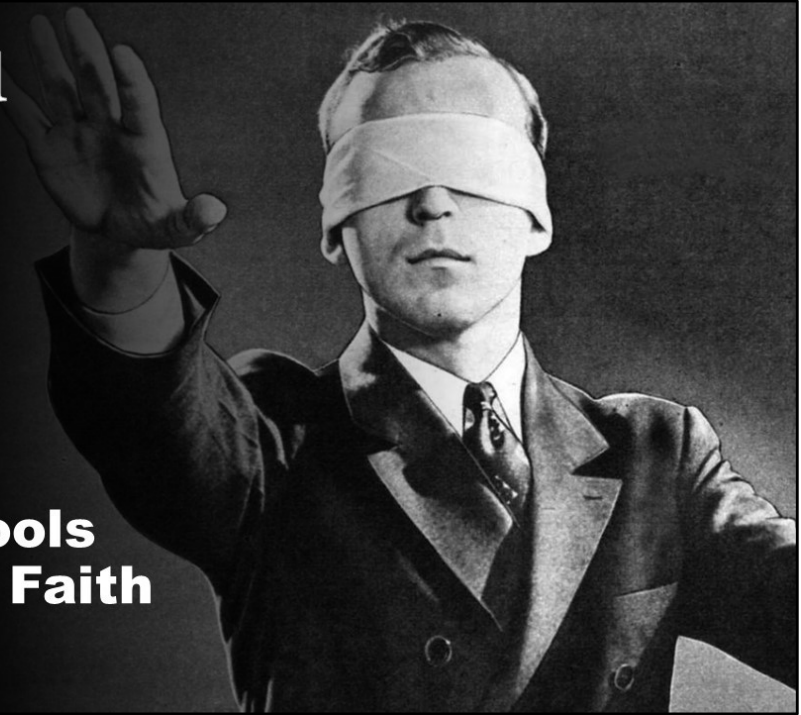


**I was Blind
but Now I
see:
Reasons
to Believe**

**Answering fools
with facts and Faith**



**“the followers
of the Way”**

**Reasons to
believe in
Christianity
over...**



Act 9:2 NLT - He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them--both men and women--back to Jerusalem in chains.

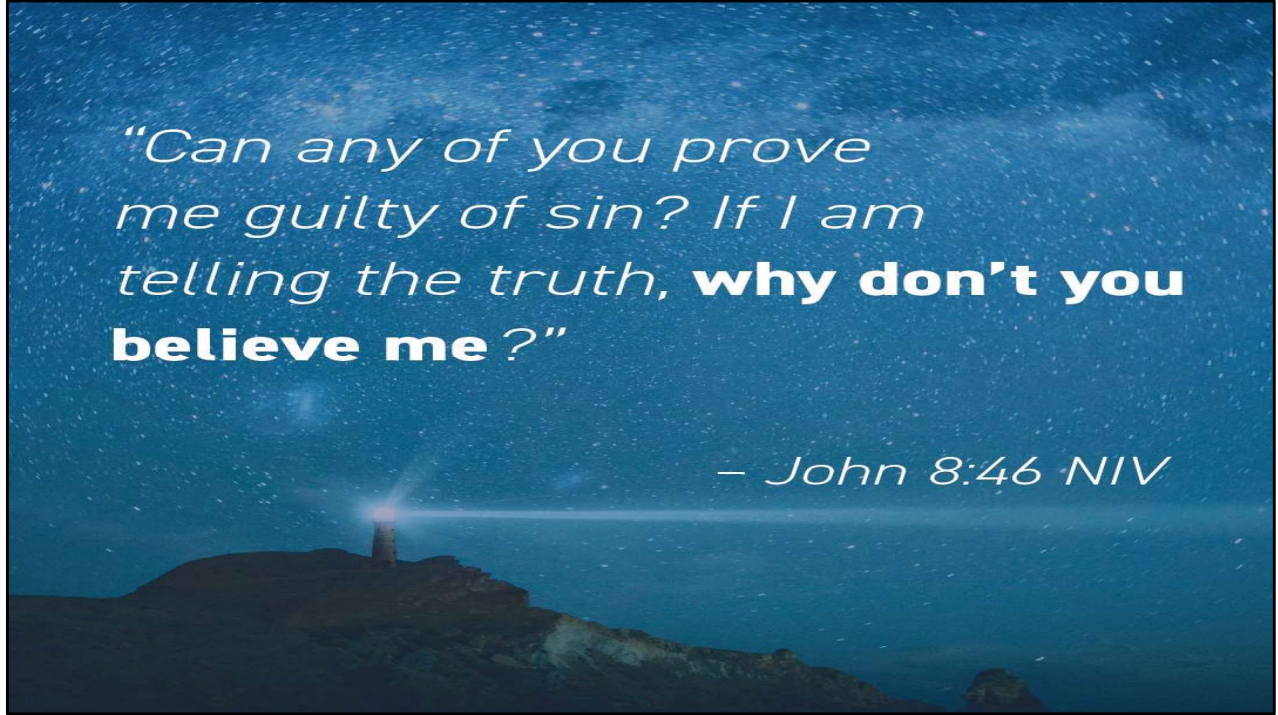
Act 22:4 NLT - And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison.



