

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Are we in the Great Apostasy

Are we in the Great Apostasy - posted by deltadom (), on: 2016/3/17 16:14

The Great Apostasy

2 Thessalonians 2

2 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? 6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness

The bible talks about the Great Apostasy I would state the church is in needs of hearing the gospel again. Formally working at the christian bookshop I found it hard to find people who just hold to the main doctrines of the christian faith, We have lots of the church into the Word of Faith Movement and the New Apostolic Reformation there is a true church.

2 Chronicles 7:14

if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

The bible also talks about a one world religion and I can see that the Interfaith movement has been rising through certain books, Andrew Whites book Father forgive them shows his interfaith connections.

http://www.uk.upf.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=223:letters-to-the-joint-celebration-of-holy-events-of-the-three-faiths-of-abraham&catid=58:interfaith&Itemid=107

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Father-Forgive-Reflections-peace-making-Straight-ebook/dp/B00CECYNPU/ref=sr_1_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1458245115&sr=1-1&keywords=father+forgive+andrew+white

Then there has been the Popes recent statements

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/in-first-video-message-pope-francis-stresses-unity-we-are-all-children-of-god-39381/>

We have the ecumenical movement with things like Hope Together

<http://ukapologeticslibrary.net/hope-08-hope-together-part-of-the-uks-biggest-apostasy/>

What I find is that there is so much apostasy around

<http://ukapologeticslibrary.net>

<http://www.piratechristian.com/fightingforthefait/>

All the major denominations have documents on the Interfaith movement.

http://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/220648/Inter_Faith_Engagement.aspx

<http://nifcon.anglicancommunion.org/>

<http://news.salvationarmy.org.uk/tags/interfaith>

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/inter-faith-relations>

The Great Prostitute and the Beast

Revelation

17 Then one of the seven angels who had with the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk." 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. 5 And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: I "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations." 6 And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.¹

When I saw her, I marveled greatly. 7 But the angel said to me, "Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. 9 This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; 10 they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. 11 As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. 12 And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. 14 They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

People are worried about the Government, God always has his true church, his true bride.

What do people think ?

Scripture will always come true. The bible predicts things like this.

Re: Are we in the Great Apostasy , on: 2016/3/17 19:26

Hi Dominic,

I definitely agree we are in the midst of the great falling away. Many other voices have been warning now for many years about the great falling away and coming persecution. These elements will serve to separate the sheep from the goats in the last days in which we live. Many know of Steve Hill who just passed away. He had a vision which I would like to share which goes right along with the many voices God has and is raising up in these days. Watch the short video below, I believe it is a word from God to Christendom

https://youtu.be/WrvDO_TntMM

Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2016/3/18 11:23

The bible in Matthew 24 talks about worldwide persecution in the last days
Matthew 24

Matthew 24

1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

In this passage it talks about worldwide persecution of Christians, it also talks about apostasy both are two factors in the end times

In church we have been discussion the exact nature of the abomination of desolation , how is the third temple going to be built

To me it breaks my heart as to the apostasy in the church affects the world

1 Peter 4.

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

What judgement has the UK and USA got coming for our apostasy

Re: , on: 2016/3/18 13:26

"What judgement has the UK and USA got coming for our apostasy?"

I believe that persecution is coming to the Church, the Remnant, whoever truly belongs to Jesus. I do not believe that God's hand will be stayed in this because I believe that He has His purpose and that it is part of the prophetic calendar. So let me lay out for you how I see the times that are approaching. There is something that we call Christendom. To me, that is everything that calls itself by the name of Christ. This would include every denomination, including Catholics, Pentecostals, Baptists, Evangelicals a host of Non-denominational churches and the man in the street who does not go to any church but if you were to push him, he would call himself either a believer or a Christian.

Now let me say plainly, I believe that only a very small percentage of that which calls itself Christian is in fact true born-again, new creature in Christ, sold out disciples of Jesus. Various men have given numbers over the years, Ravenhill once said that he reckoned only 7% of professing Christians in America were actually Christians. The truth is, I have no idea. I do know that Jesus said that many were called but few were chosen and that the road to heaven was a narrow one and few there were that found it. That's not so complicated and I see no need to complicate it further by adding to what Jesus said.

