

Why people are fed up with organized religion!

I'm a

“BAD”

CHRISTIAN

AND OTHER WRITINGS

**The Problem with Christianity
in Our World Today!**

Gary Britton

A Sponsors of Hope Publication

I'm a "Bad" Christian

“Churches today live in a condition of protracted infancy.”

Andrew Murray (p.47)

I'm a
“**BAD**”
CHRISTIAN

THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL ME

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in Our World Today!**

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A Sponsors of Hope Publication

Published by Sponsors of Hope
www.sponsorsofhope.org
“For a kinder world.”

First edition 2022
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ISBN: 979-8-8485-7199-8

This book is available at www.amazon.com



Sponsors of Hope is not affiliated with any church, denomination or religious organization.

This book is dedicated to Anita, another “bad Christian” and partner in crime, without whose invaluable help it would not have been made possible.

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Preface

Church. What a joke!

Christians in the U.S. are really fanatical about “going to church” and they try to guilt trip *you* into going. It’s almost like their entire religion is “going to church”! It’s crazy.

Church attendance in wealthy *Christian nations* has been on a steady decline for years now because people are simply tired of having others tell them what to do and how to live.

For young people especially, church has become an empty experience. They fail to see a direct benefit in going to church.

“Churchianity” has failed, and everyone sees it but them.

G.B.

Author's Note

There's no way out of it: This book is going to offend some people.

But as long as it only offends adherents of guilt tripping, self righteous, sanctimonious churches and religions, I'm ok with that. (So is God!)

- ! -

I'm a "Bad" Christian

INTRODUCTION

I was talking one day with a friend from a historically religious Caribbean island. I told him that there are countries where the vast majority of people don't believe in God. He didn't believe me.

No matter how hard I tried, I wasn't able to convince him that there could be any place where the majority of the people didn't practice *some* kind of religion.

In fact I have been to more than just a few countries where people are astonished that there are nations where so many people *still believe* in God! They consider faith in God to be ignorance, and

Christians stupid.

Religion, with its fear mongering and condemnation, has arguably turned more people *against* God, than *closer* to God.

Helping people rediscover the true nature of the God of love, who is the essence of light, the comfort of hope, and the spirit and power behind our universe is no easy task, because we have to first get past centuries of false doctrines, false preaching and false teaching.

As the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah aptly described in the following passage:

*We must **first** “Root out and pull down, and destroy and throw down (the distorted image of Christianity portrayed by the churches), **before** we can build and plant.”*

(Jeremiah 1:10)

-!-

The Original Video Texts

This chapter consists of sixteen texts which were originally produced as videos.

I'M A "BAD" CHRISTIAN

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I believe true Christianity isn't about going to church.

I believe true Christianity is a relationship.

I believe true Christianity isn't about trying to be holy and looking down on people who don't meet our standards. I believe true Christianity is personally and individually finding the Lord.

I believe it's talking to Him like a best friend. I believe it's about humbly seeking God's guidance and letting His love direct our actions, our words,

and our thoughts.

I believe true Christianity is having compassion on the weak, helping the needy, accepting those who are different and forgiving those who have wronged us.

I believe true Christianity is about breaking down walls, talking less, listening more, teaching with meekness and preaching by example.

I believe true Christianity is to open our lives as well as our hearts to God, --and to each other.

We don't need more religion. We need more love.

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

A “NORMAL CHRISTIAN”

I'm a “bad” Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I am not *normal* by their standards.

I am not straight laced, narrow minded and preach you have to work your way to Heaven by being squeaky clean: *church clean!* I, in fact, never taught my children they even had to go to church to be close to God.

I taught them the Bible, but I never taught them that booze was bad, sex was sin or any of the usual things parents condemn their children for. In short, I didn't try to control them by repressing

them and forbidding things.

I didn't buy into religion's twisted views of booze, sex, or any number of things. My kids were free to decide for themselves what they believed in. They were free to *try* things, and to do pretty much whatever they wanted. And guess what? They ended up doing a lot fewer dumb things than I did at their age. Thank God for that!

My children turned into loving, caring, giving, intelligent, responsible adults. They never got into drugs, never had an alcohol problem, and certainly have never been in jail.

They are spiritually minded, yet they still have their feet on the ground. They each have a personal relationship with God. They follow Him, are mightily blessed by Him, and know it! What more could a parent ask for?

We enjoy God, the life He has given us in this world, and look forward to Heaven in the next.

Sure, as a parent I feel I made some mistakes. But without religious pressuring, guilt trips, and saying that everything fun is either dirty, bad, or a sin, my kids turned out ok.

I don't see God as a heartless dictator who doesn't want us to have fun, get drunk once in a while, enjoy good food, sex, nature, the fruit of our labors, friends and fun times, as long as we

do things in a loving way and are respectful and considerate of others.

Religion is a creation of man, not of God.

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

GOD'S NO FUN

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I think their God's no fun!

It's not surprising so many people want nothing to do with God nowadays. God is portrayed by organized religion as a cruel monster who sends everybody to hell if they don't keep a set of boring rules. And everything to Him of course is a "sin"!

They have all kinds of petty little bullshit rules: Sex is sin, unless it is limited to their narrow confines of acceptability. Booze is bad. And drugs of course.

They tell you that God has a dress code, and gets mad if too much bare skin is shown. And dancing? Some say God doesn't like dancing! Their God doesn't like all kinds of things! Even breast feeding a baby is dirty and shameful, or so they think.

They would turn the world into squeaky clean, *goody-goody* Christians just like them. But, who would want to live in a world full of people like that? Yuck! No wonder people don't want their God: Their God's a bummer!

God isn't about keeping dead and inflexible rules. Jesus sure didn't teach that. Jesus just taught us to love.

God wants us to be happy. He wants us to have fun, enjoy life, and stop trying to live up to what others with their self righteous "holier than thou" attitudes tell us to do. Whatever we do, if we are led by His loving Spirit is ok in God's eyes.

We shouldn't worry about those who condemn us and call us "sinners". After all, we will all answer to GOD some day, and not to them!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

DON'T LIKE CHURCH? DON'T GO!

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't go to church!

I say, if you don't want to go to church, don't go! If your kids don't want to go, don't make them! Jesus never said to build church buildings, and He certainly never said we had to go to one. So if church bores you, if you don't get anything out of church, don't go!

Jesus said that we should worship God in spirit and in truth. That means anywhere. It doesn't have to be in their buildings.

Now I am sure there are a lot of fine and sincere men and women in some of those churches. At least that's what I'm told. And if they like going, they should. But YOU don't have to go. God will not be mad at you!

However....

DO seek the Lord some place, at some time. Get alone with Him. Tell Him your problems. Tell Him your dreams. Talk to Him like you would a best friend.

Then do the above with your wife, family, lover or brother. Pray for guidance and you will get it. Pray for wisdom and God will give it. God WILL answer you. God WILL supply your need!

Prayer works! "He is more willing to give than we are to receive."

It's when we get alone with Him in prayer that we become receptive to receiving of His abundance. And you don't need church to do this.

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

THAT PIECE OF PAPER

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't think sex is a sin.

Why are so many supposedly religious people obsessed with trying to control who has sex with who? If you are not what they call *married*, which means simply having a piece of paper, then you are "living in sin." Yet so many people only have that piece of paper. That is the extent of their marriage!

According to most religions, you get that piece of paper and you are ok with God to have all the sex you want. Then, when you get bored, just

get another piece of paper, and split up!

But then of course sex is out of the question they say, because if you don't have that piece of paper you are *living in sin* again! To them, desire and sex are ok as long as you have a paper. But they become "lust and fornication" without that paper. How ridiculous. God doesn't care about a piece of paper. God looks at your heart.

God's only yardstick is love. All God sees are two people who love each other.

And two people who love each other, see a little bit of God!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

JUST WONDERING...

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because they say I have no right to talk about God.

Because I don't have any fancy education, because I don't have a degree, or title, or a bunch of letters after my name, because I don't have a church, (Heck, I don't even go to one!) they say I shouldn't be telling people about God. They say I am leading people *astray*.

Well, I guess I'll take that as a compliment! If I am pulling *one* person away from their church, if I am helping one person get closer to the Lord, then

great!

You know, Jesus didn't have anywhere near the finery that the average big shot preacher has nowadays. He didn't have a degree in theology and His band of followers was a strange bunch indeed! They were stinky fishermen. And His other friends were drunks and whores. Think about that! It's true. The Bible says so.

What a contrast Jesus and His disciples were compared to the squeaky clean pastor in his squeaky clean church with its squeaky clean congregation today, and all the things they equate with Godliness.

I wonder: If the churches got this wrong, how many other things might they be teaching that are the complete opposite of what Jesus taught?

I'm just *wondering*. But I'm a *bad* Christian. That's what they tell me.

- ! -

A WASTE OF TIME

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't want to go to church.

I simply don't want to belong to some denomination, I don't want to listen to their pastors and preachers. I don't want to cozy up to them, and I don't want to give them my money! I get nothing out of church and I really don't understand people that do.

How can people like all that?

I don't know. Maybe for some it's because they have guilty consciences. Maybe that's why

they go to church. I really don't have any idea what the attraction is. I can't relate to them. To me church is just plain boring and a waste of time.

I feel closer to God when I am all alone in the woods. I feel closer to God making love to my girlfriend. I feel closer to God when I see the pureness of a tiny baby and the wonder in his eyes.

I talk to God like He's my best friend, any time, anywhere. And I don't have to go to church to do that!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

“HOLY SCHMOLY”

I’m a “bad” Christian. That’s what they tell me. You know why? Because I don’t believe in holy “places”.

You read about some “holy place” in some part of the world. You hear about some *holy* building, shrine, ruins or land and how people can get passionate, so worked up and bent out of shape over them!

Did you know that in the entire Bible there are only two mentions of “holy ground”? And both refer to a time when God spoke to Moses. That’s it.

So, holy ground is wherever and whenever

God talks, wherever God reveals Himself, or His will, at the time that He does it. At that specific moment in time, then and there.

But God never intended for man to mark those spots of real estate and remember them forever and worship those places and exalt them and make idols out of them.

The only really holy places there are in God's eyes are the hearts of those who are yielded to Him and His love. That's where God resides, in the hearts of men. Not in some temple, pile of bricks or piece of dirt!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

ONLY ONE COMMANDMENT

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't believe in the Ten Commandments. Let me explain.

Did you know there aren't only ten commandments but *hundreds* of them in the old testament books of Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy? And people were expected to keep them all!

But Jesus came to abolish the old law. That means that by Jesus coming, we are not bound any more to obey a rigid set of rules as so many seemingly religious people would have us believe.

For us today, the *only* commandment we are to be guided by is love: Love of God and love for our fellow man. (Romans 13:8-10 and Galatians 5:14)

LOVE is to be God's guiding light for us now, and not some big set of rules that are thousands of years old, nor those imposed upon us by organized religion and churches today.