1. Jesus!

- The credibility of the founder/the person of Christ Himself
- The Cradle – Incarnation, God/man
- The Character – Sinless, Savior
- The Cross – Atonement
- The Crown – every knee will bow

1. **Jesus!** The credibility of the founder/the person of Christ Himself
 - a. A virgin born, hunted and harassed boy of a peasant family won the fanatical loyalty of fishermen and confounded the Religious elite and their Roman oppressors and the world!
 - b. Jesus dared anyone to find sin in Him. Jn.8:46
 - c. His murderous oppressors declared Him innocent!
 - d. He made it clear He is God! Jn.5, 7, 8
 - e. No other Religious leader dared to say He was sinless!!
 - f. Even Muslims, Gandhi and others revere Christ!



*"Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, **why don't you believe me?**"*

- John 8:46 NIV

Who would dare to invite such scrutiny?

Jhn 8:56 NASB20 - "Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day, and he saw it and rejoiced."

Jhn 8:57 NASB20 - So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and You have seen Abraham?"

Jhn 8:58 NASB20 - Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."

Jhn 8:59 NASB20 - Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and left the temple grounds.

“

So I cast my lot with him-not
the one who claimed wisdom,
Confucius; or the one who
claimed enlightenment,
Buddha; or the one who claimed to be a prophet,
Muhammad,
but with the one who claimed to
be God in human flesh.
The one who declared, 'Before Abraham was born,
I am' - and proved it.

DR. NORMAN GEISLER



2. The Bible.

- **Jesus affirmed the Bible is God's word and endures forever!**
- **Jesus quoted scripture 80x**
- **Jesus said it spoke of Him!**
- **1st in Publishing, circ. Popularity...**
- **Outlawed in 50+ countries**
- **Studied, read and lived by**

2. The Bible. The authority and integrity of the Holy Scriptures and the historical record
Gutenberg Bible 1450

Muslims believe that the Quran was orally revealed by God to the final prophet, Muhammad, through the archangel Gabriel (Jibril), incrementally over a period of some 23 years, beginning in the month of Ramadan, when Muhammad was 40; and concluding in 632, the year of his death.

**DO not think that I came to abolish
the LAW or the PROPHETS**



Knowing-Jesus.com

I did not come to abolish but to Fulfill.

Matthew 5:17

Mat 5:17 NASB20 - "Do not presume that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill.

Mat 5:18 NASB20 - "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke of a letter shall pass from the Law, until all is accomplished!

Mat 5:19 NASB20 - "Therefore, whoever nullifies one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:20 NASB20 - "For I say to you that unless your righteousness far surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

THIS MESSAGE IS ILLEGAL
IN 52 COUNTRIES. RESTRICTED NATIONS: 38 HOSTILE AREAS: 14

I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL, BECAUSE IT IS THE **POWER OF GOD**

THE SALVATION OF EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES. ROMANS 1:16

RESTRICTED NATIONS:

- AFGHANISTAN
- ALGERIA
- AZERBAIJAN
- BAHRAIN
- BANGLADESH
- BELARUS
- BHUTAN
- BURUNDI
- CHINA
- COMOROS
- CUBA
- EGYPT
- EMIRATES
- IRAN
- IRAQ
- KENYA
- LIBYA
- MALAYSIA
- MYANMAR
- NEPAL
- RUSSIA
- SYRIA
- TURKEY
- UZBEKISTAN
- VENEZUELA
- YEMEN

HOSTILE AREAS:

- CHIAPAS (MEXICO)
- COLOMBIA
- ETHIOPIA
- GAZA AND THE WEST BANK
- INDIA
- INDONESIA
- JORDAN
- KYRGYZSTAN
- LEBANON
- MINDANAO (PHILIPPINES)
- NEPAL
- NGERIA
- SRI LANKA
- TURKEY

If the Bible is just a book of fairy-tales, then why is it banned in at least 52 countries?

HOLY BIBLE

No one goes to jail for reading the Iliad, the Odyssey, or Snow White!