And so, how will the persecution come about and who will persecute the saints of God, martyring them and believing they are doing God a favor by doing it? Well, I believe that the vast majority of Christendom that is not saved will soon morph into the great whore church. What is this great whore church? Well it will be a church that will bring together the major religions of the world under one roof. Islam, Judaism and Christianity will join together under a false prophet who will testify to the authenticity of the man of peace, the anti-Christ. Tumultuous circumstances in the world will give rise to this anti-Christ. People of every nation will be mesmerized by him and by his displays of power. Only the saints will not fall for this grand delusion. And as they refuse to follow him they become the targets of hatred of the world in general and specifically the religious.....bro Frank

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/3/18 13:58

It does seem odd that God would punish(persecute) those who are truly His(the remnant).

Re: , on: 2016/3/18 14:24

Todd, to suffer for Christ is to rule and reign with Christ. We know what the Apostle thought of suffering for the cause of Christ and loss for the cause of Christ. He counted it all as rubbish to be found in Him. No saint will ever suffer spiritual loss when they are persecuted for His sake.....bro Frank

1Pe 3:17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/3/18 14:49

Hi Frank- I don't doubt the concept or the scriptures- but it still seems odd. I suppose this is because it goes against what seems just.

Perhaps a better thing to ask is "why" does God choose to persecute those who are closest to him?

Those who are closest to Him would seem to benefit the least, if there is a benefit at all. Persecution of a lukewarm believer may either make him hot, or cause him to abandon completely. But a hot believer is already hot.

See what I mean?

Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2016/3/18 14:58

There were many heretics in the early church who died as martyrs.

People who denied doctrines that It was a lecture by RT

Dying as a martyr is not proof of orthodoxy. I know that I could not survive 10 seconds or even 5 seconds of persecution without Jesus.

There have been many decades in Christianity in which there have been revivals in which people have not been persecuted and there have been decades of Christianity in which there has been persecution.

Romans 8:17

and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together

Philippians 3:10

that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death

Re: , on: 2016/3/18 15:01

Todd, you write.....

"I don't doubt the concept or the scriptures- but"

But's are always dangerous Todd :) If you can see it and dont doubt it and you know that God is just then doesn't that answer your question?

As to those who are hot, then persecution is the price that goes along with that.

11Tim 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Re: , on: 2016/3/18 23:35

The scriptures speak of a future time when the anti-christ shall rise and crush everything that opposes him, Christians and otherwise. But right now here in the US, we are not enduring anything close to such a thing. There is however something just as terrible going on...the great falling away. Great darkness has flooded the land and has seemingly swept everything before it. I am so dismayed at the level of apostasy that I am almost tempted to exclaim like the disciples, "who then can be spared". Everywhere I see people falling away from God, abandoning the hope that they once had in Christ. It is so distressing to my soul that it keeps me on my knees for my own family and those whom God brings into our fellowship. May we all keep the fire of our first love stoked night and day and continue to encourage one another daily.

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 0:26

Amen bro Mark. The great falling away precedes the coming persecution so when you see it begin to unfold then you know that what has to happen next comes quickly.

2Th 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

I think one of the key Scriptures that explains the great falling away is the verses in the same chapter.....

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (2Th 2:10-12)

The love of the truth. Its what in the end, and always has been, the dividing line between folks. Having a love of the truth is actually a gift from God. There is a fire in the bones of those who love the truth, so much so that they forsake all else when it comes right down to it. Without this love of the truth then men will fall away as circumstances change. The cultural winds, the world and the love for it, persecution, even love for family will cause many to fall away. If one is not prepared, somewhere deep in their heart, to forsake all for Him, then they will fall away. The refiners fire reveals that which otherwise would remain hidden. Not hidden to God but hidden to men.....bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 0:46

Amen brother Franks. Is it reasonable to surmise then that only those who survive this great flood of darkness that precedes the rising of the man of sin...will be in fact be the remnant? And what then the effect of the persecution? I would think that it will only serve to strengthen the remnant even more. The others who have fallen away during this current period of apostasy will still consider themselves Christians when the beast arises, but they will only have the form of godliness, not the real thing. What will become of them I wonder? Will some of them wake up during the great persecution or will it be too late? In other words, how "final" is this delusion that is granted to them because they do not love the truth???

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/3/19 7:58

I hate to always seem to be the contrarian, but oh well.

But I don't see a great apostasy, at least not in any of the Christians and churches I know. I don't know if anyone that is a believer who has abandoned or is abandoning the faith. I see the opposite- there is more hunger and desire to grow.