God doesn't care about what we "do" or what we "don't do". He cares *more* about whether we are led and motivated by a pure, unselfish, giving kind of love: His love!

That's the one commandment, the *only* commandment that we should guide our lives by today: love!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because they say I shouldn't criticize their churches. Give me a break!

I mean, we are bombarded day and night by religious fanatics on television telling us that to be ok with God we have to all fit into their little mold of what they say God wants of us. Their lily white image of sinless perfection is simply not from the Bible. Their false doctrine of demonizing everything pleasurable as sinful, dirty or ugly is pathetic.

They have kept this fallacy alive for centuries

now. No wonder people don't want anything to do with religion!

God is more than dead religion and its enslaving rules.

God wants us to be happy. He wants us to enjoy the wonderful life He has given us. He wants us to discover and enjoy the wonders of His love. In fact God's only law is love, love for Him and love for each other.

So we should speak up and expose false Christianity with their unbiblical teachings, and pay no attention to what the self-righteous religionists say!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

ASS BACKWARDS

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't get involved in politics.

I can't find anywhere in the Bible where Jesus got involved in politics. He never commanded his disciples to get into it either. He didn't even suggest it, much less encourage it.

But it seems everywhere you look these days churchy Christians are preaching against one candidate or another. And they have gotten so passionate about it, to a point that they have stopped talking about Jesus, the Lord they claim to follow.

Jesus said “to render unto Caesar that which belongeth to Caesar,” telling his disciples to pay their taxes. The Bible also says that “the powers that be are put there by God” and that we should pray for them! It doesn’t say we should cut them down or work to get them elected, re-elected or impeached etc!

I think that churchianity has got this ass backwards. I think that too much religion has made them lose sight of what’s really important!

That’s what I think. But I’m a *bad* Christian.
That’s what they tell me.

- ! -

I'M A SIMPSON, NOT A FLANDERS

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I can relate to Homer Simpson (from the television show "The Simpsons") more than his neighbor Ned Flanders. In fact I don't even want to be like Ned Flanders!

I am not a squeaky clean Christian like Flanders and the rest of the churchy hypocrites and I don't want to be one. God sure doesn't want me to be one either!

I am sick and tired of churchianity promoting that goody-goody image of sinless perfection! Why

do Christians think that God wants us all to be pure and holy and self righteous? Where do they get that from? Certainly not the Bible!

Some even preach that dancing is a sin, that women should all have long hair, that they should never wear pants but only long dresses. All kinds of dumb things.

Can you imagine a world full of people like that? We would end up with a lifestyle very similar to what those religious extremists and terrorists are promoting! No thanks. God is not about us all trying to be so *good* on the outside and keeping up appearances for everyone to see.

True righteousness is to simply and humbly treat others with kindness. It's being grateful for our many blessings. It's enjoying the fruit of our labor, having fun and playing hard when we can, and most of all letting Him lead and guide us.

It's about blowing it, but like Homer we try to do better, and every episode of our life has a happy ending.

I'm a Simpson, not a Flanders!

That's what I am. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

GOD IS NOT A TYRANT!

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't believe God is a tyrant!

What is it with so many religious people? What do so many Christians have in common? They try to guilt trip you into doing what they say God wants you to do. What gall!

They each have their idea of what God wants or doesn't want you to do, and they let you know it. And have you noticed how ridiculous and frivolous these things can be?

They paint God out to be some controlling,

heartless tyrant who would leave us no breathing room by imposing upon us all kinds of dumb rules. And these seemingly learned and highly spiritual people (or so they think) are quick to point out the consequences of our not keeping these rules.

I don't believe in all their rules. I believe in the God of love. I believe that God is our loving creator, and that He wants us to be happy and enjoy life and this world that we live in. I believe that God wants us to help each other more, and live in peace and plenty for all.

We don't need more religion, and we don't need more rules. We need more love. Our God is love. If we are guided by His love, then we are free from rules.

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

CHURCH IS BORING

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I don't like church! You know why I don't like church? It's too boring!

You see, I *know* God is real. He shows His presence to me in so many ways throughout my day, and I feel no need to sit there in the frivolous circus like setting of church. I hate the solemn, self-righteous and holy mood of it all!

The Bible says that we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves, and God wants us to know that there is strength in unity and that when we get together with other Christians for sharing and

fellowship a mutual blessing can be had by all.

But that doesn't mean you have to go to some church building. That's not at all what the Lord was trying to say. Jesus said that "where two or three are gathered in His name", He is there. His presence is there. And that can be anywhere, at any time, with family, with a friend or with anyone.

So if you find church boring, don't go!

If you don't want to go to church, don't worry about it and don't let anyone try to guilt trip you into thinking God will be mad at you if you don't!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

GOT THAT WRONG!

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. You know why? Because I pray for our leaders! That's right. I think we should pray for them.

Everywhere you look these days you see Christians talking politics. They preach the virtues of one candidate or condemn the character of another.

They do it in their churches. They do it at work. They send out missives, articles, quotes and jokes to their family, friends and everyone else on their email lists, and they accept this as commonplace nowadays.

But did you know the Bible says we should pray for our leaders, not condemn them? In fact, nowhere did Jesus ever say to get involved in politics, but He said we should rather further God's kingdom.

I wish that people would talk about Jesus with the same fervor as they do about candidates and politicians.

Pulling one guy out of office and putting in another is really never going to change the overall picture. I think it is naive of us to think that one man, whether he be president, ruler or king has that much power when this world has become so complex and with so many powerful corporations, lobbies and self interest groups in the mix (not to mention politicians like governors, senators etc). There is just so much any one man can do!

So, instead of getting involved in politics, instead of preaching about how good one guy is or how evil the other one is, we should PRAY for our leaders.

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

WE NEED TO LIGHTEN UP

I'm a "bad" Christian. That's what they tell me. They say I am insensitive to current social issues. Why?

There seems to be so much anger these days and I say it's time for us to lighten up. Getting all bent out of shape is getting us nowhere and is killing us.

We will never be able to right all the world's wrongs. We will never be able to make people do what we think they should do or behave how we think they should behave.

We find ourselves in an ever growing vicious

cycle of placing too much importance on trifles, creating too many tempests in teacups, and it's just killing us! We are becoming our own worst enemies.

This collective discontent between couples, within families, and in entire nations is not bearing good fruit. We cannot justify it by saying the ends justifies the means, because this isn't true. Just look at the results this ever increasingly ingrained habit of complaining is producing: only more discontent and more unhappiness. We will always have problems. But getting angry is counter productive and fixes nothing. It only creates more problems!

When we realize that the Lord is in control, and we place our trust in Him then we can become free from the bondage of worry.

I think we need to find a balance between what we realistically *can* do, and trust Him for the rest. And not take ourselves so seriously!

That's what I think. But I'm a *bad* Christian.
That's what they tell me.

- ! -

Today's Decadent Church

The sad state of Christianity in rich
western nations.

*“They profess to know Me,
but with their works they deny Me.”*

(Titus 1:16)

*“They honor me with their mouths and with their
lips, but their hearts are far from Me.
They teach the commandments of men.”*

(Matthew 15:8-9)

*“They are rich, and increased with goods, and
think they have need of nothing; but they are
wretched and miserable, and poor and blind,
and naked. Therefore I will spew them
out of my mouth.”* *(Revelation 3:16,17)*

*“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the
Spirit saith to the churches.”*

(Revelation 3:22)

THE STARK CONTRAST!

We recently read an article about a Christian who had escaped from North Korea.

When some American Christians asked him what North Korean Christians most needed prayer for, this man laughed and replied: “You want to pray for us? *We* are the ones that pray for you!”

He went on to say, “You Christians in America have money and you have freedom. In North Korea we don’t have money and we don’t have freedom, but we have Christ, and we have found that He alone is enough.”

What a contrast between these dear persecuted Christians in North Korea and the lethargic Christians in the U.S.

That speaks volumes about the spiritual state of churches today!

“Let us not sleep as do others, but let us watch and be sober.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:6)

SCREWED UP INDEED!

I have traveled to many countries and met people who, when they see so called Christian nations manufacturing arms and weapons of war, think that must be in the Bible. And when they

see Christian nations waging wars, they actually think that must be what Jesus taught! And then on the other hand, they see that these same countries prohibit prayer in their schools. They can't figure that one out!

How tragic it is that these people assume Jesus taught these things: That we should make war and use force to make the world what we think it should be.

But Jesus taught the complete opposite. His entire message can be summed up in one simple phrase: "Do to others as you want them to do to you." Jesus' message was that we should love each other. That comprises everything He said or taught or preached. And that sums up everything we as inhabitants of this earth should strive for: to learn to love each other and help each other.

The human race has collectively chosen to put greed first in their lives. The "me" generation. "Look out for number one."

Most Christians today are no different!

THE CAUSE

The average churchgoer today scarcely even knows his Bible, the book he professes to follow. Instead, they follow the teachings of their priest,

pastor, or denomination.

Too many people have substituted attending church for really *doing* something for God. And that “doing something” should certainly start with learning what God says.

SOUP KITCHENS

Churches have preached their pet doctrines for so long now that they have lost sight of the real priorities of the Bible.

While some churches may serve a watered down mixture of both of these things, they offer no *meat*, and the sustenance which is required for spiritual growth.

Their soupy brew may be enough for some, but if one wants anything more substantial he will have to go directly to the Source. (And read our books!)

DEFINING TRAITS

Some people say that the church system is one of the greatest evils today. I wouldn't go that far.

But most people would agree that religion has often done more harm than good, and many of its adherents have become the most misguided people

there are.

The world has known too much churchianity along with the self righteous pride and arrogance typical of too many of its members.

I am a Christian in the sense that I think love and humility, kindness, and forgiveness should reign in our dealings with others. *These* are the traits that should characterize Christians.

IF THEY LIKED IT!

Churches blame everyone but themselves for people not coming to their services. They have all kinds of theories for why people don't want to go to church.

But the reason is simple. People don't go to church because it is boring and irrelevant to their needs today.

If they liked it... they would go!

CHRISTIANITY TODAY

Western Christian nations have pushed their shame based religion on the world with their straight laced, narrow minded dogmas and horrible example of Christianity.

As a result many people today equate

materialism, greed, and even war with Christianity.
No wonder no one wants it!

ONLY THEMSELVES

So many people go to church every Sunday but spend the rest of the week criticizing and talking about others behind their backs.

They go to church to feel holy *about* themselves, and then they go through the week only thinking selfishly *of* themselves.

OFF TRACK

The more I got to know the Lord and the Bible, the more I realized how materialistic and off track the churches are. They are so into teaching politics and their own pet doctrines that they have lost sight of what really is important: Love. Love of God and unconditional love for their fellow man.

