

“Jesus 100%”
Part 1 of ‘Real Christianity’
Pastor Al Brice | Sunday January 06, 2019

Our world today is rapidly becoming like the societies of ancient times. Jesus told us what society would eventually digress to, and we’re seeing and experiencing this here in our nation and around the world.

Luke 17:26-30 NLT: ²⁶ “When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah’s day. ²⁷ In those days, the people enjoyed banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat and the flood came and destroyed them all.

²⁸ “And the world will be as it was in the days of Lot. People went about their daily business—eating and drinking, buying and selling, farming and building— ²⁹ until the morning Lot left Sodom. Then fire and burning sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰ Yes, it will be ‘business as usual’ right up to the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

***Days of Noah...Genesis 6:5-6 NLT:** ⁵ The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. ⁶ So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart.

***Days of Lot...Genesis 19:4-5 NLT:** ⁴ But before they retired for the night, all the men of Sodom, young and old, came from all over the city and surrounded the house. ⁵ They shouted to Lot, “Where are the men who came to spend the night with you? Bring them out to us so we can have sex with them!”

Ezekiel 16:49-50 NLT: ⁴⁹ Sodom’s sins were pride, gluttony, and laziness, while the poor and needy suffered outside her door. ⁵⁰ She was proud and committed detestable sins, so I wiped her out, as you have seen.

Today, in our society, we hear the mounting questions:

1. Will we ever have harmony and peace in the world, in our nation, and in our relationships?
2. Is there any way to solve the racial tensions, hatred, racism, animosities, divisions, violence, lewdness, drug and opioid crisis, immorality, and we see marriages and home life falling apart?
3. Can we possibly get rid of the problems and perplexities that are tearing the life of society to pieces and causing so much misery in the world today?

The world is desperately trying to solve these problems by holding its political, economic, religious and climate conferences, hoping that together they can come up with the wisdom to eradicate all the ills of the world.

All of this is being done without seeking God and receiving His answer, which is absolute Truth. In fact, the Bible tells us that before the return of Jesus, humanity will suppress God's truth. Groups and organizations will meet secretly to overthrow the Church of Jesus Christ, reject God's truth, mock all Biblical teaching as fictitious and irrelevant, and some, even in the churches, will teach a doctrine of grace that rejects godliness and holiness, and denounce teaching about the return of Jesus as outdated and ridiculous.

***Suppressing God's Truth**

Romans 1:18-32 The Passion Translation:

¹⁸ For God in heaven unveils his holy anger breaking forth against every form of sin, both toward ungodliness that lives in hearts and evil actions. For the wickedness of humanity deliberately smothers the truth and keeps people from acknowledging the truth about God. ¹⁹ In reality, the truth of God is known instinctively, for God has embedded this knowledge inside every human heart. ²⁰ *Opposition to truth cannot be excused on the basis of ignorance*, because from the creation of the world, the invisible qualities of God's nature have been made visible, such as his eternal power and transcendence. He has made his wonderful attributes easily perceived, for seeing the visible makes us understand the invisible. So then, this leaves everyone without excuse.

²¹ *Throughout human history* the fingerprints of God were upon them, yet they refused to honor him as God or even be thankful for his kindness. Instead, they entertained corrupt and foolish thoughts about what God was like. This left them with nothing but misguided hearts, steeped in moral darkness. ²² Although claiming to be super-intelligent, they were in fact shallow fools. ²³ For only a fool would trade the unfading splendor of the immortal God to worship the fading image of other humans, idols made to look like people, animals, birds, and even creeping reptiles!

²⁴ This is why God lifted off his restraining hand and let them have full expression of their sinful and shameful desires. They were given over to moral depravity, dishonoring their bodies *by sexual perversion* among themselves— ²⁵ all because they traded the truth of God for a lie. They worshiped and served the things God made rather than the God who made all things—glory and praises to him for eternity of eternities! Amen!

^{26–27} For this reason God gave them over to their own disgraceful and vile passions. Enflamed with lust for one another, men and women ignored the natural order and exchanged normal sexual relations for homosexuality. Women engaged in lesbian conduct, and men committed shameful acts with men, receiving in themselves the due penalty for their deviation.

²⁸ And because they thought it was worthless to embrace the true knowledge of God, God gave them over to a worthless mind-set, to break all rules of proper conduct. ²⁹ Their sinful lives became full of every kind of evil, wicked schemes, greed, and cruelty. Their hearts overflowed with jealous cravings, and with conflict and strife, which drove them into hateful arguments and murder. They are deceitful liars full of hostility. They are

gossips ³⁰ who love to spread malicious slander. With inflated egos they hurl hateful insults at God, yet they are nothing more than arrogant boasters. They are rebels against their parents and totally immoral. ³¹ They are senseless, faithless, ruthless, heartless, and completely merciless. ³² Although they are fully aware of God's laws and proper order, and knowing that those who do all of these things deserve to die, yet they still go headlong into darkness, encouraging others to do the same and applauding them when they do!

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 NKJV: ⁹The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹²that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

***Organizing to overthrow the Church of Jesus Christ...**

Psalms 2:1-8 NKJV:

Why do the nations rage,
And the people plot a vain thing?
² The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,
Against the Lord and against His Anointed, *saying*,
³ "Let us break Their bonds in pieces
And cast away Their cords from us."

⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;
The Lord shall hold them in derision.
⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,
And distress them in His deep displeasure:
⁶ "Yet I have set My King
On My holy hill of Zion."

⁷ "I will declare the decree:
The Lord has said to Me,
'You *are* My Son,
Today I have begotten You.
⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give *You*
The nations *for* Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth *for* Your possession.

***False grace... Jude 1:3-4 NLT:** ³ Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. ⁴ I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Titus 2:11-14 NLT: ¹¹ For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³ while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. ¹⁴ He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.

***Denouncing the Return of Jesus... 2 Peter 3:3-4 NLT:** ³ Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires. ⁴ They will say, "What happened to the promise that Jesus is coming again? From before the times of our ancestors, everything has remained the same since the world was first created."

God's answer to all of humanity's problems and society's ills remains the same, is unchangeable, and was given to the all the world two thousand years ago. It was proclaimed by God's prophets that He was sending the answer to all the world's problems and perplexities.

Isaiah 9:6 NKJV:

⁶ For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

This is God's one and only answer to the world's problems and issues, and it is also the foundation of the Church of Jesus Christ, of true Christianity.

Matthew 16:13-19 NKJV: ¹³ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"
¹⁴ So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

The rock that Jesus speaks of is the revelation, revealed by God Himself through Peter, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God!!! There is no other foundation, there is no other way for men and women to be saved, to have all sins forgiven, to enter into the family of God or Heaven itself.

Acts 4:8-12 NKJV: ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: ⁹ If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, ¹⁰ let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. ¹¹ This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ ¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

John 14:6 NKJV: ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

A church, the people of God, that is unsure, doubtful, compromising, or double minded about this foundation or departs from it will be no match for the gates of Hades (the plans, deception, attacks, and powers of the kingdom of darkness). If, for example, Jesus is declared or seen as anyone less than the divine Son of God, or only as a way to salvation or Heaven, then the sure foundation is thereby shaky, cracked, false, and deceptive. There is a great urgency today that this foundation be firm and secure.

1 Corinthians 3:9-17 NKJV: ⁹ For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

¹⁷ If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

***We must build our lives on this foundation, we build with Word of God.**

Matthew 7:24-27 NKJV: ²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

James 1:22 NKJV: ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.