not to have been married, "According to Jewish custom, celibacy was condemned..."</p>	<p>Josephus (36 – 100 AD), a first century Jewish general and historian wrote admiringly of the Essenes, a Jewish sect who did not marry. It was the Essenes who left behind what we call the <i>Dead Sea Scrolls</i>. [it isn't unusual for Jesus not to have been married because He was the Son of God and apparently there was not purpose in it, not to mention that He knew He was going to die, be resurrected, and go to be with His Father (in other words He knew He wasn't sticking around to raise a child)]</p>	<p>The Works of Flavius Josephus. [my comments in green]</p>
<p>P. 246 -Based on the gnostic Gospel of Philip, Brown asserts that "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. The rest of the disciples were offended by it and expressed disapproval. They said to him, "Why do you love her more than all of us?"</p>	<p>If Jesus and Mary had been married why would the followers of Jesus be upset? The Gospel of Phillip was compiled during the third century A.D., about 200 years after the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were written.</p>	<p>Bart Ehrman, chairman of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. <i>Lost Scriptures: Books That Did Not Make It Into The New Testament</i> (2003)</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
<p>P. 247 & 253 -there are "countless references to Jesus and Magdalene's union. That has been explored ad nauseum by modern historians." ...talks about "exhaustive detail" and "scores of historians" who know about the marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene.</p>	<p>There are not countless references to this. Scholars and historians do not refer to this. Except for a 1983 book called <i>Holy Blood, Holy Grail</i> by Baigent, Lincoln, and Leigh, bona fide scholars and historians regard that book as basically pulp fiction." Brown lists four and none of these authors have history degrees.</p>	
<p>P. 248 -Jesus "intended for the future of His Church to be in the hands of Mary Magdalene."</p>	<p>While on the cross Jesus gave specific instructions to his disciples for the care of his mother, Mary... but none for Mary Magdalene...if she had been his wife don't you think he would have done that?</p>	<p>Quote from the Reverend Julie Slayback, on the faculty of Covenant Bible College, in an interview in <i>The Da Vinci Code Deception</i>.</p>
<p>P. 248 -The rock on which Jesus built His Church ... was not Peter ... It was Mary Magdalene.</p>	<p><i>Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."</i> Matthew 16:17-19</p>	
<p>Claims Mary and Jesus had a child named Sarah and they moved to France</p>	<p>The concept of Jesus and Mary's child Sarah dates only from the last twenty years. It is loosely based on Vincent Philippon's <i>The Legend of the Saintes-Maries</i> (1521 A.D.) in which Mary Magdalene, Mary Salome, and Mary Jacobe of the Gospels arrived in Southern France with an Egyptian servant girl named Sarah. "Sarah" means "princess" in Hebrew, so obviously [to Dan Bown anyway] she must have been Jesus' daughter....</p>	
<p>P. 309 -"Early Jews believed that the Holy of Holies in Solomon's Temple housed not only God but also His powerful female equal, Shekinah." Claims the early Jews practiced ritualistic sex in the Temple.</p>	<p><i>No Israelite man or woman is to become a shrine prostitute. You must not bring the earnings of a female prostitute or of a male prostitute into the house of the LORD your God to pay any vow, because the LORD your God detests them both.</i> - Deuteronomy 23:17-18; <i>I will do this because they have forsaken me and worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Molech the god of the Ammonites, and have not walked in my ways, nor done what is right in my eyes, nor kept my statutes and laws as David, Solomon's father, did.</i> -1 Kings 11:33; Shekinah is defined as "a term referring to the "Glory of God" according to Darrell Bock, Research Professor of New Testament Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary</p>	<p><i>Breaking The Da Vinci Code</i>, Bock, 2004</p>
<p>P. 309 -"The Jewish tetragrammaton YHWH—the sacred name of God—in fact derived from Jehovah, an androgynous physical union between the masculine Jah and the pre-Hebraic name for Eve, Havah."</p>	<p>The word "Yahweh" was not derived from "Jehovah" but the other way around. Ancient Hebrews had no vowels, so the original covenant name of God was written YHWH. Jewish scribes inserted the vowels from the word "adonai", the Hebrew word for "Lord" between the 4 letters to produce a pronounceable name for God. Yahweh was Latinized around 1270 A.D. to "Jehovah".</p>	<p><i>Breaking the Da Vinci Code</i>, Richard Abanes (2004); http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Names_of_G-d/Adonai/adonai.htm http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=840&letter=A</p>