WHEN THEY LOSE IT

The day will come when Christianity will be stripped of her vanities. No more sumptuous gatherings, no more luxurious buildings.

Christianity will be brought back to the

basics, back to how it should have been.

Then, hopefully they will realize what it was *really* all about. Hopefully then, they will appreciate the things they took for granted, now.

EMPTY CALORIES

We live in a world where cookie cutter religion is pervasive. It is almost on every street corner.

Just as so many items on our modern supermarket shelves offer us zero nutrition, so does religion. Less and less substance. Empty calories. That's why no one wants it.

SO WELL SAID

I have not found a better description of what “going to church” feels like, than in Sarah Young’s book *Jesus Calling*. [5]

She says, “Church is the last place where people feel free to be themselves. They cover up with Sunday clothes and Sunday smiles. They feel relief when they leave because of the strain of false fellowship.”

THAT says it all! Doesn't it?

NO SUBSTANCE

Christian churches today offer very little of real value, yet they make a *big* deal out of every little thing they do!

They have their Sunday school, Sunday services, “Bible studies” and prayer meetings. A lot of pomp, but very little substance.

They go to church early once a year for what they call a “sunrise worship” service, or wade in a river or puddle to have their “baptisms”, and then feel holy and spiritual for doing so.

They say they are doing good and winning people to Christ with things like their crusades to raise funds to add on to their church building. Or worse yet they build yet another one!

Churches today have very little to offer.

THE FAILED CHURCH

33% of the world is under 20 years of age.

30% is between 20 and 39.

That means that almost TWO THIRDS of the world's population are under 40.

Churches are full of old people. That's why they're dying!

SOUNDS LIKE HELL

What is it with all these organs they have in churches? What horrible music!

THAT is not God! Their music is like their churches: cold, boring, dead, decadent, and utterly depressing. Sounds like *hell* to me!

SELFISH

The problem with churchy Christians is they like to receive *from* God, but not to give *to* God.

FOOLISH CHRISTIANS^[1]

We have many fanatical Christians out there today making such fools of themselves, no wonder people don't want anything to do with Jesus or the Bible!

We have people who profess to be Christians bombing abortion clinics and saying God told them to.

There are many churches that promote racism. There are churches that preach abstinence from sex. Others bash gays or deny global warming.

And many Christians' entire service to God has been reduced to the furtherance of their

individual political stance or ideology.

The so-called Christian world is fragmented and divided with their fussing, fighting, and pet doctrines. These things do not draw people to the Lord but rather drive them away from Him.

Oh foolish Christians... (Galatians 3:1 & 3:3)

What's it gonna take to wake you up?!

-!-

A perfect description of today's modern church.

“Churches live in a condition of protracted infancy.

“You know what that means. Imagine a beautiful baby, six months old. It cannot speak, it cannot walk, but we do not trouble ourselves about that: it is natural, and ought to be so.

“But suppose a year later we find the child not grown at all, and three years later still no growth; we would at once say: “There must be some terrible disease;” and the baby that at six months old was the cause of joy to every one who saw him, has become to the mother and to all a source of anxiety and sorrow. There is something wrong; the child has not grown. It was quite right at six months old that it should eat nothing but milk; but years have passed by, and it remains in the same weakly state.

“Now this is exactly the condition of the church.”

Andrew Murray, 1895

Churches Have Gone “Bonkers”!

or, Who are YOU promoting?

*“My kingdom is not of this world, if it were,
then would My servants fight.”*

(John 18:36)

“The weapons of our warfare are not carnal.”

(2 Corinthians 10:4)

*“Obey them that have the rule over you
and submit yourselves.”*

(Hebrews 13:7)

*“There is a way that seemeth right unto a man,
but the end thereof is (spiritual) death.”*

(Proverbs 16:25)

CHURCHES HAVE GONE “BONKERS” POLITICALLY

(They are doing it “for Jesus”, of course!)

Christians across America are rising up. They are rallying together in their churches in favor of their particular political candidates.

It’s happening everywhere you look. Preachers in their pulpits and parishioners in their pews promote one political candidate while bashing another, all the time believing that their particular candidate is “God’s man”.

They send emails, texts, videos, photos and share the common conspiracy theories going around. They passionately condemn the government, ostensibly “exposing” it for its dastardly deeds. Some even advocate armed resistance against the government as they loudly proclaim their fight to be in defense of “God and country”.

They beat themselves into a frenzy, convinced that theirs is a fight for freedom, that they are “standing up” for their “truth” and that they are pleasing God by so doing. They are following their worldly church leaders, all the time believing that these things come from the Bible.

Church going Christians are fighting against

the government for "their rights" instead of doing the "right thing" of patiently spreading Jesus' only message of love and caring for each other.

The worst part is that when non Christians see all these things, they once again blame and reject God. All of this political activism ends up discrediting Christ.

Non believers think that protesting, resistance, and even war and armed uprisings are things that Jesus preached and lived. Anyone who has read the gospels knows this simply is not true. This was not the Lord's way of doing things.

While we, in some ways may be losing some personal freedoms, I do not believe we are supposed to get violent about it.

Granted, in the Old Testament they took up arms to fight their enemies, but Jesus taught us the exact opposite. He said that we should "resist not evil", that we should *not* take up arms, and that with our good works and caring for others we should communicate Him to the world.

The church stopped being an instrument of God for the furtherance of the gospel a long time ago, and has now become a platform for promoting politics and what they call "Christian nationalism".

Jesus refused to get involved in politics. Jesus

never said that His followers should get politically involved. Nowhere in the gospels did the Lord say we should spend our time promoting some political candidate.

We are not to fight according to the what the Bible describes as “the manner of this world”.

Churches today could not be more off track. Yet so many Christians have fallen into the trap of thinking they are obeying God by defending what they think is their “righteous cause” of promoting a certain political stance, the same as the ungodly do every day.

God expects better things of His children.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

People today blindly obey everything their religious “leader” tells them, even if it’s to defy their government.

But contrary to what these supposed “men of God” tell them, Jesus said we should *obey* the System, and He told us to be *wary* of false shepherds!

Yes, believe it or not, the Bible says we should *obey* the government, and if anything, defy our religious leaders!

NEEDLESS SUFFERING

Christians in China are defying their government and as a result they are being persecuted.

Many in the western world are up in arms because Chinese Christians can't have their church buildings nor attend their church services.

There's the problem: Too many Christians equate religion with "going to church". But what good does that do to help anyone else?

If these people *lived their Christianity* by being an example of God's love, forgiveness, meekness, tolerance, kindness and joy, they would not only do more good, they would also be more in line with what true Christianity is all about!

True Christianity isn't about *going to church*. And the Bible says we should *obey* the powers that are over us. (Hebrews 13:17)

I think those Chinese Christians should obey their government instead of being so defiant. They would certainly suffer less.

If your religion is based on buildings, it will not survive the coming times. But if your religion is love and kindness...

It will *always* be welcomed!

THE GLORY OF TRUE CHRISTIANITY

The Bible tells us that the powers that be are ordained of God, whether they be good or bad in our opinion, and that our job, our main focus should be to glorify God and publish the good tidings, dwelling on things pure and of good report. It's that simple.

Walking in humility, which was the single most outstanding characteristic of Jesus, is not the central theme of churches today. Winning the world with loving care and concern are not at all the topics of conversation, the teachings, or goals of Christians. If churchgoers spent half as much time sharing Jesus' real message as they do bashing politicians, we would have a better world indeed.

Jesus said to lift HIM up, to promote HIM and His message of love. I believe this is supposed to be the entire focus, purpose, and goal of Christians everywhere. It's not to fan fears and existing divisions. It's about caring. It's about bringing people together in God's love. God will hold His people responsible.

Jesus was, and still is, simple enough for a child to understand. It's not with an abundance of words that we will win the world. It will not be

by casting out the darkness that we will win this battle. It's not by praising one man and bashing another. That is the way of the world, and we are not to fight according to the manner of this world.

We will not win this war by fighting in the flesh, by leaning to our own understanding to bring about political change. We will win it in obedience to His Word and by loving others into His kingdom. THIS is God's plan. This has always been God's way of doing things.

The glory of true Christianity is *to conquer...*
by FORGIVENESS.

-!-

“I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent deceived Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:3)

“Beware lest any man deceive you after the tradition of men, after the ways of this world and not after Christ.” (Colossians 2:8)

“But thou, o man of God, avoid these things.” (1 Timothy 6:11)

“Forsake the foolish and live, and go in the way of understanding.” (Proverbs 9:6)

“If I (Jesus) be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me.” (John 12:32)

Guilt Trip Hell

“Scare the s**t out of them!”

“Thou art inexcusable thou that judges another. For thou doeth the same things.”

(Romans 2:1)

*Christians ought to “watch and pray”
not “watch and criticize”!*

(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

*“Ye justify yourselves before men.
That which is highly esteemed among men is
an abomination in the sight of God.”*

(Luke 16:15)

TOO MANY FOR TOO LONG ^[3]

For thousands of years Christians have self-righteously preached a vengeful god and a punitive religion in their efforts to convert men to their enslaving personal agendas.

Their overly zealous attempts at winning converts, their fear mongering, intimidation and demonizing of booze, sex, and everything pleasurable, have turned countless people against God.

Multitudes today have a hard time differentiating between the truth and their lies. Saddest of all, people end up resenting any mention of God.

Many people have rejected the God they learned about as a child, and it's understandable. They are right in not believing in a cold, distant monster who is waiting to strike them down if they don't do things His way and keep a whole bunch of rules ranging from the reasonable to the ridiculous.

To make things worse, as we all know, there is an attitude among many "religious" people that they are the only ones who are right and we should never question them or their take on God.

Christians are not the only guilty ones. There

are just as many fanatics in other religions who are to blame. Too many have manipulated religion to produce fear of God, instead of love for God.

A MONOPOLY ON GOD

Mainstream religion has driven so many people away from God with their guilt trips.

They have alienated countless with their frivolous rules, rites, routines, doctrines, and just plain stupid things. They would have us believe that they have a monopoly on God, and that we have to go through them to get to Him.

A lot of people figure, “If that’s God, I don’t want Him!”

I don’t blame them!

PITIFULLY LACKING

These people fail to see that their *attitude* is the very reason so many people don’t want to go to their churches. They are missing Jesus’ entire message.

God never forces or guilt trips anybody. Yet how many Christians still think they have a right to do so.

Organized religion is pitifully lacking because

it is of man, and *churchianity* is a complete failure!

SOMETHING IN COMMON

Some Christians are no better than those terrorists. “Keep our rules, or you’ll go to hell.” Boy that’s enough to terrorize anyone. They even instill this fear into little children!

Through fear they impose their set of rules and moral values on you which they insist are from God. Both Christians and terrorists have this in common.

