

Listed under Government 2 - Christianity, Translations, Denominations, Cults, Religions, and Governments.

This document addresses: Christianity, Translations, Denominations, Cults, Religions, and Governments.

Books have been written on these topics but I will condense these topics by categories to provide a general understanding of these topics.

Background

Satan wants to be God. This is what you need to keep in the back of your mind. All of our trouble comes from Satan.

Satan is referred as Satan, Devil, Demons, World, and World-System. Satan came to steal, kill, and destroy. Nothing is to be exalted over God. Satan uses cults, religions, and government to be exalted over God.

In the Last Days Satan/Devils/Demons will try to deceive the Church. The main area of deception is the area of the Godhead (trinity). Be aware! Second area of deception is the soul (mind, will, and emotions). Be aware! The third area of deception is the physical body. Be aware!

There is a sender (God by His Word & Holy Spirit through Grace), receiver (us through Faith), and deceiver (Satan through deceiving us by twisting the Truth).

You have often heard, What is the "meaning of life"? God has given me the answer and the answer is "LOVE". For God so loved the world... See John 3:16. For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. See 2 Timothy 1:7.

God gave us the Bible to instruct us. God gave us the Holy Spirit to give us power and build a relationship with us. We only need to listen and obey.

Satan use Fear to get to man. God use Love to get to man.

Man uses Cults and Religions to find God. God uses Christianity to find man.

Christianity

The basic definition is a belief in the Trinity (especially Jesus), virgin birth, sin, salvation of our souls and everything else by grace (not works).

God is three persons: Father (I AM), Son (Jesus), and Holy Spirit (the Comforter). God loves us and wants a relationship.

Being a Christian is a "religion" different than any religion because God loves us first and He conquered the grave. That is why we have *Christmas* and *Easter*.

In fact, Christianity is more than a "religion". It is revelation that brings forth transformation!

He first loved us. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Being a Christian is two levels. The two levels are: going to Heaven (fire insurance) and building a relationship (being guided by the Holy Spirit and by reading and doing the actions in the Holy Bible). The first part is easy to accomplish, the second part may take a life time to accomplish. Bible means Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.

Being a Christian does not mean there are no consequences to our actions (good or bad). It requires less effort to prevent a problem than to fix a problem. Being guided by the Holy Spirit and by reading and doing the actions in the Holy Bible will prevent problems in our life.

Only God has created the atom(s), universe(s) and is everywhere at once. He is multi-dimension and has created time. He is every good thing. He is *love*.

Love is: patient, kind, does not envy, does not boast, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking, not easily angered, keeps no record of wrongs, does not delight in evil, rejoices with the truth, always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres, and never fails.

The One who rose from the grave after 3 days said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6. God the Son came as a sinless man. Philippians 2:5-8. He gave up His human life to save ours. He said that His death was the only acceptable payment for sin. He is our ONLY way to God. He died to give our spirit eternal life. Without Him, we are spiritually dead. Ephesians 2:1-2.

By definition, the word **grace** means unmerited, unearned, undeserved favor. Therefore, the **good news is, grace has nothing to do with you**. Grace existed before you ever came to be. Another way of saying it is, grace is God's part. Faith is defined as being a positive response to what God has already provided by grace. In other words, faith is your positive response to God's grace, or **faith only appropriates what God has already provided for you**. Therefore, faith is your part.

Grace and faith work together, and they must be in balance. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

With Christianity, your sins are forgiven, the slate is wiped clean and your eternal life is guaranteed through nothing you did yourself, even though you don't deserve it. It's the best deal in the universe.

The Gentiles and the Jews makes up the Church. The Church is the believers in Jesus Christ.

Translations

The original Bible was written in Hebrew (Aramaic), Greek, and Latin. Not many people could read or had access to those versions. Now the Bible is written in all languages.

The most common translation is the King James Version (KJV), translated in 1611 by 54 translators. Other common versions are: New International Version (NIV), New American Standard Bible (NASB), New Living Translation (NLT), and the Amplified Bible (AB). The Bible has been translated over 20 times and can be read by all people.

The Bible consists of 66 books, divided by the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament represents information before Jesus Christ. The Old Testament consists of: law, history, poetry, major prophets, and minor prophets. The New Testament consists of: gospels, history, Paul's letters to the Church, Paul's letters to Friends, and general letters including the book of Revelation written by John.

Denominations

Why are there so many Denominations?

Each Denomination consists of the same belief and basic understanding of the scriptures. The major difference between the Denominations is the level of revelation given to each Church. Example, some Churches believe in Speaking in Tongues while others do not. Simple, if Gods said it, believe it! God never said we have to understand everything, just obey. Just like the stove, you may not understand how it works but you believe it is hot to the touch.

Some Denominations includes, but are not limited too, Catholic, Church of England, Methodists Baptists, Lutheran, Congregational, Amish, Quakers, Church of Christ, Church of God, Pentecostal, and Non Denominational.

The World is divided into three parts: Christianity, Cults & Religions, and Secular. Secular are people that are not concerned about anything Spiritual.

Most Denominations teach some Truths but not all the Truths. All Truths includes, but not limited too, are: Bible, God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Faith, Grace, Mercy, Love, Justice, Righteousness, Holiness, Wisdom, Peace, and Self Control.

It is not the Denominations that counts but the Relationship with God that counts.

Cults

Most of these people are good, but wrong. Cults think they are Christians.

Think of a wheel that is round on all sides. A box is made up of 90 degree sides. The box says, look at me I'm a wheel. No, you're a box. That is an illustration of a Cult.

The most common Cults, but not limited too, are: Mormons, Jehovah's Witness, and New Age. Other Cults are: Baha'i, Christian Science, Hare Krishna, Occult Churches, Scientology, Transcendental Meditation, The Unification Church, Unity School of Christianity, The Way International, and The Worldwide Church of God.