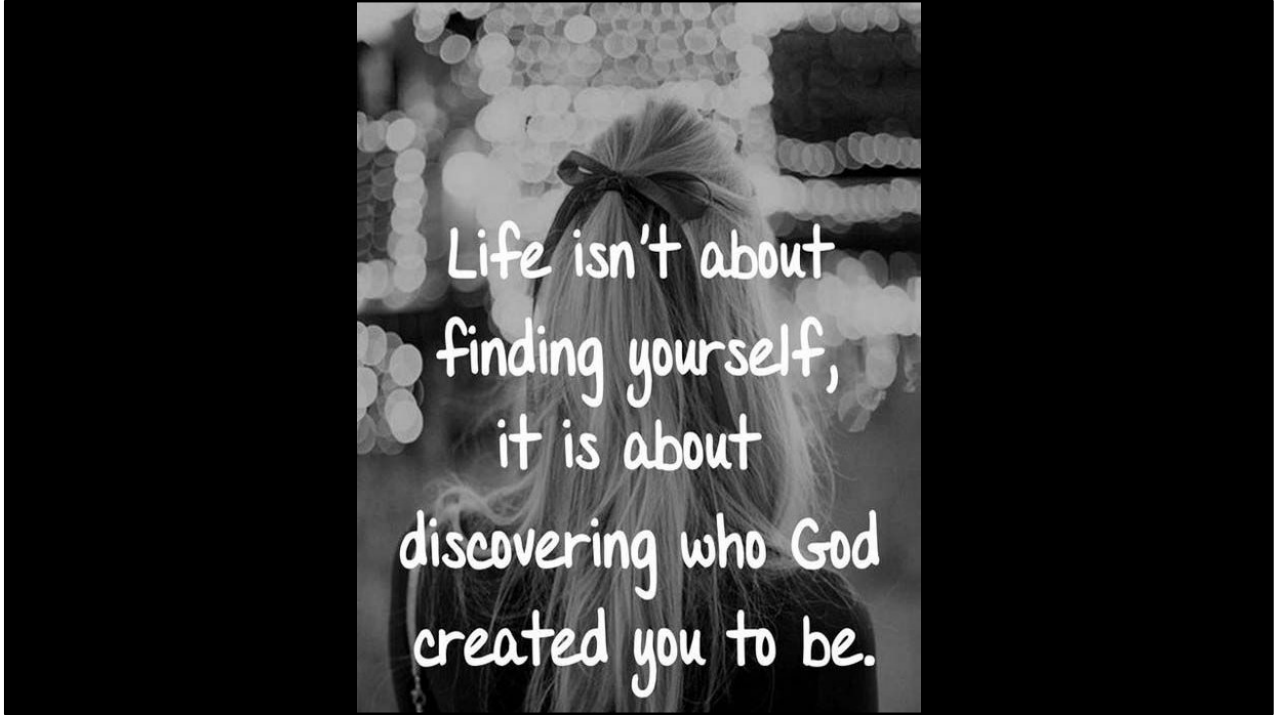
 [jesusisoflifestyle](https://www.facebook.com/jesusisoflifestyle)

3. Truth

- Monotheism/Triune God
- Creation vs. evolution
- male and female, He created them.
- 10 commandments, morality
- Nature of man – sinner
- Problem of Evil
- Eternal life...

1. **Truth.** Its counter cultural explanations for foundational principles of Life.
2. Gen 1:27 NASB20 - So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
3. Gen 5:2 He created them male and female, and He blessed them and named them "mankind" on the day when they were created.
4. Pilate asked what is truth
5. Jesus Said I am the way the truth! Jn.14

6. The bible and the early church did more for women and the oppressed than any other ideology!
7. It has always been people of faith who did more for the disenfranchised than anyone else: Wilberforce, the abolitionist movement, Hospitals, relief works, Leper colonies, orphanages....
8. Even today, most Rehab programs steal from the 12 step program originating in Biblical principles!
9. The golden rule has always been considered the best measure, by all societies, up until now!