GO TO HELL

Christians make it clear that if we don’t “go to church” and do things *their* way we will go to hell without any hope of getting out. Some are really big on this.

False religion has propagated this lie for thousands of years. They make it clear that we must *work our way to Heaven* or we will have hell to pay. That’s why some people become atheists.

Atheists say they don’t believe in God, when in reality many of them just don’t believe in the cruel and merciless tyrant of a god that *these people* preach!

IRONIC

When someone finds God in their life they often go overboard in trying to make everyone see what they have found. But they end up turning people off of God! Instead of helping others get closer, they drive people away.

How ironic it is that when we would do good, we often end up doing something not so good. It may be human nature, but it still sucks.

TRULY FREE

God wants you to be happy. Remember: You will some day have to give account of yourself before God, no one else.

In God's presence is fullness of *joy*... and freedom from the enslaving hold of religion!

MOPPING UP

Are you like one of those many Christians throughout history who think that God wants them to be judges and tell others how they should act and think?

If so, no matter how well meaning you may be, instead of attracting people *to* God, you also have

alienated people from the God you profess to serve!

WE didn't turn those people off of God: *You* did with your condemnation and guilt trips. *You* turned people against God with your judgmental narrow-mindedness. And *you* continue to do so today! Don't blame us.

We're mopping up for YOU!

-!-

“There is not a place in the church where there is no quarreling and division.”

“Selfishness triumphed. Man sought self instead of God. Love to God had gone. Love to man was lost.”

Andrew Murray, 1885

The Pompous Ones

A special thanks to the big shot, big mouth televangelists who were my inspiration for writing this book.

*“They appear righteous unto men,
but within are full of hypocrisy.”*

(Matthew 23:28)

“They are blind leaders of the blind.”

(Matthew 15:14)

“He that exalts himself shall be brought low.”

(Luke 14:11)

*“The Lord shall laugh at them, for he
sees that their day is coming.”*

(Psalm 37:13)

COME “WORSHIP” WITH US

People congregate every Sunday in their “houses of worship, temples, and sanctuaries”. Some are sincere Christians. God bless them.

But then there are the “devout” ones, the “holy rollers and sanctified believers” for whom their building is “the Lord’s house”, a “sacred place on sacred ground”. They come together to pompously “break bread” as they “worship God”. Their sense of “holiness” is evident to all.

They love big, stupid words that most people don’t understand anyway like “ecclesiastical, ecumenical, eschatology, catechism, eucharist, advent and lent”, words that aren’t even in the Bible!

Their favorite “scary” words like “heathen, backsliding, abstinence, lust, fornication, damnation, and perdition” have coerced multitudes throughout the ages to walk the “straight and narrow” in order to please God and avoid going to hell. Or so they teach.

These Bible thumping extremists get worked up into a frenzy with their condemnation and guilt tripping. They capitalize on the weak, the ignorant, and the average churchgoers who know very little about the Bible because few of them have read it and even fewer have studied it in depth.

No wonder they are clueless when it comes to discerning between what Jesus *really* taught and what these holy rollers tell them.

These “men and women of the cloth” teach a God who is distant. A God who is high and lofty. A God who is so magnanimously holy and demanding that no human being could ever be “good enough” to please Him, or even come *close* to pleasing Him. A God who will smite us if we don’t do what these religious fanatics say.

But the true God, the God of love referred to in the New Testament is the exact *opposite* of what these pompous ones teach.

He is a God who loves us and accepts us unconditionally. A God who lives in our hearts. A best friend. A God who is always there to comfort us, strengthen us and encourage us. A God who will never leave us, abandon us, or forsake us.

Christianity today resembles very little what Jesus taught and lived.

BIG AND FANCY

Can you imagine Jesus today with a big congregation of thousands, driving extravagant cars, travelling in a private jet, and decked out in designer clothes and fine jewelry?

It's not surprising these mega preachers with their mega churches, their mega money, and their mega big mouths turn so many people off!

SO LITTLE

Churchy people seem to like the word “worship”. They have their “worship services”. They invite you to “come worship”, etc. I have always been leery of people like this.

To me it seems that they worship their own spirits, their own sense of “righteousness” and their perceived “holiness” more than anything else.

So many sit there feeling smug with themselves listening to their so called “pastor” preach high and lofty, pious platitudes... empty words from his pulpit.

So much “church”. So little God.

NOT OF GOD

That organ music some churches still associate with God is absolutely horrible!

And then we have people who sing those long, long drawn out solemn hymns. So dead! They seem to think that the slower they sing them, the more holy they are. Well they're not!

POMPOUS ASSES

I don't believe Christians are supposed to tell people how God wants them to live. How presumptuous of them. Who do they think they are?

I know God loves me and I am doing the right thing. And that's enough for me. I sure don't need some pompous ass telling me what to do!

God doesn't pressure people. God doesn't try to control, guilt trip, or condemn anybody.

God is *unconditional* love and acceptance!

FALSE SHEPHERDS

Churches preach as if everything they said were straight from the Bible, but most teach very little of what Jesus *really* taught.

This shouldn't come as a surprise. So many church leaders have doctor's degrees and have pumped their heads full of "heady", worldly knowledge in their seminaries, which are veritable spiritual "cemeteries". After many years of study they have lost the "simplicity of Christ." (2 Cor. 11:3)

The average churchgoer holds his pastor in high esteem as some kind of "specialist" in the ways of the Lord and things pertaining to the kingdom of God. But it doesn't work that way.

We do not need a big lofty education to understand the simple words of our Savior.

Jesus' disciples were unlearned, uneducated and ignorant men. Jesus said we had to become like little children to understand His ways.

That kind of says it all now.

Doesn't it?

MORE CHRISTLIKE [3]

Many people in this world are living good and exemplary lives, lives of giving, sharing. Some atheists have more God-like traits than Christians. Some are even living a more Christlike lifestyle than many churchgoers.

TODAY'S "CHRISTIAN" WORLD [2]

We have pastors and preachers, reverends and bishops, apostles, deacons and doctors, eminent members of clergy... teaching, instructing, and guiding the lost, sinners, heathen, unbelievers, and backsliders back to the truth.

These holy and pure, sanctified, highly learned, and righteous men and women, are saving multitudes from sin, lasciviousness, adultery, lust and fornication, hell and damnation.

These high and lofty, spiritually enlightened ones, with their big mouth preaching, with their pomp and pageantry, guilt tripping and condemnation think they are saving the world!?

SOME PEOPLE

Some people think the more they yell at God the holier they are. Some people think the more they pray the more God will answer them. You see them on TV all the time.

Some people think the more they publicly proclaim their faith in God with all of their screaming and noise, the more they will draw others to Him. They are wrong.

These people are not drawing people closer to God. They make people want nothing to do with God!

Don't YOU be like them!

THE BIBLE TELLS US SO ^[1]

Some people have made a god out of their religion, their particular church, denomination or belief. They think they are the only right ones.

But they have lost sight of what God really wants of us. They seem to not realize Christ's

teachings: that LOVE is more important. To love God, and to love each other.

They have replaced this truth with trying to be “good” on the outside. They think they can be pure enough, sinless enough, perfect enough, and holy enough to make it into Heaven. So much so that they have turned it into an idol. This has become their god!

But beloved, we won't be able to take our self righteousness with us after this life. Humility will be rewarded.

The Bible tells us so!

POLAR OPPOSITES

Mother Teresa was a living example of God's unselfish love. What a contrast with so many of today's religious leaders.

We are not Catholics, but Mother Teresa's example has always been a source of inspiration to us.

Mother Teresa showed love and compassion to the poorest of the poor of this world, and she did it joyfully and with a smile. Imagine what the world would be like, if all of us did even ten percent of what she did. What a wonderful woman.

Her rewards do follow her!

YOU DECIDE

Church fanatical Christian leaders today loosely fit into one of the following groups:

1. The “**goody-goody**” kind that to varying degrees will guilt trip you into doing what they say is in the Bible. To them booze is bad, sex is sin, and everything fun is to be shunned. They can get pushy in their approach and quite arrogant at times.

2. The **politically correct** purveyors of truth. These “doctors of the divine dollar” won’t guilt trip you or even make you feel uncomfortable about the pleasures of the flesh, as long as you keep them hidden. These often have very large congregations and preach love and peace, but most of all they preach material abundance, especially for themselves.

3. The “**crazies**” who will even justify violence to achieve something they say is God’s will. This type is on the increase and can get quite belligerent and scary. These are heavy into political issues and extreme causes.

Any of these *holy* men and women may have a string of letters after their name to certify their “holiness” and as *proof* of their qualifications to

lead others along the paths of righteousness.

Jesus didn't resemble any of them!

You can read all about Jesus, what He taught
and how He lived in the New Testament.

Read it for yourself. Then YOU decide.

- ! -

“What is the reason that so many Christians are
wasting their lives in the terrible bondage of the
world instead of living in the manifestation and
the privilege and the glory of the child of God?

“There is one answer: It is SELF, that is the root
of the whole trouble.”

Andrew Murray, 1895

Strange Gods & Idols!

“Vanity of vanities.”

*“The most high God dwells not in temples
made with hands.”*

(Acts 7:48)

*“Heaven is My throne. What house will ye
build Me saith the Lord?”*

(Acts 7:49)

“Ye have forsaken Me and served strange gods.”

(Jeremiah 5:19)

*“Ye serve gods, the work of men’s hands,
which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.”*

(Deuteronomy 4:28)

“The idols He shall utterly abolish.”

(Isaiah 2:18)

CHURCH BUILDINGS

It's a shame that so many people equate serving God, pleasing God, with "going to church", when that's not true at all!

True Christianity is a relationship. It's about having a personal relationship with the Lord and letting Him lead you and guide you and bless you. *That* is what true christianity is.

It's not about keeping a set of rules and trying to live up to religious peer pressure and other people's expectations and what they say you are supposed to be, according to their definition of being a *good Christian* and being like them!

God's church is supposed to be made of people anyway, all those that receive God and His love. It's not a building. Nor is it a denomination, sect, or group.

The early Christians gathered in their own homes and prayed there. They read His Word. They served the Lord and loved Him together, maybe with a few neighbors and friends, and God blessed them!

The Lord looks on the heart. And He knows yours. So if you don't feel like going to church...

Don't go!

GO TO CHURCH?

“Go to church”. That’s all they preach.

Their entire message is centered around that damn building and its weekly attendance. It’s ridiculous!

These overchurched *babies* have substituted caring for the poor, with sitting on a church pew.

COLD BRICKS OR WARM LOVE? ^[2]

Christians today make a god out of “going to church”.

Then they coldly try to guilt trip you into going to church by quoting one little verse from the Bible. And they even quote that verse out of context!

They are so obsessed with attending their so called services. They are also into building increasingly bigger church buildings.

