

The Worldwide Uproar of “*J Christ*”

From dancing with the devil to “crossing his ankles” in a basketball match, Lil Nas X has released another cinematic masterpiece with his latest single, *J Christ*. His song title and visuals had the media in an uproar with mixed reviews deeming it a “mockery to Christianity” or is it an expression of his artistry?

The *Old Town Road* singer, Lil Nas X, has again taken the media by storm with his latest release, *J Christ*. The music video features several celebrity look-alikes and biblical references which have spun the Christian community into a frenzy deeming his body of work a “mockery” and “blasphemy.”

This wasn't the singers' first run-in with controversy. In 2021, Lil Nas X released his song “[Call Me By Your Name](#).” The song and video depict Lil Nas X's journey of self-discovery and acceptance of his sexuality, with religious imagery and references to the biblical story of Adam and Eve, among others. In one scene, it highlighted his pole dancing down to hell and giving the devil a lap dance which sparked the controversy.

Amid the backlash Lil Nas X received for *J Christ*, he released a public explanation and apology to those offended by his song and music video.

“When I did the artwork, I knew there would be some upset people simply because religion is a very sensitive topic for a lot of people,” Lil Nas X said in his 4-minute Instagram video. “But I also didn't mean to mock — this wasn't a f— you to the Christians. It was literally me saying I'm back like Jesus.”

I believe that Lil Nas X was simply expressing his artistry as he always does through his music, especially since he directed the music video himself it shows a lot of his artistry. He

wasn't necessarily mocking Christianity, if anything he knows a lot about it to draw connections between biblical topics and relate them to his life. I feel as if people only see this as a mockery as well because of his previous controversial song "*Call Me By Your Name*" and the selective outrage due to him being a black queer artist talking about a sensitive topic.

People are offended because they only took it at face value. They didn't want to nor did they have any desire to find out the meaning behind the song and the video. Many people who "listen" to music don't take the time to understand the thought process behind it. I viewed it as a rebirth, almost like a coming back to who he should've been this entire time but better; Putting his past endeavors behind him and starting on a clean slate but, I feel like Lil Nas X caught a lot of backlash due to his sexuality. When big artists such as Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar, Lady Gaga, etc. make religious references in their music or videos, they don't get half the backlash that he received!

Watch Lil Nas X's full explanation below.

<https://x.com/LilNasX/status/1746926753392796030?s=20>