Dan Brown Claim	Fact	Source
P. 309 -YHWH—Havah continued	Havah was the actual Hebraic name for Adam's wife, it is not "pre-Hebraic". <i>And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.</i> -Genesis 3:20	<i>A Quest For Answers: The DAVINCI CODE</i> , Josh McDowell (2006); <i>The Complete Jewish Bible</i> , David Stern 1998; http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=527&letter=E&search=eve http://www.disputingdivinci.net/faq/terms/h.html http://www.disputingdivinci.net/faq/terms/y.html#77
P. 341-342 “The New Testament is based on fabrications... every faith is...based on fabrications...Jesus was not born of a literal virgin birth...Those who truly understand their faiths understand the stories are metaphorical.”	<i>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.</i> Isaiah 7:14 [Note: Immanuel means "God with us"].	
P. 341-342 -claims a misinterpretation of the Hebrew word for "young woman" as "virgin" in prophecy.	The Hebrew word "virgin" used is "almah" (it is ambiguous by itself as "virgin" or "young woman"). Some claim Isaiah would have used the Hebrew word "bethulah" if he meant "virgin" but "bethulah" could have meant recently married. The Hebrew word "almah" is only used for "virgin" in the Bible. The Jewish Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Hebrew scriptures translated between 250 B.C. and 150 B.C). used "parthenos", which is unambiguously "virgin." It has been pointed out that the prophecy is meaningless if "young woman" is correct.	
P. 341-342 - Jesus virgin birth was an adaptation of other religions' "virgin birth."	None of the virgin birth mythologies involves a virgin, they are actually "womanless" births. Athena's virgin birth- sprang up fully grown, in full armor, from Zeus' forehead. Shows up 300 years after Isaiah's prophecy; Mithras' virgin birth- Sprang fully gown from a rock with a Phrygian cap on his head and a knife in his hand. Shows up 500 years after Isaiah's prophecy.	
Remember back on page 2 of his novel Dan Brown states: "FACT: All descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate"	...In case you forgot...	

On-line Resources:

[Dismantling The Da Vinci Code](#)

[Cracking Da Vinci's Code Q&A](#)

[Breaking the Da Vinci Code Sermon Outline](#)

[Breaking the Da Vinci Code Study Questions](#)

[Debunking DaVinci.com](#)

[Dan Brown and The Grail That Never Was](#)

Sermon notes by Erwin Lutzer on Jesus, Mary Magdalene and The DaVinci Code:

http://www.christianbookguide.com/downloads/sermonnotes/84308_sermon.pdf

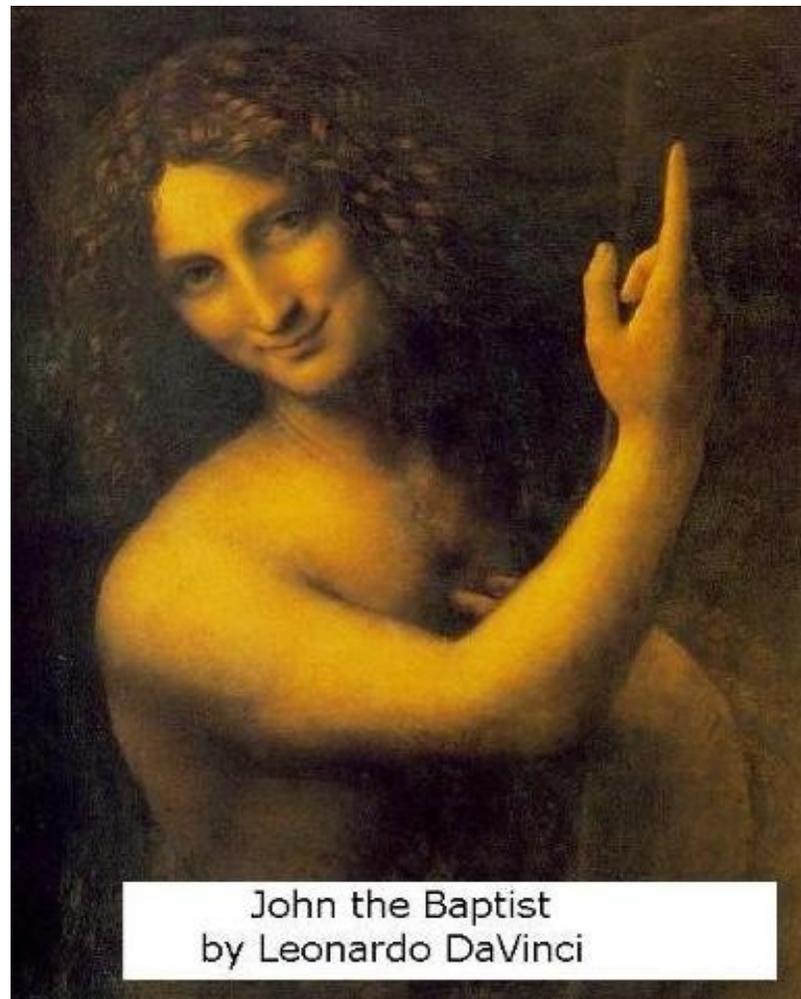
[Crash Goes The Da Vinci Code](#)

See next page for some of the artwork discussed above



Close up of Leonardo's the Last Supper

In the painting above the figure on the right, according to Leonardo's own notes, is the apostle John.



John the Baptist
by Leonardo DaVinci

Note that John the Baptist is painted in the same style as the apostle John



Madonna of the Rocks by Leonardo



"La Gioconda" by Leonardo