To them, buildings are the cornerstone of their religion. But did you know that nowhere in the New Testament it says we should even spend our time building church buildings?

God lives in the heart of man, not in a pile of cold, hard bricks!

TORTURE

It never ceases to amaze me how people can even want to go to church and submit themselves to the *torture* of sitting there on one of those cold, hard pews for two hours or more!

IDOLS

We recently read about the flamboyant pastor of a mega church who was robbed of one million dollars of jewelry, during his own church service. Imagine that!

We see pictures of the fancy cars and mansions owned by big shot preachers who fly around in their private jets.

The trinkets and toys of these so-called “holy men of God” are among the idols they are the proudest of!

PEOPLE NEED MORE ^[4]

“Religion” isn’t enough.

Merely going to church (temple or mosque) isn’t either, as most people feel they need more than what an institutionalized spiritual experience can offer.

NO TIME FOR YOU GOD [1]

There are 168 hours in a week.

Surveys break this down to the following for the average person:

- 50 hours of sleep
- 40 hours of work
- 35 leisure (television, computer, sports, etc.)
- 14 meals
- 12 household activities
- 5 commute
- 5 personal care
- 5 shopping
- 2 civic & religious activities

No wonder people have so many problems; they give less than 1.19% of their time to GOD.

Whatever we put between ourselves and the Lord can become an idol!

FOR GOD? [2]

Man builds churches and temples “for God”. Man declares places holy, for God. Man keeps all kinds of traditions for God. And man even kills for God. How twisted is that!

Man does all kinds of things and says they

are for God.

But God isn't behind these things. These things are man's creations. They are man's way of justifying himself. They are man's idols.

Man prefers doing things "for God", instead of keeping God's simple commandment to love his neighbor.

TODAY'S POLITICIZED CHURCH

Jesus never told us to get involved in politics. In fact, we are NOT supposed to get involved in politics. Yet this is precisely what so many Christians do today.

They preach politics from their pulpits. They spread their political views and encourage their fellow churchgoers to do the same.

If they spent half the time they do bashing one political candidate or another, if they spent half of that same energy on getting out Christ's real message of caring for each other and being less selfish, the world would be a better place!

NOT ANOTHER BUILDING!

Once in a while churchy people go to some foreign land for a ten day "vacation" which they

call a mission trip.

But believe it or not, all they do is build yet another church BUILDING!

Then they pat themselves on the back for their “evangelistic work” of “bringing people to Christ”!

How lame is that?

-!-

“The Christian experience of church is not deep,
intense, and living enough to meet the world’s
need.”

Andrew Murray, 1911

Redefining God

God is not about “rules”. God is
unconditional love!

“God is love.”

(1 John 4:8)

“The Lord God is gracious, longsuffering and abundant in goodness and truth.”

(Exodus 34:6)

“I dwell in the high and holy place, and with him that is of a contrite and humble spirit.”

(Isaiah 57:15)

“He hath loved thee with an everlasting love.”

(Jeremiah 31:3)

“God is our refuge and strength.”

(Psalms 46:1)

“Where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.”

(2 Corinthians 3:17)

GOD IN ALL HIS FORMS [3]

Religion has skewed people's perception of things spiritual for so many years, that nowadays most people don't have a clear picture as to God's true nature. The word "God" has become so distorted and misrepresented to where it means many different things to different people.

So have the words *religion, faith, church, Jesus* and others. It's gotten to where if you use any of these words people just don't know what to think anymore.

When I talk about God, I am talking about the sum total of our natural, physical universe as well as the spiritual.

God is the spirit of love and the essence of nature, the epitome of science and faith, and the sum of all hope. Our universe as well as each one of us individually is a reflection of God's nature.

God is also the embodiment of the laws of nature and of our universe, and the invisible force behind the many other parallel universes in dimensions that are beyond our dimension of time.

The simplest, most basic building block of our universe, our physical plane as well as the spiritual in all of their manifestations, is energy. God is that energy.

God and the spiritual world manifest themselves in many ways: as energy, as intelligence, consciousness and thought. God is also what people refer to as a warm and loving light in their near death experiences.

Our combined consciousness is God. Hence, we are all a part of God and in a way we are God. We each reflect God differently and in our own way. We are all unique expressions of God.

All of us are a part of nature, a part of our universe, and a part of the same “Godhead” if you will. God is the essence of our beings, our spirits or souls. So then, God is, in a sense, all of us, as well as in all of us.

All of the above things combined, along with countless others give us an idea of God’s true nature as well as the spiritual realm of our universe.

If you want to know what God is like, imagine yourself at your very best! Something to think about anyway.

HO HO HO!

Churchgoers are babies spiritually. They are always looking to their “Daddy God” to *get* things from Him. And they are always having to *prove* themselves in order to please Him.

This is the way God is seen by most of them: like some kind of “Santa Claus” who brings goodies to people who go to church!

SAME OLD BS

There are many sincere people caught up in organized religion.

But churches have not kept up with the times and continue to preach that whole worn out lie that God is some ogre sitting up there in the sky just waiting to strike us down if we don't be “good little boys and girls”, abstain from booze, abstain from sex, go to church, etc. etc. etc.

The same old BS.

SHOWING GOD'S TRUE NATURE^[3]

Words cannot do the subject justice of the extent to which religious fanatics and fake religion have clouded man's perception of God. They have muddied up the picture for so long now that it's hard to see the forest for the trees.

So, the biggest challenge we now face is: showing people what God's true nature is. This is no easy task, because the minute you start talking about God, many people automatically assume that

you are one of those misguided individuals.

No one should ever force another person to move from one belief system into another. Our beliefs change over time. They are in a constant state of flux and evolve as we go through life, learning lessons of love and victory as well as of disappointment and defeat. And we each carry our belief systems with us into the next life.

We all need to be more tolerant and forgiving of others as we journey along our individual paths. Accept them as they are and don't judge!

Being kind and loving to others... is how we love God.

HOLY? or HAPPY?

Too many people insist on depicting God as *holy* and unapproachable. They keep Him at arm's length, someplace high and lofty.

They seem to do this so that they can feel all high and holy themselves. Then they look down on the rest of us.

They talk about holy temples, holy observances, and holy traditions. They place exaggerated importance on their holy days, holy places, holy lands, holy feasts, holy water, holy ceremonies, and holy symbols. They would have

us believe that in observing these things we are somehow pleasing our Creator.

I don't see God this way. I don't see God in man's sacred causes and holy wars. I see God as more down to earth. A best friend.

God doesn't want us to try to be *holy*: just HAPPY!

WHAT GOD WANTS

False religion with its man made rules for how to please God enslaves many people.

God doesn't care about your performance. He just wants your love.

MANY GODS OUT THERE!^[2]

Some people's religion is to get as much money and as many things as they can, more than they need or could ever use. Money is their god.

Some people's religion is to stuff their heads with knowledge, facts and figures, trash and trivia and go through life like walking dictionaries to the admiration of all. Knowledge is their god.

Others are crooks, criminals, bad guys and thieves. They spend their lives hurting, deceiving, robbing and tormenting others. Their god is violence.

And yet others waste their lives eating and drinking, partying, having a good time serving their five senses, satisfying themselves in gluttonous excess. Their god is their belly.

Many are workaholics and fill their days with non stop action, noise and perpetual motion. Their god is confusion.

A few others like Mother Teresa, many doctors and nurses, cops and soldiers, social workers and missionaries, spend their lives serving others. They give of themselves. They put others' needs above their own. These are the loving. These have the spirit of the one TRUE God of love.

There are many gods out there...

Which one do YOU serve?

WHAT GOD IS REALLY LIKE!^[1]

Organized religion, however well meaning it may be, has given the world a distorted image of God for so long now that it's no wonder many people think they don't want Him. Nobody wants the merciless tyrant that they make Him out to be.

Too many religions promote the keeping of their silly rules. But that's not what God wants.

God is compassionate. He knows our trials and tribulation and is always there to comfort us.

God is our loving Creator who wants us to be happy and has given us many blessings and pleasures to enjoy.

God is our best friend. He is always there for us and will never leave our side!

MOST of all... God is the very spirit of love. And He is more concerned with us showing love to each other than keeping any set of rules.

THAT is what God is REALLY like!

GOD IS BIGGER

We can believe in God without being religious. We can believe in God without being evangelical or Catholic, or Hindu, Jewish, or Muslim.

God is much bigger than religion. God is bigger than our entire universe. Because God IS the universe, the power behind the universe, the essence of our very beings, and the substance by which all things exist.

A HAPPY GOD ^[2]

People equate being religious with being serious. A lot of people portray God as sober, sullen, and somber. But nothing could be further

from the truth.

God isn't a stern judge just waiting to knock us down at every turn. God is the spirit of life and love, and He above all wants us to be happy!

Happiness and joy are the signs of true spirituality. Hope, love, and gratefulness are the fruits of living in God's presence.

-!-

The Concept of Church

“What just exactly *is* that all about?”

*“Where two or three are gathered together
in His name, there He is in the midst of them.”*

(Matthew 18:20)

*“Ye are the temple of the living God;
as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and
walk in them; and I will be their God,
and they shall be My people.”*

(2 Corinthians 6:16)

*“Come out from among them and be ye separate
saith the Lord and I will receive you.”*

(2 Corinthians 6:17)

WHAT IS “CHURCH”? [1]

Jesus never said to build church buildings. In fact Jesus even spoke *against* building church buildings! But they never tell you that in church. Because church buildings are the very backbone of the churchianity system.

Church was never meant to be an institution dedicated primarily to the construction of buildings, but rather a loving fellowship composed of “living stones”, the body of believers.

That’s God’s *true* church. There is no other.

GOD’S NOT DEAD!

Why do people even go to church? This has always been somewhat of a mystery to me.

Church is so boring! I mean, they don’t seem to be having much fun sitting there every Sunday morning. I sure didn’t.

When I was a kid I was forced to go to church. God, it was horrible. It was so dead with everyone going through the motions and pretending to like each other. Dead, dead, dead.

I have come to the conclusion that most Christians go to church simply because they think this is what God somehow wants. They think that

God wants them to go because they have been told that for so many years by church leaders that they don't even question it.

They think that is what being a Christian is: sitting in a church for an hour or two! So they go, when in all honesty most would probably rather be doing something else.

It's tragic, that for so many, God has been reduced to that. It's sad, that pleasing God has been reduced to such a dutiful, unpleasant chore. God is more than this.

God's not dead. He is moving in the lives of people of all nationalities and denominations. He is with those who have received the Lord and are following Him in their daily lives.

That's the only church that God recognizes!

THE COUNTERFEIT

True Christianity has been substituted by churchianity. Churchianity has fed people all kinds of lies as if they were Christ's teachings.

The average person thinks that Christianity is all about going to church on Sunday. Churchianity equates sex with sin. They associate self righteousness with holiness, when nothing could be further from the truth.

