

Chapter 1 : What Does The Bible Say About Christians And Politics? | Crazy About Church

Christians believe in one God that exists in three persons—the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. Christians believe that mankind was created specifically to have a relationship with God, but sin separates all men from God (Romans ;).

Should we call ourselves a Christian? Richard Anthony How and when was the word "Christian" first used? The pagans at Antioch called the apostles "Christians" first Acts The substance is not in the word "Christian", the substance is in the heart of the man it is attempting to describe, and which the pagan user cannot see. Christ never called himself a Christian, Christ never called his followers Christians. The apostles never called each other Christians. Christ never used an adjective to describe himself. So how are we to identify ourselves then? The disciples called each other, "brethren", "disciples", "apostles", "servants", "believers", "followers", "the faithful", "the elect", "the called", and "saints. Kingdom The servants of Christ belong to the kingdom of God. If you do not belong to a certain kingdom, you are labeled or named by that kingdom to be of another kingdom. Do North Americans call themselves North Americans? When you introduce yourself to somebody, do you say, "Hi! If you are a constituent of a Kingdom, you do not name one in the same Kingdom any thing; but you call them according to the relation between the two of you brother, sister, mother, father, workman, labourer, minister, bishop, deacon, etc. And who establishes the relation? The Lawgiver Isaiah Servants of Christ should not call themselves Christians, since this would imply that we are not from the Kingdom of God. By using the words of the world, or by using the words of another kingdom, you identify yourself as being of that kingdom. And, since the word "Christian" is a term of the world, it might be best to use the words of God to describe us. A follower of the religion of Christ [Note carefully that Christ never started a religion - John 7: It is probable that the name Christian, like that of Nazarenes and Galileans, was given to the disciples of our Lord in reproach or contempt. What confirms this opinion is, that the people of Antioch in Syria, Acts Some have indeed thought that this name was given by the disciples to themselves; others, that it was imposed on them by divine authority; in either of which cases we should have met with it in the subsequent history of the Acts, and in the Apostolic Epistles, all of which were written some years after; whereas it is found but in two more places in the New Testament, Acts The word used, Acts They were denominated Christians, A. Only occurs as used by others of them, not by Christians of themselves. The author or origin of this denomination, Christus, had, in the reign of Tiberius been executed by the procurator, Pontius Pilate. Doane, Bible Myths , page , note 3. It was first used at Antioch. The worshippers of Serapis here are called Christians, and those who are devoted to the god Serapis I find , call themselves Bishops of Christ. What about 1 Peter 4: Secondly, Peter did not label the followers of Christ a "Christian" in the passage. Read it again, very carefully. He said they were to be "as a Christian. The word as means "like or similar to," but it does not mean one is that word. If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed," does not mean faith is a mustard seed. When someone is "as" something else, it does not mean one is that something. It means we are similar, in some way, to that name, but we are not literally that name. You see, the heathens are the ones who called the followers of Christ "Christians" Acts When Peter was referring to the title "Christian, " it is in the context of suffering, and is in reference to the name as imposed upon them by their enemies, because our enemies want us to suffer. What about Isaiah If you read this verse in context, and read two verses further, you will actually see what this "new name" is that God will call them. This is the context. It is not referring to the name "Christian.

Chapter 2 : FACT CHECK: Did Pope Francis Say Gun Owners 'Can't Call Themselves Christians Anymore

Nowhere did I say that one second century work "proves that Christians all believed Jesus was divine." You misrepresent my article with such a statement. If you read it again, you will see that my point is much more simple.

