

***DEI & Jesus'*
Disciples**

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DEI

**DREAMING
EXPECTING GREATNESS
IN UNITY**

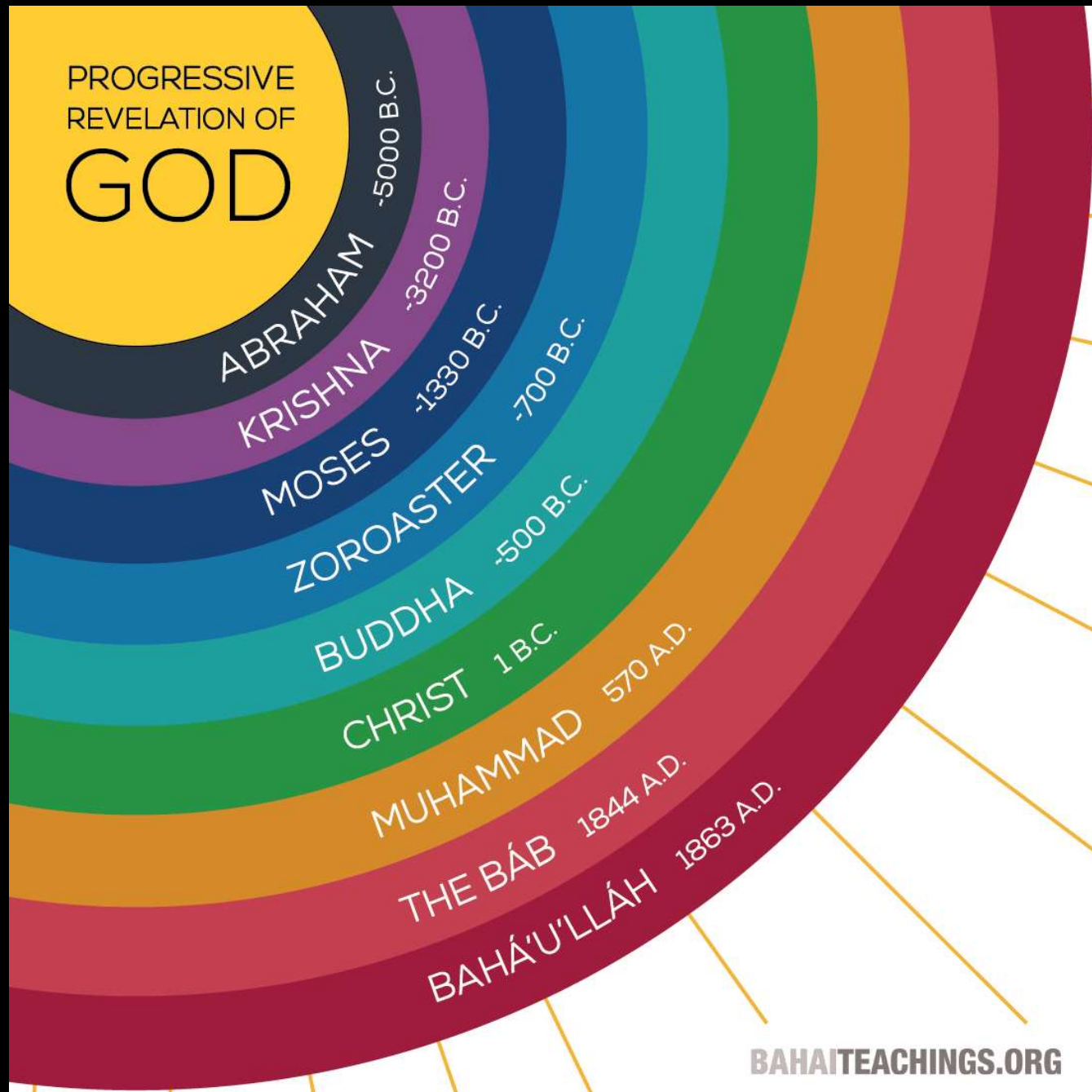

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Baha'i

- Oneness of God
- Oneness of Religion
- Oneness of Humanity



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The *diversity* of Jesus' disciples

- **The twelve** (Matt 10:1-4//Mark 3:13-19//Luke 6:12-16//John 1:42//Acts 1:13)
- **Several women** (Luke 8:1-3; cf. Luke 23-24)
- **The multiethnic, multi-linguistic international early church** (Acts 2:8-11)

The *equity* of Jesus' disciples

- **As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.**
(Galatians 3:27-28 NRSV)
- *Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard*
(Matthew 20)

The *inclusion* of all Jesus disciples

- Jesus: “Come to me, all...” (Matt 11:28-30 NRSV)
- Jesus included/embraced men and women of ill-repute, even untouchables.
- Jesus ministered to gentiles, including them (e.g. Luke 4; Matt 8:10)
- The Gospel is to go out to the ends of the earth (Acts 1) and the kingdom of God to materialize in all the world (Matthew 28), inclusive of every nation, race, language and (cf. Revelation 4).

Unity/Oneness in Christ Jesus

- [Jesus] has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us...that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace... (Ephesians 2:13-16 NRSV)
- mak[e] every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ... until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. (Ephesians 4:3,13 NRSV)

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