Evangelical churchianity is also what you see on TV with these big mouth preachers and their emotional displays of supposed spirituality.

This counterfeit belief system has turned more people away from God than toward Him.

Jesus Himself was referring to them when He said, “Leave them alone, they are blind leaders of the blind.” (Matthew 15:14)

FAST FOOD RELIGION

Fast food ads never deliver on their promises. You order a nice, big, fat, juicy hamburger, expecting lots of cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions.

But then when you get it, you are disappointed to see it's not half of what you were expecting. Fast food is empty calories, highly processed ingredients, no substance and little nutritional value.

Churches today serve *spiritual* fast food.

THE OPPOSITE! ^[2]

Did you know that the majority of church goers don't even know their Bible? It's true. Most Christians don't know the message of the man

they supposedly follow!

The majority of them blindly follow what their so called “pastor” tells them. If their pastor tells them to vote for a certain candidate, they do it. If he tells them to criticize or even resist the government, they do it.

These people unwittingly are doing the complete *opposite* of what Jesus taught and lived, and don't even realize it.

This is what modern churchianity has become.

How screwed up is that?

DEAD BUILDINGS

“God dwells in life: More in one tiny sparrow than in all the church buildings in the world put together.”

PERSONALLY

God wants to speak to us personally, face to face. He wants to have a personal relationship with each one of us.

He wants to lead us, guide us, help us, and instruct us directly, not through some supposed learned theologian standing behind a pulpit.

THIS is what God is doing in these times that we are living in.

God is to be found everywhere: whenever and wherever we seek Him!

PURE & SIMPLE^[1]

The world has become complex, the problems we face so many, and God is so big that there is no one-size-fits-all set of rules, doctrine, or ideology that we should all follow.

None of us should expect all others to adhere to our beliefs, because we each, as individuals, are at different levels of spiritual growth.

We all have varying degrees of enlightenment, and we cannot expect anyone else to think and behave like us. Much less that *everyone* should believe like us.

When unbelievers do by nature the things that please God, when people who don't even *know* God and the Bible live good and decent lives, they are more pleasing to God than believers who are unloving.

True religion in its highest state is LOVE,
Pure and simple.

-!-

Kids. Hope of the Future.

Young people and their idealism are the
closest thing to heaven!

*“Children are the heritage of the Lord, and
the fruit of the womb is His delight.”*

(Psalms 127:3)

*“Let the little children come unto me for of such
is the kingdom of heaven”*

(Matthew 19:14)

*“Bring up a child in the way and when he
is old he will not depart from it”*

(Proverbs 22:6)

KIDS AND SEX

Kids leave home when they reach legal age for one main reason: Sex! They always have and they always will. Most of us were no exception.

Parents the world over raise their children in a repressive atmosphere where they can't even talk about such things. So kids sneak around behind their parents' backs and experiment with these things anyway.

Kids rebel against people trying to control them. They leave home. They reject religion. They reject God.

MORE

Religion simply doesn't address kids' needs nowadays. People make their kids go to church for an hour or two once a week and about all they get is a bunch of rules and prohibitions they are supposed to follow.

We *all* need more than that.

THE PARADE

Only old people go to church. Few young people above the age of eighteen do. But boy,

churches like to parade around the few that do and brag about them.

They make a big deal of any little thing they do with young people. They really like to show them off.

What they don't tell you is that the turnover rate for church attendance is highest among young people.

Often when young people do go to church it is out of boredom! You see this more in smaller towns it seems. They go to see their friends. It's a meeting place. Church is something they don't have to pay for, and that's good because they often don't have much money.

And it's one of the few things their parents let them do at their tender age!

PITY THE CHILDREN ^[2]

There is so much intimidation and violence in public schools these days. Kids have to put up with a lot and often have no way out.

Many parents have chosen to home school their children. We think that is good.

Either way, we all need to be understanding of the pressures kids feel. Growing up has never been easy and they need our encouragement and

support now more than ever and for us to be examples of God's unconditional love.

THE SIMPLE REASON

In a recent Gallup poll, big-shot church leaders said young people don't go to church for the following "reasons":

1. their anxiety from coronavirus lockdowns
2. church squeezed out by their busy schedules
3. they're not practicing the rhythm of worship
(WTF does that even mean?)*
4. kids are without access to worship
(Not enough church buildings? Gimme a break!)

These are the *reasons* these "men of God" say that young people are not going to their churches. They are so blind. As usual, they are in denial and blame everyone but themselves for people of *all* ages not wanting to go to their churches.

The reason people don't go to church is because it's boring. It's empty. Church doesn't address their spiritual needs.

It's as simple as that!

(* Christians are not *supposed* to say things like "WTF". Further proof of me being a "bad" Christian!)

NO WONDER!

To the average person, what is Christianity today?

1. Go to church.
2. Tell people how to live.
3. Pretend to be a saint.
4. Condemn anything fun or pleasurable.
5. Go to church.
6. Go to church.
7. Go to church. (etc. etc. ad nauseam.)

No wonder young people don't want God!

BREAKING FREE

We are helping young people break free from the stale religion of their parents.

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE ^[1]

Worldly voices are winning the young.

Today's kids are being influenced and sucked into all kinds of negative, self defeating habits and mindsets.

Narrow minded, inflexible, church going fanatics turn young people away from God. The

new resists the old and their worn out religion.

But young people are not really against God. They are just against the false image of God created by these religious fanatics!

We speak to the young in spirit of all ages. We help them see that God is not a cruel tyrant and that not everything fun is sin.

God's truth is as good for us today as it has ever been, and we must adapt if we are ever going to reach our younger generations.

Before it's too late!

A WORN OUT SHOE^[2]

Fewer and fewer young people today want religion. And they don't want church because they don't like how Christians are!

They don't like what they see in Christians. They don't like how they talk. They don't like their shallowness and "showiness".

Young people seek *substance*. They seek *real*.

To most young people, Christianity is no longer relevant to their needs, hopes and aspirations. The church's stance on issues that affect them are unrealistic. It's no wonder the youth of today have forsaken the religion of their parents.

Legalistic religion, with its image of a cold,

impersonal and heartless God, is like a worn out shoe. No matter how much you try to patch it up, its usefulness is long gone.

Leave the dead behind. Move onward with God!

A JOKE

If a kid goes to church looking for substance, hoping to find more depth than what they see in the mere accumulation of things and material possessions, they will seldom find much in the joke that church has become.

MAKE WAY FOR THE NEW

Churches are full of old people. Have you ever noticed that? Young people don't go to church. Why don't they? Because they don't want to become like those old people!

Yet the church doesn't realize that they are the ones to blame for alienating today's youth.

God doesn't live in a building anyway. He lives inside our hearts. And God is alive and moving in the hearts of the young, the loving.

Make way for the new! Believe.

Be bold. Believe!

FED UP!^[2]

The average church today has lost its youth and the reason seems obvious to everyone but them.

Young people are fed up with churches telling them what to do. Young people are fed up with churches telling them how they should live.

Christians need to show people Christ's unconditional acceptance...

And start by being an *example* themselves!

PLAY TIME

From an early age parents teach their children the "evils" of alcohol and sex.

They overload them with homework. Then they make their children go to church and burden them with keeping up appearances. No wonder kids rebel!

These poor kids need more time to just be kids, instead of expecting them to grow up and behave like adults at an increasingly younger age.

We need to cultivate their creativity and encourage their childlike curiosity. And we do this through PLAY, not be making them act like miniature adults.

We ALL in fact need to learn to play more!

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Our Religion of Love

Love and kindness really *are* all we need!

“God has not given us a spirit of fear; but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

(1 Timothy 1:7)

“God has shown thee what is good, and what the Lord requires of thee: to do good, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.”

(Micah 6:8)

“Come out from among them and I will receive you saith the Lord.”

(2 Corinthians 6:17)

ONE WORD

So many people today say they believe in Jesus. But the majority don't have a clear picture of what Jesus really taught.

The Old Testament has some good teachings, but the Old Testament is not applicable for us any more. The Old Testament is the old law.

In the New Testament you find the words of Jesus, and you can sum up all of Christ's teachings in one word. One word and one word alone fulfils all of our obligation with God. Everything God expects of us. That one word is "love".

Anything other than that and we're off track. Anything other than living in love and having love as our guiding light and our only yardstick, and we simply are not doing what Christ taught: We obviously don't know our New Testament. We obviously aren't aware of what Jesus' message was for us.

"Love God, and love our neighbor." That's it!

HOW WE TREAT GOD

We can talk about God all day. And we can feel we are spiritual and enlightened or whatever. But if we treat each other with disrespect or

disdain, or with rudeness or impatience, we are doing these things to God.

How we treat people is how we treat God. It's that simple.

NO MORE

The church as we know it will soon be no more. It is old and lethargic and cannot survive without new blood.

There will be no more solemn rituals, no more vain repetitions. No more hypocrisy and condemnation. And most of all, there will be no more buildings. It's just a matter of time. It will be for the best.

Religion is dead and dying, but love and kindness will always be in high demand.

And *that* is all the religion we need. That is all the religion we have ever needed!

LOVE IS BIGGER

The Internet has in some ways been a good thing for people to help them break free from the hold religion has on them. God is bigger than any one religion. *Love* is bigger than all the religions of the world put together.

THE GOD OF LOVE^[1]

Man has waged war in the name of religion. Man has terrorized the world in the name of religion. Man has committed all kinds of heinous acts in the name of religion. And man has made a *god* out of religion!

But our God is love. Our God is the very spirit of love. Our God is not religion.

Love, is our God.

THE YARDSTICK

We love God *only* as much as we love each other.

STARTS WITH US!

Fake religion for centuries has taught fear of God, instead of love for God, through their guilt tripping and intimidation.

Fear controls. Love and truth set free.

Love has the power to heal hearts, mend wounds, lift up those in need, and free the oppressed. *Love* can feed the poor, end all wars, and bring true peace to the world.

But it has to happen through US!

ASK YOURSELF [2]

1. Does it help you (and/or someone else)?
2. Does it hurt no one?

If you can answer “yes” to these two questions when faced with a decision, then you can go ahead. God will be with you. Don’t worry about what people think!

God is not about keeping religious *rules*. God is unconditional love.

BACK TO LOVE [1]

Instead of bringing the world together, religion is only pushing people apart.

Petty rivalries, jealousies, bickering over doctrines, and the imposing of rules are common in churches. Fussing, fighting, and feuding have always been rampant in the religious world.

And these things are not of the Lord!

Jesus came out of love. Jesus came for love, that we might learn to love and help each other.

Not in competition, but in loving cooperation and fellowship as one body. Not with empty words, but by loving deeds: His love through us for our fellow man. How far we have fallen.

We need to get back to the teachings of Jesus,
pure and simple.

We don't need more religion.

We need more love!

