

Not All Christians Are the Same

Introduction:

1. The reason for our church is God seeking true worshippers (John 4:23-24). Let us beware of sliding.
2. If the point of this study is not true, we should disband and join other “Christian” churches in town.
3. We say we are as thankful as Jacob for truth (Gen 32:10). Are we as dogmatic as Paul (Gal 1:6-9)?
4. Remember studying the ancient landmarks? Churches slide all the way to heresy, one inch at a time.
5. Many call themselves Christians: it is our duty as Bible Christians to fully measure them by scripture.
6. How dogmatic is your love of truth? Christ and it are the ties that bind. Truth does not leave room to play with error (Ps 119:128; Is 30:8-11; Matt 5:17-20; II Cor 10:4-6; Titus 3:10-11; Jude 1:3).
7. If our church were in Bahrain or India, the religious differences would be distinct and consequential.
8. But God has called us to turn away from carnal and contemporary Christianity (II Timothy 3:1 – 4:4)!
9. It is easy to get caught in the web of deceit that any nice person loving Jesus is a good Christian.
10. Are some of these so-called Christians nice? Super nice? Exceptionally nice? Cool? Of course!
11. God has chosen the poor, foolish, weak, base, and despised for His elect (James 2:5; I Cor 1:26-29).
12. Paul warned clearly about another Jesus, another spirit, and another gospel (II Cor 11:3-4,13-15).
13. God demanded details in the O.T. (Lev 10:1-2; Num 20:7-12; Deut 5:32; 12:32; I Chr 15:13; etc.).
14. God demanded details in the N.T. (Matt 28:20; I Cor 11:16; II Thess 2:15; 3:6,10-11,14; etc.).
15. It is very hard for our children to see the differences, due to lack of experience with these Christians.
16. Remember, the “evil communications corrupt” warning was inside the Corinth church (I Cor 15:33).
17. To the degree you relax your doctrinal dogmatism is the degree you will surely corrupt good manners.
18. What does it mean, if we say, “I know they sprinkle babies, but they are good, nice Christians I like”?
19. What will keep you from saying, “I know they deny any burning hell, but they are good Christians”?
20. What will keep you from saying, “They say Jesus is not God, but they are Jesus-loving Christians”?
21. We could and should repeat this question over and over with the ancient landmarks condensed below.
22. Once you start down the road that anyone using Jesus’ name is good, where and how will you stop?
23. Once you start down the road that anyone “morally good” is a good Christian, where will you stop?
24. Some of the nicest and most “morally good” people in the world are not Christians at all! So what!
25. So what if some Christians or worldlings are happy and successful! Asaph clears it up (Ps 73:1-28).
26. You may take 99% of professing Christians and prove them heretics by one or more points below.
27. We are not hitting cults like Islam, SDA, JW, LDS, RCC, but rather traditional Christians, though there are very nice Muslims, Adventists, Mormons, and Catholics to deceive fools there as well.
28. Heretics are not much better than pagans, for the similarities make them more dangerous than pagans.
29. Not all Christian heretics are going to hell. That is not the point. All Christians must avoid heresy.
30. Why be close and communicating friends with anyone we could not marry? Why the compromise?
31. Must we only turn away from those with all 19 traits of II Tim 3:1-5? 15 of them? Or only 1 of them?
32. We work with these Christians, school with them, or buy from them, but we must finally turn away.
33. Which ancient landmark of God is pointless enough that we can hang out with its public enemies?
34. Do you know what you must compromise to befriend a “good Christian family”? Read on below.
35. If you think Arminian Baptists are super nice, you need to meet some nice Catholics or Mormons.
36. Right or wrong is not a bad alternative! In fact, is there any other view? I agree to love you wrong?
37. If we hang out with those who love Jesus and hate doctrinal strictness, how strict will we finally be?
38. The most religious people were Jesus Christ’s greatest enemies, not the Philistines, Romans, etc.
39. The Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women to oppose the apostle Paul (Acts 13:50).
40. Each of the following points, or ancient landmarks of our faith, may be expanded with many points.