It was my impression that if there will be a great apostasy that a widespread persecution would cause it because people would "chicken out." But you seem to be saying that the apostasy happens and THEN the great persecution.

I agree that America is in a dark place(sinners are getting more brazen and this is now condoned by society- i.e. other sinners) but that is not apostasy.

Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2016/3/19 8:17

We have things such as the prosperity gospel, word of faith movement, emergent church movement, just visit your Christian books and compare them to books a century ago.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/3/19 8:22

Why do you feel that people in the "emergent church" movement for example are apostate? Because they may not meet in a building with a steeple?

Not everyone in WOF movement is a nonbeliever. I agree they twist things but that does not make a person apostate.

Re: - posted by yuehan, on: 2016/3/19 9:09

I actually posted a similar question to Deltadom's a while back: https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=55052&forum=35

I still don't know the answer. But in a sense, the darkness doesn't matter as much if we are focusing on the Light - and it is in the darkest place where the Light shines the brightest.

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 9:37

Bro Mark asks

"Amen brother Franks. Is it reasonable to surmise then that only those who survive this great flood of darkness that precedes the rising of the man of sin...will be in fact be the remnant?"

I believe that the remnant are lovers of the truth to the detriment of everything else in his or her life. And because of that, they, rather than merely survive, stand fast in the mighty headwinds that will blow around the world. They are over-comers of these headwinds of hatred. Most of the persecutors I believe will absolutely consider themselves Christian, this is the history of the last 1700 years. After Constantine, the main persecutors and killers of the martyrs were Roman Catholics who definitely believed they were killing heretics and in doing so believed they were carrying out the work of God.

They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. (Joh 16:2-3)

You asked brother if some will wake up? I do believe that to be true. It will only be too late when the Lord Himself returns. As these people witness God's remnant being persecuted it will, I believe, bring about two main reactions. 1. More hatred and I believe this will be the majority reaction. 2. Conviction and repentance. In the parable of the foolish virgins Jesus is warning those unprepared what happens. If they stay in their unprepared state, if there is no oil in their vessels, then they will be lost to everlasting darkness. They had a little oil, but what oil they had ran out quickly and any light they had went out.....bro Frank

Re: falling away - posted by Pnatty (), on: 2016/3/19 11:04

And noone here interprets the falling away as the rapture? apo Away from /stasis standing.

The church, the bride church is standing away from the professed church from their place in heaven.

A true Christian can sin but not live in sin. Majority of Christians are they living in sin? They will continue to do so and call themselves the church when we are out of here.

First we are taken, then the antichrist revealed.

A toddler believers reponse

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 11:32

Hi Linda,

Its another subject which has been discussed on the forum at length. I do not believe in a pre-trib rapture and I believe I may be in the majority on this forum, just for your information. If you search in the search box on the home page of SI with the phrase pre-trib rapture you may find many interesting threads.....bro Frank

G646

ἡ ἀποστασία

apostasia

ap-os-tas-ee'-ah

Feminine of the same as G647; defection from truth (properly the state), (ἀποστασία): - falling away, forsake.

Re: - posted by Pnatty (), on: 2016/3/19 11:46

For a year, Im being quite serious I never saw a search function. I looked in the beginning for a little black word to say search and only because you SAID there is a search function could I then see it as a blue square and a google blank!

Do majority here believe in Mid or Post? Ill be careful to not make any posts about the rapture then. But Id like to know the consenses.

And does majority believe in the rapture? I know many Christians do not.

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 11:57

Quote:

-----by TMK

It does seem odd that God would punish(persecute) those who are truly His(the remnant).

I do not believe that God is choosing His people to be persecuted or punished specifically.

I see it as, it's by default (can't find another word to use) that the remnant is and will be persecuted because we will NOT serve another but only serve the One True God.

And it will be plain as day when say 1000 people are bowing (per se) and one or two keeps standing!! There's no hiding then!!

But that's just my two cents and I hope it was understandable,

Lisa

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 12:05

Quote:
-----by awakened
The others who have fallen away during this current period of apostasy will still consider themselves Christians when the beast arises, but they will only have the form of godliness, not the real thing. What will become of them I wonder? Will some of them wake up during the great persecution or will it be too late? In other words, how "final" is this delusion that is granted to them because they do not love the truth???