All Cults and false Religions have a different understanding of Jesus and all believe works over grace.

Religions

The most common false Religions, but not limited too, are: Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Atheism. We are related to Judaism. Judaism believes in the law of the Old Testament and is looking for the Messiah (Jesus Christ). Judaism does not believe in the New Testament. The Torah represents the first 5 books (law) of the Old Testament and was written by Moses.

Islam is a false religion. Islam is a blend of Religion and Government. The Quran (Koran) is their Bible. Allah is the God of Islam. Islam is fear based. Their prophet is Mohammad. The followers of Islam are called Muslims. Islam was has its roots in *Abraham and Ishmael*. Muslims believe in Shah Law. Muslims treat women worst than dog meat.

Hinduism is a false religion. The core of Hinduism is the belief in Brahman, the underlying universal life force that encompasses and embodies existence. According to Hindu scriptures, one's ignorance of the true nature of the self as one with Brahman is what traps one in the cycle of endless death and reincarnation.

Buddhism is a false religion. Buddhism is similar to Hinduism. Most individuals go through many cycles of birth, living, death and rebirth. A practicing Buddhist differentiates between the concepts of rebirth and reincarnation. In reincarnation, the individual may recur repeatedly. In rebirth, a person does not necessarily return to Earth as the same entity ever again. After many such cycles, if a person releases their attachment to desire and the self, they can attain Nirvana. This is a state of liberation and freedom from suffering.

Atheism is a false religion. Atheism is a belief in no God.

Governments

There are three basic economic systems and many political systems.

The three main economic systems are: Capitalism, Socialism, and Communism. Socialism and Communism are similar. Both Socialism and Communism promotes the Will of the government over the people. The people have little to gain by working hard.

Socialism only works in two places: Heaven where they don't need it and hell where they already have it."
Ronald Reagan.

Capitalism

In a capitalist or free-market economy, people own their own businesses and property and must buy services for private use, such as healthcare.

Socialism

Socialist governments own many of the larger industries and provide education, health and welfare services while allowing citizens some economic choices

Communism

In a communist country, the government owns all businesses and farms and provides its people's healthcare, education and welfare.

Political Systems:

Dictatorship(Iraq) - Rule by a single leader who has not been elected and may use force to keep control. In a military dictatorship, the army is in control. Usually, there is little or no attention to public opinion or individual rights.

Totalitarian (China) - Rule by a single political party. People are forced to do what the government tells them and may also be prevented from leaving the country.

Theocracy (Iran) - A form of government where the rulers claim to be ruling on behalf of a set of religious ideas, or as direct agents of a deity.

Monarchy (Jordan) - A monarchy has a king or queen, who sometimes has absolute power. Power is passed along through the family.

Parliamentary (Israel) - A parliamentary system is led by representatives of the people. Each is chosen as a member of a political party and remains in power as long as his/her party does.

Republic (USA) - A republic is led by representatives of the voters. Each is individually chosen for a set period of time.

Revolutionary (USA, France, USSR etc) - The existing structure is overthrown by a completely new group. The new group can be very small (such as the military), or very large (as in a popular revolution). After a period of time, this 'becomes' one of the other types of government (unless there is another coup or uprising).

Totalitarian (North Korea) - Rule by a single political party. Votes for alternative candidates and parties are simply not allowed. Citizens are allowed and 'encouraged' to vote, but only for the government's chosen candidates.

Oligarchy/Plutocracy (Pakistan) - A form of government which consists of rule by an elite group who rule in their own interests, especially the accumulation of wealth and privilege. Only certain members of society have a valid voice in the government. This can reflect (but is not limited to) economic interests, a particular religious tradition (theocracy), or familial rule (monarchy).

Democracy (India) - In a democracy, the government is elected by the people. Everyone who is eligible to vote - which is a majority of the population - has a chance to have their say over who runs the country.

Anarchy (Afghanistan) - Rule by a single leader who has not been elected and may use force to keep control. In a military dictatorship, the army is in control. Usually, there is little or no attention to public opinion or individual rights.

REMEMBER: nearly every country in the world is ruled by a system that combines 2 or more of these (for example, the USA is not a true capitalist society, since the government actually provides some services for its citizens). Additionally, one person's opinion of the type of government may differ from another's (many argue that the USA is actually a Republic and a Democracy).

The USA is a super-power only because of God. If we turn our back on God we will become a third world nation. The USA is at the cross roads of history.

Conclusion

The events of the day are based upon the World-System. The World says to prosper one must be/get into debt. God says to prosper one must give. Owe no man anything but Love.

The World-System is based upon debt. Our government (USA) has just spent a boat-load of money to buy our way to propensity. Greece is trying socialism and it does not work. The World-System is based upon debt.

Our focus is doing the things that will help save souls (guided by the Holy Spirit) and vote like Christians/Americans. We should love the things that God loves and hate the things that God hates...Love the sinner and hate the sin should be our motto. Obedience to God is the plan to carry out. . In the long run "souls" are all that counts.

What is more important is what God wants us to do today, now! If we focus on God and now, tomorrow will take care of itself.

Jesus is not at the top... He is the top.
His name is above all other names:
His Reign is above all other rulers:
His Lordship is above all other authorities:
His Words are above all other voices:

His Truth is above all other opinions:
His Love is above all other affections.

The best thing that you can do today is to trust Jesus Christ.
He sits at the right hand of the Father – nothing is above Him.
He has all authority – nothing can usurp Him.
He has all wisdom – nothing can outsmart Him.
He is sovereign – nothing can frustrate Him.

Jesus is the Word, the Name, and the Blood. We do best when we think of these three things.

Mike