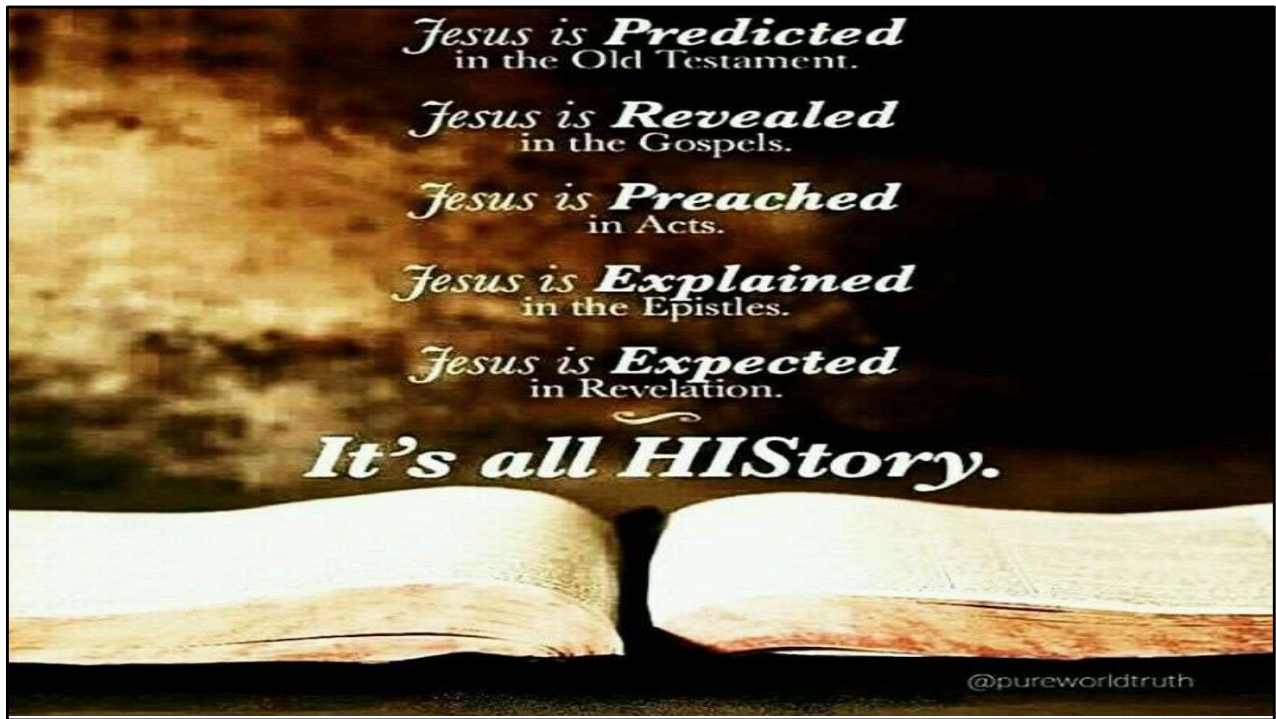


My purpose in life

4. History's consistency.

- **Abraham's call, Father of faith**
- **Israel- God's people**
- **History is centered on Christ, B.C.**
- **Archaeology cry's out!**
- **Historians herald His handiwork**
- **Nations come and go, Christianity continues, spreads to all peoples**

1. **History's consistency.** The scarlet thread of redemption traces throughout history



Alistair Begg

5. A spiritual Kingdom.

- **Acts 4:13** Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. (10 of Apostles martyred)
- **Luke 14, Matthew 6:33**

5. A spiritual Kingdom. Not driven by politics or rebellion but a higher call.
6. Its transformational power
7. Its impact on the world.

ITS FOUNDATIONAL CLAIM. The first Christians were not driven by political or religious dissent. Their primary issues were not moral or social. They were not well-credentialed theologians or social philosophers. They were witnesses. They risked their lives to tell the world that with their own eyes they had seen an innocent man die and then miraculously walk among them 3 days later (Acts 5:17-42). Their argument was very concrete. Jesus was crucified under the Roman governor Pontius Pilate. His body was buried and sealed in a borrowed tomb. Guards were posted to prevent grave tampering. Yet after 3 days the tomb was empty and witnesses were risking their lives to declare that He was alive

Social Ministry

“Atheism [i.e. Christian faith] has been specially advanced through the loving service rendered to strangers, and through their care for the burial of the dead. It is a scandal that there is not a single Jew who is a beggar, and that the godless Galileans care not only for their own poor but for ours as well; while those who belong to us look in vain for the help that we should render them.” -Emperor Julian the Apostate (4th Century)

6. It's message of grace

- **The power of Forgiveness!**
- **Humility rules!**
- **Substitutionary atonement**
- **A new definition of Love! Amazing!**
- **Heaven reaching down! Not man up**
- **We can't earn our salvation!**

Its message of **grace** and **forgiveness**.

Thief on Cross

Saul the persecutor

Modern day Terrorists coming to Christ



CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG

OTHER RELIGIONS REQUIRE YOU
TO WORK YOUR WAY TO GOD.
IN CHRISTIANITY, GOD CAME
TO MEET US.

Christianity is unique in that it offers a savior.
All other religious leaders are mere examples
and teachers, now dead and in the grave.



7. A Risen Lord

- **Jesus predicted and embraced the Cross!**
- **He conquered the grave!**
- **His own disciples fled him until the Resurrection, then lived, preached and died for Him!**
- **Acts 17, 1 Corinthians 15, Revelation 1**

Bullet points are pre-formatted for size



They can't all be true.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

- Jesus

(John 14:6)

Are Christians arrogant?

- To think Christianity is best?
- To exalt Jesus above others?
- To believe there is only 1 way?
- Acts 4:12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among mankind by which we must be saved."