	Conservative	Contemporary	Liberal
<u>Truth</u> 1. Does it matter what a person believes? 2. Should we separate over doctrine? 3. Should we call heretics, heretics?	Only fundamentals If it makes a stink If they are liberals	No, if they love Jesus No, Jesus loves peace No, names are bad	No, if they give What is doctrine? If conservatives
<u>Bible Authority</u> 1. Which Bible has God's inspired words? 2. Can we argue doctrine at the word level? 3. Is the Bible relevant and binding today?	Originals (now lost) Hebrew and Greek In historical context	<i>The Message</i> & others Pick best sound bites Only as general guide	A nice thought We do not argue Of course not
<u>Baptism</u> 1. Is it okay to baptize newborn infants? 2. Is it okay to baptize by sprinkling? 3. Does baptism save?	I'm Baptist. I'm not. I'm Baptist. I'm not. I'm Baptist. I'm not.	If they love Jesus Its water that counts It may or may not	Does not matter Does not matter Save from what?
<u>Salvation</u> 1. Does God love everyone equally? 2. Is man illiterate, sick, or dead? 3. Which is greater? Freewill or grace? 4. Which first? Regeneration, conversion? 5. Seven Proofs of unconditional salvation 6. Five Phases of salvation (<i>ordo salutis</i>) 7. Election and predestination 8. Limited Atonement 9. Neither Calvinists or Arminians 10. Abuse of texts like Revelation 3:20	God loves sinners Sick, needing meds Freewill Conversion Man must have role Saved = saved Seldom Seldom One or the other Constant	God is love Unhappy, needing joy Freewill Conversion Men are not helpless Just be happy! Never Never Impractically divisive Often	Love is God Illiterate Grace saves all What are they? Universalism Phases? of what? Universalism Universalism Irrelevant No texts used
<u>Prophecy</u> 1. Is it okay to believe Daniel is all future? 2. Is Matthew 24 and related passages past? 3. Who comes first? Christ or Antichrist? 4. Is prophecy a nonessential without value?	Sure, it is all future No, they are future Christ in the rapture If it is a hard passage	Da 7-12? Don't know See "Left Behind" Christ in the rapture Definitely in details	It is not inspired Who really cares Give to UNICEF Prophecy of what?
<u>Evangelism – Bible Means & Purpose</u>			
<u>Preeminence of Jesus over All Else</u>			
<u>Jesus Is Jehovah God by All Measures</u>			
<u>Jesus Is the Incarnate Son of God</u>			
<u>Kingdom of God Present or Future?</u>			
<u>Israel of God or the real Jews</u>			
<u>Instruments in Church Worship</u>			
<u>Tongues and Healing</u>			
<u>The Lord's Supper</u>			
<u>Baptism and Church Membership</u>			
<u>Footwashing</u>			
<u>Women in Assemblies</u>			
<u>Church Discipline</u>			
<u>Holidays like Baalmass and Easter</u>			
<u>Church Independence</u>			
<u>Christian Liberty like Alcohol</u>			
<u>A Burning Hell</u>			
<u>Great Commission</u>			
<u>Many More Doctrinal Points</u>			

Bible Preaching			
Submissive Wives			
Female Modesty			
The Lord's Day			
Sobriety			
Hospitality			
Reverence			
Courting for Fornication-Free Dating			
Marriage in the Lord Only			
Large families			
Child Training			
Church Music			
Joyful Singing			
Politics are not part of Christianity			
Strong Men ruling their houses			
Musing and Meditating on Scripture			
Honoring Parents			
Divorce			
Authority in all Five Spheres			
Hair Length			
Abortion			
Invitations and related Inventions			
Virginity Is not Outdated			
Cremation Is Always Pagan			
Music out of the Church			
Church Attire is not Casual			
Self-Love and Self-Esteem			
Secret Societies			
Giving			
<i>Many More Practical Points</i>			

For Further Study:

1. A series, "Ancient Landmarks," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/remove-not-the-ancient-landmark.pdf>.
2. The sermon outline, "Truth Is Fallen," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/truth-is-fallen-in-the-streets.pdf>.
3. The sermon outline, "Perilous Times," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/perilous-times.pdf>.
4. The sermon outline, "What Is Truth?" ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/what-is-truth.pdf>.
5. The sermon outline, "God Hates Compromise," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/compromise.pdf>.
6. The sermon outline, "Biblical Separation," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/biblical-separation.pdf>.
7. A sermon, "Contemporary Christianity," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/contemporary-christianity.pdf>.
8. A sermon outline, "Cult Cheat Sheet," ... <http://www.letgodbetruer.com/sermons/pdf/cult-cheat-sheet.pdf>.