One can only hope that since they have the same Bible that we have and the Holy Spirit is still here convicting men and women that they would wake up.

I pray that when the REAL JESUS walks by them, they would choose to receive the love the Truth in Him! There is hope!

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 12:15

Quote:
-----by TMK
I hate to always seem to be the contrarian, but oh well.

I hope I'm not the only person on SI that truly enjoys that about you!!! :) :)

Quote:
-----by TMK
But I don't see a great apostasy, at least not in any of the Christians and churches I know. I don't know if anyone that is a believer who has abandoned or is abandoning the faith. I see the opposite- there is more hunger and desire to grow.

It was my impression that if there will be a great apostasy that a widespread persecution would cause it because people would "chicken out." But you seem to be saying that the apostasy happens and THEN the great persecution.

I agree that America is in a dark place (sinners are getting more brazen and this is now condoned by society- i.e. other sinners) but that is not apostasy.

I'm not going down the road of persecution but about the falling away and this discussion, I have not seen a *great* falling away, so I looked up definitions to help me focus on what I am looking for:

Rebellion - an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler.
Apostasy - the abandonment of a previous loyalty or renunciation of a religious faith.

Like TMK, I do not see this going on exponentially today but I believe it will one day.

Let me throw this hat into the ring and then I'm off to work. Could the apostasy or the falling away not "lead" to persecution but actually come from the persecution of the Tribulation? Just wondering.

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by Renee_is_His (), on: 2016/3/19 12:16

I share your anguish, Brother Mark. My prayer for the last several days has been Is 64:1 "Oh that You would rend the heavens! That you would come down!"

My heart's cry is "come down Lord!!" I've been praying for a visitation of the Lord for the last 5 years; a visitation in my own life, my family, and the saints of God. I am praying for the fire of God to come down! Where oh where is the God of Elijah??

He is galvanizing the saints and calling us to even deeper prayer and intercession. I sense this deeply in my spirit.

Re: - posted by Pnutty (), on: 2016/3/19 12:26

How come all the early church were expecting the rapture at anytime? And Paul said nay, it has not happened.

How could there be a "falling away" when there had hardly been a "falling in"? The church was so new, that any who walked away to go to Judaism and temple or maybe Greeks/Romans who dabble and try new things were never really accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior?

Not a flamer or troll I promise you, I have been desperate to learn. And no one in person I could ask about these things..

Re: - posted by Renee_is_His (), on: 2016/3/19 12:42

Sister Linda, may I suggest the Paul by the Holy Spirit, was prophesying about a future time? This seems to be the case since "the man of sin" has not been revealed yet. It totally fits the time we are living in now.

I appreciate your questions - I am still learning too!

Be Blessed,
Renee

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 13:49

Hi Linda, the majority of professing Christians in America are pre-trib rapture. Most mainline denominations like the Southern Baptists hold to that. Dallas Theological Seminary and many others teach this form of dispensationalism. That is why books like the Left Behind series were so popular. The early church did not believe in a pre-trib rapture, they did believe in the second coming of Jesus and lived with that expectancy as has almost every generation since then.

Those who believe that the saints will go through the great tribulation to one degree or another are certainly in the minority.

Just wanted to mention Lisa's comment about not having noticed a great falling away! Yikes :) Travel throughout Europe Lisa and see a whole continent that is post Christian. Less than 3% of Brits now attend church, this is a massive falling away and it is mimicked throughout Europe. Mainline denominations in America are in free fall, losing a whole generation of younger folks. Now, there are many mega churches like Rick Warren and Joel Olsteen's. Denomination after denomination are embracing Homosexual marriage and so on. If this is not a rejection of truths once believed and now rejected (the definition of apostasy) then I do not know what is..... bro Frank

Re: - posted by Pnutty (), on: 2016/3/19 14:21

Frank I gotta disagree with you. Majority Christians don't believe in a pre or mid trib rapture. That counts a billion Catholics, globally. Don't know how many in America. But all of them believe the same, no pre or mid.

edited to find 70 million Catholics in USA

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 14:36

Amen, Frank.

Pnutty,

Catholicism is not considered biblical Christianity. Were you raised Catholic? I was. Their doctrine does not line up with the scriptures not to mention the "elephant in the room" that the Vatican marshaled forces to kill millions of Christians.