Hindus persecute Christians

Buddhists committed Kamikaze strikes

Muslims spread religion with the Sword, terrorize, rape, slaughter...

Atheists Socialists have brutalized the world 100 million dead

Immoral godless secularists demand Equality act, forcing Christian's to conform against their conscience

Exo 15:11 NASB20 - "Who is like You among the gods, LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?"

Deu 5:7 NASB20 - "You shall have no other gods besides Me."

Deu 6:14 NASB20 - "You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you,"

Jos 24:18 NASB20 - "The LORD drove out from before us all the peoples, even the Amorites who lived in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

Jos 24:19 NASB20 - Then Joshua said to the people, "You will not be able to serve the LORD, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your wrongdoing or your sins."

Jos 24:20 NASB20 - "If you abandon the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and destroy you after He has done good to you."

Psa 81:9 NASB20 - "There shall be no strange god among you; Nor shall you worship a foreign god.

Isa 43:10 NASB20 - "You are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, So that you may know and believe Me And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me.

Isa 45:21 NASB20 - "Declare and present your case; Indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this long ago? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me.

Isa 45:22 NASB20 - "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.

Isa 46:9 NASB20 - "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me,

1Co 8:4 NASB20 - Therefore, concerning the eating of food sacrificed to idols, we know that an idol is nothing at all in the world, and that there is no God but one.

1Co 8:6 NASB20 - yet for us there is only one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.

**JESUS IS NOT ONE OF
THE WAYS.
JESUS IS NOT THE BEST
OF SEVERAL WAYS.
JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY
TO GOD.**

Contradictory Truth Claims Regarding “Salvation”



Christianity– by faith alone in Christ alone



Islam– by belief in Allah, his prophet Muhammad, and good works



Hinduism– by overcoming karma and reincarnations with good works



Buddhism– by cessation of desire through eight-fold path

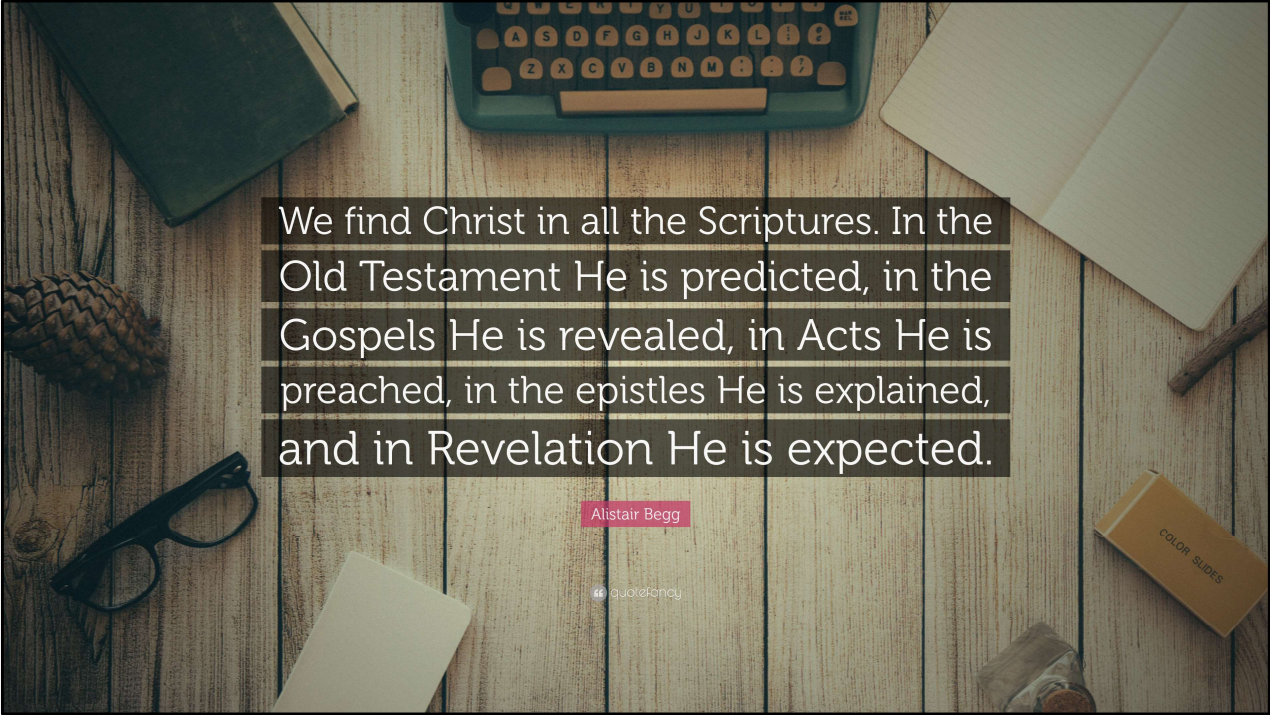


Humanism– by education in this life (no afterlife)

Christianity is not about good people getting better. If anything, it is good news for bad people coping with their failure to be good. The heart of the Christian faith is Good News, not good advice, good technique, or good behavior. Too many people have walked away from the church, not because they're walking away from Jesus, but because the church has walked away from Jesus.