-!-

“One of the great reasons why God cannot bless
His church is the lack of love.

“The history of the world has been of love having
been lost.

“He calls us to dwell and walk in love. Nothing
but love can expel and conquer our selfishness.

“The great need of mankind and Christianity's
major mission is to restore love to the world.”

Andrew Murray, 1895

Sinless Sex

Just doing what comes naturally!

“To the pure all things are pure.”

(Titus 1:15)

*“There is nothing unclean of itself: but to him
that esteemeth any thing to be unclean,
to him it is unclean.”*

(Romans 14:14)

“He that loveth hath fulfilled the entire law.”

(Romans 13:8)

*“He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God,
and God in him.”*

(1 John 4:16)

*“The living God gives us all things
richly to enjoy.”*

(1 Timothy 6:9)

EVERYTHING & EVERYWHERE

Everywhere you look, everything is mating. Whether it be at the microscopic level of amoebas, or at the gigantic scale of elephants, all living things are getting together and mating.

Male birds strut their stuff and chase females in flight during their mating ritual. Squirrels do their dance as they bounce up and down tree limbs. Dogs frolic in excitement, bees pollinate flowers, and even the tiniest bugs can be seen doing their thing.

When we see some nature show on television, whether it be about alligators or lions or butterflies or giraffes we are all curious to see how they “do it”.

People the whole world over are obsessed with sex. You will never find a school kid skipping a sexual education class! People have become fixated with finding *Mr. or Mrs. Right*. And television has only helped make us all the more frustrated when we don't find them.

The desire to find a mate is a deep seated instinct in every living thing. And we are no exception. It is a God given, basic human need as natural as our need for food or drink or sleep.

All of nature is playing the mating game and

we accept that as natural, yet so many are under condemnation for our most natural, God created expression of love.

Religion is at the forefront of this widespread repression. We all know that.

“PUT IT OUT!”

Religion demonizes sex.

Because of the church's fear of *wildfire*, because of their fear of losing control they quench *all* fire, they put it all out, along with its accompanying warmth and light.

PURITANS

The majority of Christians today are uptight and puritanical when it comes to sex.

They are more interested in imposing their morality on you, than being examples of God's unconditional love and acceptance themselves.

FORNICATION

Churches *love* that word! Without it they couldn't turn perfectly normal people, making perfectly normal love, into something vile and

ugly and dirty.

Churchy Christians use SEX, (even the thought of it) as the litmus paper test of virtue and “holiness”. Nothing makes them feel more righteous than letting others know that they are not given to such *vile behavior*.

But God is so above such nonsense. God is the very essence and creator of love, and when we are loving, we are LIKE HIM!

Love is the only *real* yardstick. What we do with *love*, is good and acceptable and holy in God’s eyes.

So we have religion on one side, and God on the other. Which are you gonna believe?

HORRIBLE, EVIL, UGLY & NASTY!

I’m tired of churches telling everyone that sex is a sin. Sex in itself isn’t a sin!

God is not *mad* at you for having sex, as long as it is between two consenting adults.

Churches of course say that they are only against sex outside of marriage. The problem is, they want to be the ones who define “marriage”!

As long as sex fits their narrow minded definition of “right and wrong” they are ok with it. Anything else is unacceptable in God’s eyes they say.

TEMPESTS IN TEACUPS

I feel sorry for people like Tiger Woods.

Here is a man who they say got *caught* in “adultery”. So who cares? That should be something between him and his wife. No one else!

But the media played it up big time. They harped on it for weeks. You would have thought that the media was on the church’s payroll!

When someone gets caught doing something the church says is “bad”, everyone jumps on the band wagon of condemnation. If he is a public figure, sponsors dump him, colleagues betray him, and the press crucifies him.

It doesn’t matter if he is a star athlete, a genius of a scientist, or a pioneer for the poor and needy, he is to be shunned from henceforth for being a “bad role model”.

Why do we even want leaders in their field to be role models promoting religious values that are in fact the views of the moral minority? Their personal lives should be strictly a matter between them and their mates.

Why are we letting religion and the press impose their twisted set of morals on us all?

GROW UP!

God created us to want to hold someone, and to be held. God wants us to be loving. And God created us to feel good sexually in His love.

Sure, I know a lot of people, most of them probably, don't have their minds on the Lord while making love, but if they are making each other happy, and as long as they are not hurting anyone, how can that ever be a bad thing? It certainly isn't in God's eyes.

For generations now the churches have told us this lie, that sex is dirty and God is mad at us for doing it. They certainly imply "you gotta be a sinner to enjoy sex". And "*a good Christian* doesn't do that".

Isn't it time we woke up and instead of being embarrassed and talking about it in hushed tones like giggly little children, stop swallowing that lie?

Let's be more honest with ourselves, and
GROW UP!

ENJOY!

Let's be honest: Everyone wants a good sex life. But religion makes sex and nudity dirty: shameful, *sinful*.

Churchy Christians want you to believe that God is against one of man's most basic needs. Religions try to control people with sex. They make you think you have to choose between God and sex.

Lovemaking is the most beautiful experience two people can have. It is in fact an illustration of the love between God and mankind and certainly nothing to be ashamed of.

So don't worry about those who would condemn you. God is love. And when two people love, God is right there with them.

Thank God if you have someone to love. Best of all, it's free! Enjoy!

LOVE TO THE FULLEST ^[1]

So strong is the desire to find a mate that we can be attracted to a complete stranger in a matter of seconds.

We get almost hypnotized with a glance. We are infatuated with another soul who resonates with ours, however brief that may be. It's crazy when you think about it. And at the same time it's beautiful. Yet we condemn ourselves.

People relegate these feelings to dark, base, primal instincts that surely are not of God, or so

they would have us believe. Religion has foisted this unbiblical belief on the planet for thousands of years.

We, as God's creatures, are here to love and live life to the fullest. God does not condemn us. Why should we?

Love in all its forms is of God, and they are all pure and beautiful and praiseworthy.

TRUE LOVE

We live in a world where sex is thrown at us by television and movies. Music and magazines rub it in our face, yet more people are sexually frustrated than ever.

With the exception of Christians, sex is no longer socially unacceptable and people seem to be doing it more than ever. People do things unheard of just a few years ago, yet they are left unsatisfied. Why is this?

It's because sex for some people has become a purely mechanical thing. And mechanical sex, no matter how good, often, or intense, will become old. No matter how many new things, new ways or new mates you try... you will eventually be left unsatisfied. You will always be wanting "more".

Only real love can fill that aching spiritual void in man's heart, and love is more than mere

sex. Love is thinking of someone else instead of yourself, and trying to make them happy. Love is *giving*, not *taking*.

When two people love and give unselfishly of themselves, when two people each put the other's happiness above their own, then they discover the beauty of love. They find a greater happiness and they discover the wonders of a more satisfying intimacy and sexual union.

Only God can give us that kind of unselfish love, because God IS love.

God is the very essence of love, *true* love.

-!-

What Lies Ahead

The Happy Ending!

OUR ASS BACKWARDS WORLD ^[3]

or “What goes around, comes around.”

We have gotten so out of tune and out of sync not only with nature, but with our fellow human beings, with God and our entire universe, both physically as well as spiritually. The world we are living in is a result of our accumulated actions.

Our actions have had consequences on our environment. Mankind’s poor choices for generations are taking their toll. For too long we have upset the balance of nature, of our lands, forests and oceans and caused the resultant global warming because of our greed. All of these things are now coming back to haunt us. We are living the fruits of our decisions, both environmentally as well as in our society.

People accuse God of being hateful. After a mass killing or something to that effect they like to ask: “Where was God?” They blame God, when these things are the result of man’s actions.

I don’t have all the answers, and there are many things I don’t fully understand, but this one thing I do know: We reap what we sow. This is a law that pertains to the spiritual world as much as it does to our physical. *Bad* things that happen don’t come from a cruel and merciless God. *Bad*

things more often than not come as a result of our wrong decisions.

We *choose* to be kind, or not. We have the majesty of choice, and if God *did* intervene, if God *did* make things happen a certain way, some people would complain that God wasn't being fair by "forcing us" to do things His way. Our natural tendency is to look at everything "backwards".

God, the loving force behind our universe that we talk about, doesn't "get involved" with the actions of human beings. To a large degree we decide our own fate. We are here to learn to make the right decisions, and to learn to find the balance between our convictions and emotions.

We are here to learn to do now "on earth, as it is in Heaven". We are here to learn to glorify God and not ourselves. Something that will be easy for us to do *there and then*, we are to learn to do *here and now*.

Although we all *are* a part of God, we are not here to glorify self to the exclusion of God. To the extent that we glorify God we become *one* with Him and more aware of the greater universe and His loving plan for mankind.

Right now we are only able to have a limited personal relationship with God, but we will each

fully know the mind of God at the end of this life.

When we plant seeds, a crop comes up and we enjoy the fruits thereof. But once we eat it, it's gone. The cool part is, when we sow seeds of love, compassion and other good things here, besides reaping benefits here and now in our lives, these things actually carry over to the next world. Our good deeds live on!

So, every kind and loving deed goes out like a ripple and affects us and those around us for good, but in like manner every unkind word and every unloving deed sends out ripples for bad things, whether we realize it or not.

Our two worlds are interconnected, inseparable, overlapping and intertwined. One is but a reflection of the other. What goes around, *does*, most assuredly come around... and will be to our lasting credit, or shame: Eternal investments. Eternal dividends.

Everything is ordained. Everything is predestined. Yet, at the same time we individually have free wills and we control our destiny.

While on one hand everything *is* planned, on the other we have free will to create and influence our destiny, within certain boundaries. That these two concepts appear to be illogical, contradictory or irrational, isn't a statement as to

their impossibility, but rather a challenge to our limited comprehension and default approach to understanding things.

Therein lies the mystery.

Therein lies the simplicity.

Therein lies the beauty.

WHAT NOW? ^[3]

or “The bigger picture.”

Ultimately you may believe in science or the spiritual. You may believe in neither, or both.

You may be learned or intellectual, spiritual or enlightened, or you may not even be able to read. But one thing is true: In spite of man’s ever increasing knowledge and education, sadness and loneliness are pervasive and only grow the more.

The world has known too much false religion, too much politics, too many false promises, and too many false hopes.

People worry for their safety and security and try to forget their broken dreams and numb their senses with excesses of booze, drugs, non stop activity and material things. People are starving for “real”.

Man is increasingly becoming more alienated

from his neighbor, lost. Families are disintegrating, nations crumbling. People have lost their drive, their motivation, their will to build something better for all, as fear, self interest and greed take center stage.

Why are we all here on this Earth? This is the main question and one to which there is no simple answer.

Some say we are here to learn to love. This may be true, but if so, sometimes there seem to be few who are making passing grades. Others say we are here as some sort of punishment. Maybe to some degree both are true. Who knows?