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 14:36

Quote:

-----by appolus

Just wanted to mention Lisa's comment about not having noticed a great falling away! Yikes :) Travel throughout Europe Lisa and see a whole continent that is post Christian. Less than 3% of Brits now attend church, this is a massive falling away and it is mimicked throughout Europe. Mainline denominations in America are in free fall, losing a whole generation of younger folks. Now, there are many mega churches like Rick Warren and Joel Olsteen's. Denomination after denomination are embracing Homosexual marriage and so on. If this is not a rejection of truths once believed and now rejected (the definition of apostasy) then I do not know what is.....

Well, that would explain it because I've never been to Europe!! :)

Speaking of "Rick Warren and Joel Olsteen's" type churches, perhaps no one has fallen away, that's just where they started going!! :) Personally, I don't know any died-in-the-wool Godly people who left their churches to start attending these type of churches! (not to say there haven't happened)

Frank, I'm not completely disagreeing with you! I don't think it's as bad as it's going to get in the future.

Also, mainline denominations being in a freefall (I think), is that (one reason), the children aren't filling the pews of their parents for whatever reasons.

And I believe there are still 5000 OR MORE that have not bowed their knees to Baal and want the real Jesus to please stand up because they need Him and will flock to Him when they see Him and that's not falling away. imho.

Love ya brother, in Christ!!!

Lisa

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 14:45

Hi Lisa, I think we are gonna agree on the remnant part :) And I am gonna go with 7000 having not bowed the knee :) I think I know a guy who writes about that stuff :) Here is what I think about mega-churches like the one near me, it called Church of the resurrection, it has over 20,000 people. Fallen away people do attend this kind of church because they go along with the culture, gay marriage is just one aspect of that. If you attend a church that is in complete rebellion to the word of God then there has to be reason why one would be going there. To be in rebellion to the clear unambiguous word of God that even all of here on this forum could agree on, is part of the definition of apostasy. Given that definition then almost all of the mainline denominations are in an apostate state. The church near me with over 20,000 is a Methodist Church, I am pretty sure that Wesley is spinning in his grave :)bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 14:48

Julias writes.....

"Catholicism is not considered biblical Christianity"

and as an ex-Catholic I am going to give my brother a hearty amen to that. It would be hard to know where to begin to tell you why Catholicism is not Biblical Christianity and is unsound in all of its ways and thoroughly corrupted from the top down.....bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 14:51

Falling away from biblical truth is falling away from the one true Jesus. Many are following a different Jesus, a false Christ, today. In this respect, there is a great falling away, today and will only get worse.

Re: - posted by Pnatty (), on: 2016/3/19 15:00

Catholicism believe a lotta goofy things. If I can put it like that.

Yet how many Catholics are there that believe that Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior and love him so very much? I was one born and raised. And there are many others.

Will God turn away all those who are saved because they were born and raised into Catholicism? Who got to them first Protestants or Catholics to educate about Jesus.

Biblically isn't it very easy to be saved? To believe? Does God not offer the invitation through Catholics to others?

The Gospel is the Gospel is the Gospel. Simple. Then is added goofy things. Catholic, Word of Faith, other Protestants, do they have goofy notions?

The Gospel is right, all the other stuff can be goofy.

I think I can say we here are trying to live by the Gospel PLUS NOTHING. Yes?

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/3/19 15:29

Hey Frank-

I believe you said that in the great apostasy "Christians" would be the main persecutors of true Christians.

What do you think that will look like? In other words, what will they do?

I know that back on the old days the Inquisition was nasty as well as the when the anabaptists were being killed etc. But in those times the church and state almost synonymous.

For example, if someone goes out and shoots up a church that they disagree with they will be arrested. Are you saying that someday people will be able to kill or harm others without reprisal?

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 16:15

Is it easy to be saved?

Well, it only costs you your whole life. Salvation is not a momentary belief, it is a dying to self and sin, and turning away from everything this world offers you to what Christ offers you... Everyday. Every minute of every day. It is turning toward Christ in faithful obedience to His Word.

If only "believing" saved you, then I guess the demons will be saved because they believe, too. You have to understand what the biblical definition of "believing", is. When you do understand that, you will understand that many are lost or fall away.