Tullian Tchividjian

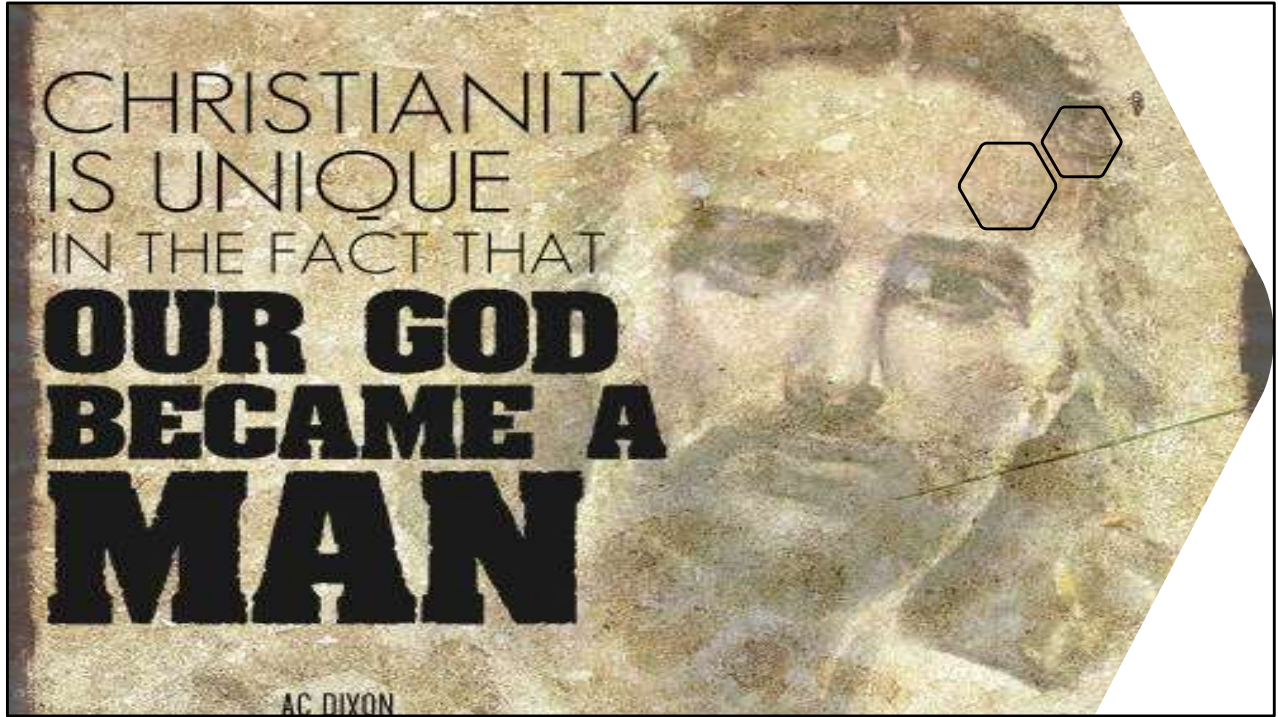
www.idlehearts.com

A top-down view of a wooden desk with various items: a green typewriter, a dark green book, a pinecone, a pair of black glasses, a white notepad, a yellow notepad, a pencil, and a small box labeled 'COLOR SLIDES'.

We find Christ in all the Scriptures. In the Old Testament He is predicted, in the Gospels He is revealed, in Acts He is preached, in the epistles He is explained, and in Revelation He is expected.

Alistair Begg

quoteFancy



**NOWHERE DO JESUS OR THE APOSTLES EVER TREAT THE OLD
TESTAMENT AS HUMAN REFLECTIONS ON THE DIVINE. IT IS INSTEAD THE
VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ACTS 4:25; HEB. 3:7) AND GOD'S OWN
BREATH (2 TIM. 3:16).**