Some people have all kinds of theories as to why we are here. Others don't have any. I think the "why" we are here, doesn't matter as much as "how" we spend our time while we are here.

What we do every day is what defines us. Not our words, not our "BS" promises or claims. What we do for others, how much we prefer others to ourselves is what makes us grow, is what produces fruits of compassion, love and understanding: not the material things we have and the empty boasts we make.

We need to stop being so lazy and start *doing* more than just complaining. We need to look to

God and away from the voices of division that would pull us apart.

We need to learn to respect each other.

We need to criticize less, pray more.

We need to be more supportive of each other and work together in cooperation instead of competition.

We should be more supportive of our governments and institutions instead of bashing them, reminding ourselves continually that they are made up of people just like us, and they're not perfect either.

We need to stop blaming others.

We need to stop blaming ourselves.

Above all, we need to learn to FORGIVE.

We are creating, not only the world we live in, but also our eternal destiny by the things we do day in and day out, by the thoughts we entertain, and by the way we live.

Don't listen to those who would have you believe there is no rhyme or reason to life, God or the universe.

There IS a bigger picture.

It's greater and mightier than we ever imagined!

WORLDS WITHOUT END ^[4]

or “Endless new beginnings.”

Learning. There’s nothing more exciting! That’s what life’s all about. And we will continue to learn even after this life. It will never end. We have so much to look forward to!

Just as we are conscious of this, our present reality, so will we be of the next one after this life. Our consciousness lives on. Intelligence in this world, consciousness in the next, and spirit... are the same thing.

And just as our physical world is composed of atoms *woven* together, the spirit world is made up of *woven* light. Light is the building block of our greater universe.

Our material world is in constant need of painting, repairing, rebuilding and renovation. It is in a constant state of decay. It is *dead* and dying. But the spirit world is in a never ending fifth dimensional state of rebirth and renewal and is vibrant, alive, pulsating, and full of love and light.

Many go through life seeking love but seldom finding it. They silently cry in their loneliness, yearning for a deeper sense of belonging. The aching spiritual void man has deep within his heart is really a longing to be reunited with the great spirit of love

that created and rules the universe.

This powerful, loving consciousness and the parallel full-of-light world are so incredibly big, and above and beyond our comprehension, that when we *do* catch occasional glimpses of them, we realize that everything we could desire in this world is nothing compared to them in beauty. Nothing could be more exciting than the happy ending that awaits us all. And the end will only be the first of a never ending series of new and glorious beginnings!

Yes, there *are* other inhabited planets and universes out there! There are other peoples and entire societies besides our own. And the best news is, that they are all more loving. They are all *infinitely* more loving!

There is a power greater than what the human mind can comprehend. There is a love that is more pure than we now know. There is knowledge far beyond what we can even begin to fathom, and we can have them all now, if we will only believe.

The moment a person accepts and receives God's love, he sets the ball in motion in his life to start to see... the *certainty* of everything.

-!-

A SIMPLE PRAYER

Lord, open my mind, open
my heart and open my eyes that
I may see the bigger picture, Your
greater plan, and how I fit into it.

In Jesus' name, amen.

EPILOGUE

The whole idea of “going to church” and expecting God to use your priest or pastor to lead you and guide you into more truth is simply not realistic anymore.

It is naive to see your so called “pastor” as an oracle of God, a man of wisdom and spiritual depth, and to submit to him and voluntarily place yourself under his control. And *this* is the central theme of the “go to church” monologue. It’s all about *control*.

Today God wants to guide each one of His children personally. Only God can lead us and guide us through all the problems and difficulties we each face in life. Only God sees our hearts and knows our thoughts. Only God loves us all unconditionally and accepts us without judging or condemnation.

These things you can’t find in church.



Miscellaneous Thoughts

Following are some thoughts that didn't really fit in any other section.

“People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self centered. Forgive them anyway.

“Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

“In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.”

(Mother Teresa)

HOW EMBARRASSING!

It's a fact: When people in the U.K., France, Spain and any one of the other western European nations where they hardly believe in God anymore turn on their cable TV and see these weirdass evangelical preachers they say, "*Look at that s**t!*"

They see evangelical Christians as truly disgusting. Then when *you* say you are a Christian, they automatically think you are one of them!

This has happened to me dozens of times and there is nothing you can do about it. You can't convince them otherwise. No matter what you say, they will think you are one of those evangelical Christians. It is humiliating to be lumped together with them and so incredibly embarrassing!

When you are in one of these countries, you learn real quickly to not talk about God, not even a little bit until you really get to know a person.

Christians don't want to hear this. They are in denial. Try to tell them and they get mad at you, as if you were making it all up or something!

THE SOLUTION

Religion has been blamed for many things, and rightly so. But there is a greater issue that people don't seem to want to address: greed.

Selfishness is the underlying cause of man's inhumanity towards his fellow man, and most, if not all of man's ills throughout history.

Greed in religion, greed in politics, and greed in our hearts has gotten us to where we are right today. But there IS a solution: love and kindness.

Yes, that all too familiar saying of Jesus continues to be the solution: "Do unto others."

Ah, if only we would practice it.

OUCH!

Evangelicals label me as an atheist. That doesn't bother me. But when atheists label me as an evangelical... now *that* hurts!

No matter how hard I try, most atheists insist on putting me in the same category as the Bible thumpers.

Ouch!

SOME PEOPLE

Some people say I am dumb because I believe in God. Others say I am a heretic because I don't go to church. Some people say I am weird because I don't spend my time partying. Some people say I am old fashioned because I think modern music is crap. Some people say I am off

track because I don't criticize the government.
Some people say I am naïve because I believe in
love and the power of forgiveness.

Some people sure are stupid.

A FAMINE

The Bible says that in the latter times there would be a famine. A famine not of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the Words of the Lord. (Amos 8:11)

THEY DON'T LIKE IT!

They sure don't like it when a Christian criticizes their churchianity!

They actually expect you to defend them and the BS they are passing off as being from the Bible and from God!

They have been feeding the world their false doctrines for centuries and you are supposed to defend them?

OUR WRITINGS ^[2]

Our writings are not meant for churchgoers. We write for people who don't go to church. We write for people who don't *want* to go to church,

people who don't like church. And there are a LOT of them out there!

Our writings resonate with people who are fed up with others telling them how to live and what to believe.

Our writings bring people closer to a God that loves them unconditionally: not for anything that they do, or don't do.

Ours is not a ministry of condemnation, but one of encouragement and reconciliation. With our writings we are helping people break free from the chains of their past: the chains created by false religion.

DO IT!

Most churchgoers don't really know the Bible. Most have hardly ever even read it.

They are content to just blindly do whatever their preacher tells them they have to do to please God. No wonder church is screwed up. Today's churches are so lame!

People need to stop following man and start following the Lord.

And the way to do that, is by reading what Jesus Himself said, and then:

Doing it!

CRUMBS

The real crime nowadays is greed. People are becoming increasingly more and more greedy, selfish and unloving.

And they are lonelier than ever, because they can't be happy and have true peace of mind feeding on the stale crumbs of modern Christainity.

FINDING HAPPINESS

You don't need church.

You don't need their routines, rituals and empty activities. You don't need their so called pastors to look out for your soul. All you need is the Lord.

All you need to do is seek Him and His guidance every day, to quiet your own spirit and learn to hear His voice.

All you need to do is get out of yourself, think of others, and let God use you to be a vessel of His love and a blessing to others.

See how your life will change if you do these things on an ongoing basis.

Little by little He will reveal Himself to you. Little by little you will get to know Him. Little by little your life will change, for the better.

And you will find happiness.

CATHOLICS

Most Catholics won't try to force their religion on you. You can have a beer with a Catholic without any feelings of condemnation.

Sure, they have their weird things, but they are easy to get along with, and there are oodles of Catholic nuns out there doing good things to help the poor and those in need, without shoving their religion down their throats like those evangelicals! God bless them.

EACH ONE UNIQUE

We are all at different levels of spiritual growth. No two of us are alike. Each one of us is on an individual road of learning, a path of revelation and we progress at different speeds. We shouldn't expect others to be like us or to think like us when it comes to things of the spirit.

God uses the different people, events and experiences in our lives to teach us and form us into what we ought to be. God is working on our hearts and that takes time. We are each unique to Him. We should keep this in mind and be more accepting of others.

Let's be more understanding and patient with each other.

MOVE ON^[3]

It's easy to criticize religion, churches and their dastardly deeds throughout the ages. But many people get stuck in a rut of criticism until it occupies an inordinate amount of their time and energy. Criticism merely for the sake of criticism is a dead end. It really gets us nowhere: only taking positive action does.

So the time should come when we move on, when we feel no need to continue criticizing and we set out to communicate God's true nature, that of a loving, accepting, benevolent spirit: the essence of everything we are as humans.

This is the only way we can even begin to heal all hurt, ease all pain and bring real meaning to people's lives!

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- [1] “Be Bold. Believe” by Gary Britton
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- [3] “I Don’t Believe in God. But, I believe in something (I think).” by Gary Britton
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SOME GOOD QUOTES

“The church is living for the most part in the power of human strength, and of its own will and energy and effort, apart from the Spirit of God.”

“All the wretchedness of which this world has been the scene, all its wars and bloodshed among the nations, all its selfishness and suffering, all its ambitions and jealousies, all its broken hearts and embittered lives, with all its daily unhappiness, have their origin in what cursed, hellish pride, either our own, or that of others, has brought us.”

“Self is the great curse. Thinking of ourselves and seeking our own. Self is the *greatest* curse.”

Andrew Murray

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“The world covets material *things* with a deep and fierce passion. The pronouns *my* and *mine* look innocent enough in print, but their constant and universal use is significant. They are verbal symptoms of our deep disease.

“The roots of our hearts have grown down into things, and we dare not pull up one rootlet lest we die. Things have become necessary to us, a development never originally intended. God’s gifts

now take the place of God, and the whole course of nature is upset by the monstrous substitution.”

“There can be no doubt that this possessive clinging to *things* is one of the most harmful habits in life. Because it is so natural it is rarely recognized for the evil that it is; but its outworkings are tragic.”

“Whoever defends himself will have himself for his defense, and he will have no other; but let him come defenseless before the Lord and he will have for his defender no less than God Himself.”

Aiden Tozer

- - -

“To love is the reason we exist. To learn to love more fully is the reason we have come to earth. Love is the energy which holds the universe in place. It is the gateway through which we return to our Creator.

“Love can conquer any problem, ease any suffering, heal any disease. Love creates and magnifies the joys of life. And at the moment of death, love turns all earthly pain into indescribable bliss.”

Betty J. Eadie



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is
in Heaven.

Give us this day, our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass against
us.

And lead us not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, forever!

Amen.

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- - -

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Science or God. Do we really have to choose?

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