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 16:17

Linda, I honestly don't know where to start with your last post. If you were asking questions that would be one thing but you seem to have it figured out in your own mind and I have no desire whatsoever to enter into a debate about the subject you raised, sorry, that's just me.....bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 16:21

Hi Todd,

I have written about that subject countless times before on this forum and I am pretty sure you disagreed every time which is of course your prerogative :) After all, you are a self confessed contrarian. I am just not in the business of answering questions to people who already have it figured out, sorry Todd. God bless you.....bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 16:24

Julias writes.....

"If only "believing" saved you, then I guess the demons will be saved because they believe, too. You have to understand what the biblical definition of "believing", is. When you do understand that, you will understand that many are lost or fall away."

Amen! Also, the Biblical Jesus is very different than the Catholic Jesus. The biblical definition of being born again is diametrically opposed to the Catholic notion of what it means and what it takes to be saved. To say they are not even in the same ball field would be a geographical understatement. Not on the same planet would be something closer to the truth.bro Frank

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 16:40

TMK,

Look to history to see what the future looks like in terms of persecution. You can see Satan's modus operandi from history. It will be the satanic world system which includes Satan's religious system which will persecute. Much more intense, though. No one knows "exactly", what it will look like, only the source.

Re: - posted by Pnuttty (), on: 2016/3/19 16:42

Julius,

None of what you say is necessary to confess out loud to be saved. It is a result of salvation and the Holy Spirits move. Unless you think YOU can do all this. What you describe is discipleship.

J says "Well, it only costs you your whole life. Salvation is not a momentary belief, it is a dying to self and sin, and turning away from everything this world offers you to what Christ offers you... Everyday. Every minute of every day. It is turning towards Christ in faithful obedience to His Word. "

Demons do not believe Jesus is their Lord and Savior, hence unredeemable demons.

J says "If only "believing" saved you, then I guess the demons will be saved because they believe, too. You have to understand what the biblical definition of "believing", is. When you do understand that, you will understand that many are lost or fall away."

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2016/3/19 16:46

by appolus on 2016/3/19 13:24:59

Julias writes.....

"If only "believing" saved you, then I guess the demons will be saved because they believe, too. You have to understand what the biblical definition of "believing", is. When you do understand that, you will understand that many are lost or fall away."

Amen! Also, the Biblical Jesus is very different than the Catholic Jesus. The biblical definition of being born again is diametrically opposed to the Catholic notion of what it means and what it takes to be saved. To say they are not even in the same ball field would be a geographical understatement. Not on the same planet would be something closer to the truth.bro Frank

As a former RC I have to agree and add my own Amen to this!! The RCC is a false religion just as much as the Mormons! Neither is BIBLICAL and those lost in its clutches need our prayers.

God bless
maryjane

Re: Linda , on: 2016/3/19 16:53

Dear sister salvation is believing in Jesus alone. But believing in him conveys action on our part. That is a turning away from our sin which is called repentance and then having faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe a better word would be trust. Trusting in Christ alone for salvation involves a committed of our whole heart and mind and soul to Him.

Hope this makes sense dear sister.

Gently posted.

Brother Blaine

Re: - posted by Pnuttty (), on: 2016/3/19 17:00

And Blaine, I say that is the move of the Holy Spirit. If it was on our part, what need have we of salvation. Im agreeing with you. But that is a discipleship, is a result of salvation and the action of the Holy Spirit. I can say, I denied myself, I turned from sin, I took the smallest bit of food. But who would that be doing it? The old man? When these denials and turnings and humbleness "occur" it is the action of the Holy Spirit. Then where is the credit?

It is the new man, which is of the renewed redeemed spirit. Post Salvation result. Not consciously chosen before or during confession of fealty to Jesus. It is a result.

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 17:02

The problem with the word "believe" is that it conveys a mental assent. One can simply believe the facts about Jesus. But there be no heart change.

I believe brother Frank wrote a piece in this forum how the word "believe" has condemned many to hell. I mean even the demons "believe" and they tremble.

I think a much better word is "trust". Trusting in Jesus alone for salvation implies a heart commitment on our part.

Just simply my thoughts.

Brother Blaine

Re: - posted by Pnuttty (), on: 2016/3/19 17:04

I assent to trust. Demons dont trust, Jesus is the enemy and to be distrusted.

I trust Jesus has done all this and will fulfill everything in time.

So yes Truster is better than Believer

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 17:08

Dear sister Linda I agree. It is the Lord who must work in us to draw us to Himself. But as a heart change is taking place there is a turning from our sin and a trusting in Him for salvation.