~ AUTHOR: KEVIN DEYOUNG



THE BIBLE
JESUS QUOTED

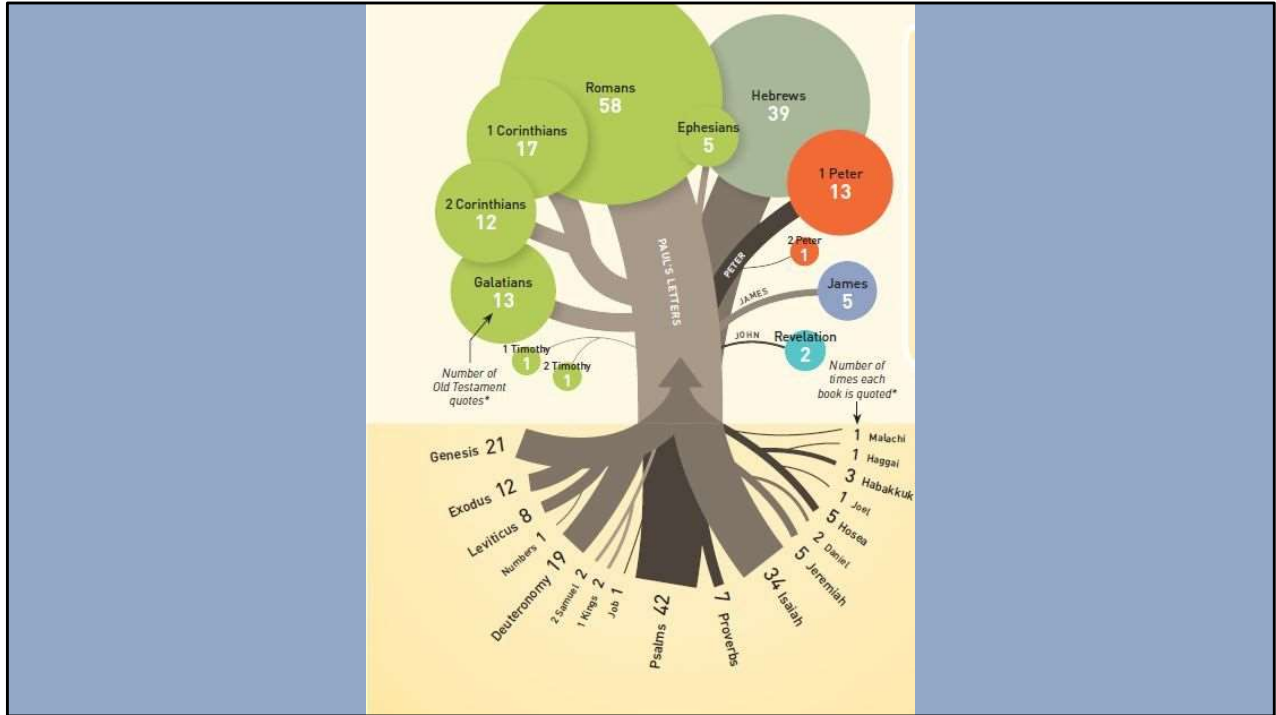
EXODUS, ISAIAH, DEUTERONOMY & PSALMS

♥ *Jesus*

1-Minute
Bible Love
Notes



Christ fulfilled hundreds of Old Testament prophecies ... beyond what any human mind could conceive. And every prophecy was a **whisper** from God, calling us to believe.



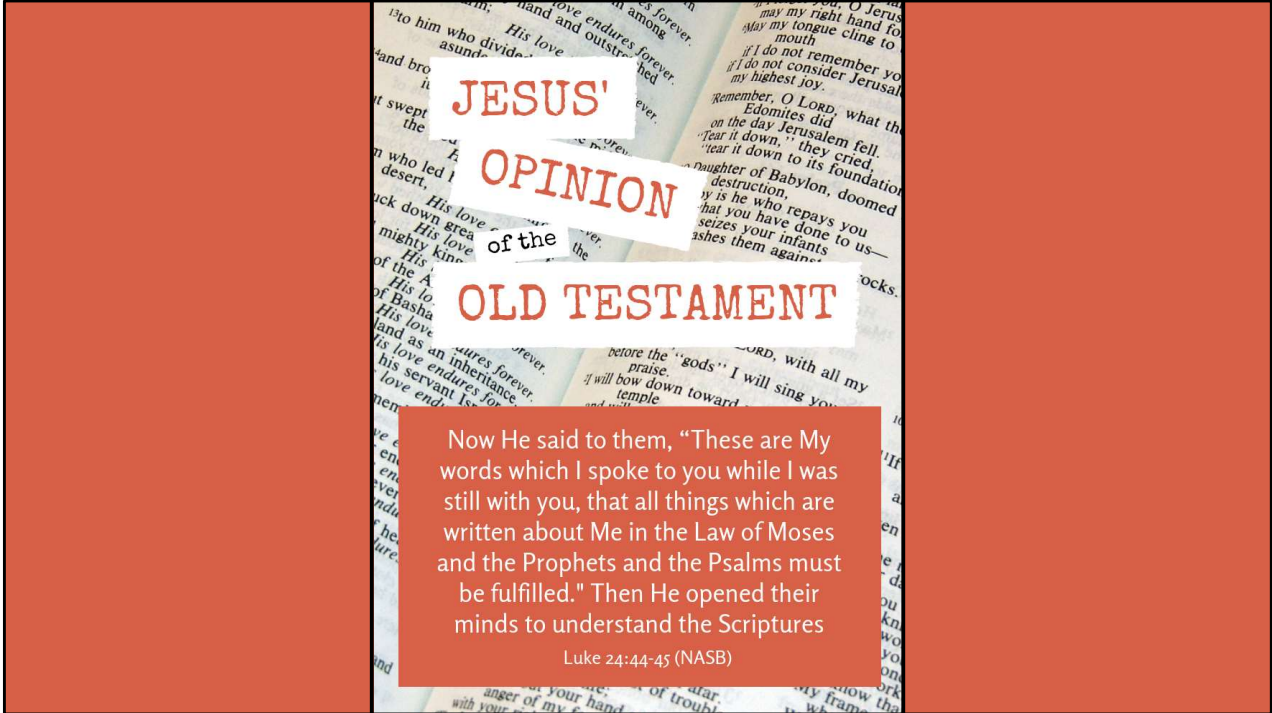
FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

PROPHECIES ABOUT CHRIST'S LIFE

PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14)	BORN OF A VIRGIN After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found with child of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18)
Out of you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, shall come forth the One to be Ruler in Israel (Micah 5:2)	BORN IN BETHLEHEM Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea (Matthew 2:1)
The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding (Isaiah 11:2)	FAMED FOR WISDOM Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men (Luke 2:52)
He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth (Isaiah 53:5)	LIVED A SINLESS LIFE Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth (1 Peter 2:22)
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. The lame shall leap like a deer (Isaiah 35:5-6)	HEALED THE NEEDY The blind saw and the lame walk, the lame are cleansed and the deaf hear (Matthew 11:5)
The Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor (Isaiah 61:1)	PREACHED GOOD NEWS The poor have the gospel preached to them (Matthew 11:5)
Behold, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey (Zechariah 9:9)	ENTERED JERUSALEM IN TRIUMPH They brought the colt to Jesus, and He sat on it. . . . Then those who followed, crying, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" (Mark 11:7-9)

PROPHECIES ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION

PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
My own familiar friend in whom I trusted has struck me on the cheek against my face (Psalm 41:9)	BETRAYED BY A FRIEND Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him (Mark 14:10)
They weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12)	SOLD FOR THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver (Matthew 26:15)
I was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth (Isaiah 53:7)	SILENT WHEN ACCUSED Pilate asked, "See how many things they testify against you?" But Jesus still answered nothing (Mark 15:5-6)
I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting (Isaiah 50:6)	BEATEN AND SPAT UPON Then some began to spit on Him, and the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands (Mark 14:65)
I was numbered with the transgressors (Isaiah 53:12)	CRUCIFIED WITH SINNERS With Him they also crucified two robbers (Mark 15:27)
They will look on Me whom they pierced (Zechariah 12:10)	HIS SIDE PIERCED But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear (John 19:34)
He made His grave with the rich at His death (Isaiah 53:9)	BURIED WITH THE RICH A rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, asked for the body of Jesus. Then Joseph laid it in his own new tomb (Matthew 27:57-60)
You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption (Psalm 16:10)	ROSE FROM THE DEAD The angel said to them, "You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen!" (Mark 16:6)
You have ascended on high (Psalm 68:18)	ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN He was received up into heaven (Mark 16:19)
The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand" (Psalm 110:1)	EXALTED AT GOD'S RIGHT HAND Jesus Christ has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God (1 Peter 3:22)



JESUS' OPINION of the OLD TESTAMENT

Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures

Luke 24:44-45 (NASB)

How familiar was Jesus with the Bible?

How many times does Jesus in the Gospels quote the Old Testament?
Can you guess?

- ▶ **He was very familiar:**
84 times, from at least 16 of 46 OT books.
- ▶ From 600 and 3,000 direct quotes, paraphrases, allegories to the OT in Gospels and other writings of the NT.
- ▶ NT quotes Isaiah at least 85 times
- ▶ **Jesus is recorded reading the bible to his listeners**
(Lk 4: 16-20)

Buddha never claimed to be God. Moses never claimed to be Jehovah. Mohammed never claimed to be Allah. **Yet Jesus Christ claimed to be the true and living God.** Buddha simply said, "I am a teacher in search of the truth." **Jesus said, "I am the Truth."** Confucius said, "I never claimed to be holy." **Jesus said, "Who convicts me of sin?"** Mohammed said, "Unless God throws his cloak of mercy over me, I have no hope." **Jesus said, "Unless you believe in me, you will die in your sins."**



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