As I posted previously the word "trust" is a much better word how to describe a heart commitment to Christ. Much better than "believe".

Hope this makes sense.

Gently posted.

Brother Blaine

We edited for grammar and clarity.

Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2016/3/19 17:08

David Wilkerson believed that there still existed a true remnant in the catholic church.

Spurgeon, Tozer, Waldvogel etc. gleaned spiritual truths from catholic mystics such as Guyon.

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 17:14

Dear sister Linda. It is a delight to read your posts. :-)

Indeed. I am a trustor. Better than a believer. :-)

Brother Blaine

Linda , on: 2016/3/19 17:15

My sister you hit the nail on the head. Demons can believe. But demons cannot trust in Jesus for salvation.

Brother Blaine

Re: Linda , on: 2016/3/19 17:32

No one can walk the true Christian walk everyday without the indwelling CHRIST. If YOU are doing it, then you are only participating in religious exercises.

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 17:40

Quote:

-----by appolus

Hi Lisa, I think we are gonna agree on the remnant part :) And I am gonna go with 7000 having not bowed the knee :)

I was going on a bad memory, 7000 you are correct brother!! :) Thank you!

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 17:42

Mary Jane writes.....

"As a former RC I have to agree and add my own Amen to this!! The RCC is a false religion just as much as the Mormons! Neither is BIBLICAL and those lost in its clutches need our prayers."

Amen sister, a false religion indeed and far removed from any Biblical reality, doctrines of demons and those in its clutches certainly need our prayers.....bro Frank

Re: - posted by Elibeth, on: 2016/3/19 18:15

TMK,

I know you addressed your post to Frank, but is it O.K. if I respond ?

Yes, We know that The Lord is always just.

I believe that when we surrender to The Lord, ...persecution is a normal, ...is something that hopes to turn us away from God.

I have never forgotten what Art Katz tapes said, in one of his tapes, ...

... "the lack of persecution in our lives speaks volumes about us, who we are, as followers of Christ".

I believe when we go through hard things, it is two fold. One, as I said, is to turn us back from following God, ...the other is for our good.

It is to work the fruits of The Spirit within us.... To be stretched out, and to hold on to God, with long-suffering, kindness, love (His love), ...patience etc, etc,

If these things did not come upon us, then where would be the occasion /need for these gifts to operate in us ?

elizabeth

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 18:41

It is estimated that every 5 minutes a believer is martyred for the Lord Jesus Christ. This translates into over 100,000 believers who are martyred every year. Indeed more Christians have been killed in the 20th century than in the first nineteen hundred years of Christianity.

It is estimated that there are over 200 geopolitical entities that are considered nations. Estimates are at least in 150 of these nations Christians suffer persecution in various forms.

Various agencies, both governmental and non-governmental, have said that Christians are the most persecuted religion in the world. Observers speak of a global persecution of Christians. Indeed there are those that are wondering if there will be a church left in the Middle East. Mind you observers are speaking from a temporal point of view.

The statistics prove that persecution is on the increase for believers. Even today, brother Greg, posted that four Wycliff translators were martyred for their faith in Christ. A few days ago a five-year-old child was killed for his faith in Christ.

For someone to argue that persecution is not on the increase. I say take a look at the numbers and statistics again. Take a look at what the governmental and non-governmental agencies are saying. Better yet, take a look at what the word of God says.

I do not mean to be clinical in the quoting of the statistics. Each statistic represents a believer who was martyred for the name of Jesus Christ. I always have to keep in mind that this is people we are dealing with and not numbers.

I rest my case. Persecution is on the increase. 151 Nations persecute Christians in varying degrees. We are two thirds of the way seeing the prophecy of Jesus fulfilled when he said you will be hated by all nations on account of my name.

Brothers and sisters. These are my thoughts. But my thoughts are backed up with hard facts.

Respectfully posted.

Brother Blaine

Reddited for grammatical mistakes and clarity.

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2016/3/19 18:59

Quote:
-----by Julius21
No one can walk the true Christian walk everyday without the indwelling CHRIST. If YOU are doing it, then you are only participating in religious exercises.

Right on Julius!!

Re: , on: 2016/3/19 23:00

Lysa,

I am always encouraged by your fervor for the Lord and your preaching of the gospel to the lost. Stay strong in Him.