Were the Early Christians Roman Catholics? Mary Ann Collins www. It claims that the Apostle Peter was the first Pope, ruling from Rome. It also claims that it gave us the Bible. But do these claims stand up to the test of history? Or are they false credentials? Many Protestants believe that throughout Church history, there have been many true Christians who were not Catholics, and these Christians were often killed by the Catholic Church. They also believe that Peter was just one of the apostles, and that the Catholic Church only copied and preserved the Bible, which God had already given to us. Catholics would later refer to him as Pope Miltiades. But at the time he was known as the Bishop of Rome. Miltiades was assisted by Silvester, a Roman who spoke educated Latin, and acted as interpreter. The previous day, Constantine had seen a sign in the heavens: He heard a voice say, "In this sign you will conquer. He won an important battle, and was convinced that it was because of the power of the sign that he had seen. He asked for two of the nails that were used to crucify Jesus. One nail was made into a bit for his horse. Another nail was made a part of his crown, signifying that Constantine ruled the Roman Empire in the name of Jesus. He allowed Miltiades to keep the third nail. After his "conversion," Constantine built a triumphal arch featuring the Roman sun god the "unconquered sun". His coins featured the sun. Constantine made a statue of the sun god, with his own face on it, for his new city of Constantinople. He made Sunday the day of the sun god into a day of rest when work was forbidden. They prayed kneeling towards the east where the sun rises. They said that Jesus Christ drives his chariot across the sky like the Roman sun god. They had their worship services on Sunday, which honored the Roman sun god. Days of the week were named to honor pagan gods. They celebrated the birth of Jesus on December 25, the day when sun worshipers celebrated the birthday of the sun following the winter solstice. His character certainly did not reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ. Constantine was vain, violent, and superstitious. His combination of worshiping the Christian God and the old Roman sun god may have been an attempt to cover all the bases. A similar spirit can be seen in Americans who financially support both opposing candidates during an election. No matter who wins, they expect to have the favor of the person in power. Constantine had little if any respect for human life. He was known for wholesale slaughter during his military campaigns. He forced prisoners of war to fight for their lives against wild beasts. He had several family members including his second wife executed for doubtful reasons. Constantine waited until he was dying before he asked to be baptized. Historians disagree as to whether or not he actually was baptized. He called himself a Bishop. He said that he was the interpreter of the Word of God, and the voice which declares what is true and godly. According to historian Paul Johnson, Constantine saw himself as being an important agent of salvation, on a par with the apostles. He expected that devotions honoring the apostles would be performed in the church, and he expected to share the title and honor of the apostles. He offered a large, magnificent palace for the use of Miltiades and his successors. He could not accept the idea of having Christianity be promoted by the Roman Empire. By the time that he returned in A. Silvester was eager to have the Church be spread using Roman roads, Roman wealth, Roman law, Roman power, and Roman military might. Constantine officially approved of Silvester as the successor of Miltiades. Then he had a coronation ceremony for Silvester and crowned him like a worldly prince. No bishop had ever been crowned before. Now, instead of facing persecution, Bishop Silvester lived in the lap of luxury. He had a beautiful palace, with the finest furniture and art. He wore silk brocade robes. He had servants to wait on him. Near his palace was a basilica which was to serve as his cathedral. This luxurious building had seven altars made of gold, a canopy of solid silver above the main altar, and 50 chandeliers. It was now possible to have worldwide church councils. Here is how the Apostle Paul described the kinds of things that he had to endure, as a leader in the early Church. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In

weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Suddenly, being Christian resulted in power, prestige, and promotion whereas previously it had resulted in persecution. So ambitious people joined the Church for worldly reasons. The Bishop of Rome was supported by the military might, political power, and wealth of the Roman Emperor. Worldwide church councils were convened. This was the birth of the Roman Catholic Church. It was created in the year A. Pontian became the Bishop of Rome in the year A. He was made bishop suddenly and unexpectedly when his predecessor was arrested and killed by Roman authorities. On September 27, A. Christian buildings were burned, Christian cemeteries were closed, and the personal wealth of Christians was confiscated. Bishop Pontian was arrested the same day. He was put in the Mamertine Prison, where he was tortured for ten days. Then he was sent to work in the lead mines of Sardinia. The prisoners worked in the mines for 20 hours a day, with four one-hour breaks for sleep. They had one meal of bread and water per day. Most prisoners died within six to fourteen months from exhaustion, malnutrition, disease, beatings, infection, or violence. Pontian only lasted four months. In January, A. What happened to Pontian was not unusual. Many Christians were sent to the Sardinian lead mines, or persecuted in other ways. If a man accepted the position of being a Christian leader, he knew that his life from that time on was likely to be short and painful. There were 14 Bishops of Rome in the 79 years between the arrest of Pontian and the coronation of Silvester. Silvester lived in luxury, with servants waiting on him. Constantine confessed his sins to Silvester and asked for his advice. Silvester presided over worldwide Church councils. He had a splendid palace and a sumptuous cathedral. He had power, prestige, wealth, pomp, and the favor of the Emperor. That was an external change. The most important change was an internal one. The Church took on the mentality of Rome. Under Silvester, the internal structure of the Church took on the form and practice and pomp of Rome. Silvester died in December, A. He died peacefully, in a clean, comfortable bed, in the Roman Lateran Palace. He died surrounded by well dressed bishops and priests, and attended by Roman guards. His body was dressed in ceremonial robes, put in an elegant casket, and carried through the streets of Rome in a solemn procession. He was buried with honor and ceremony, attended by the cream of Roman society and by the Roman people. It is understandable that many Christians would have preferred an officially approved status for the Church. But what was the result? Before Constantine, the church was a band of heroic men and women who were so committed to serve the Lord Jesus Christ that they would endure any hardship. Church leaders were no longer in danger of persecution. Rather, they enjoyed all the trappings of power and luxury.

Chapter 3 : Should we call ourselves a Christian?

He says he first asks if the accused is a Christian: if they confess that they are, he interrogates them twice more, for a total of three times, threatening them with death if they continue to confirm their beliefs.

An article by our founder, Theodore H. Epp, investigates this volatile issue in the Church today: Some religious groups teach that it is necessary to keep the Sabbath in order to be saved. They insist that we are still under the Law. Yet, for reasons not divulged, they assume the right to remove some of the restrictions laid down in the Bible with regard to keeping the Sabbath as a day of rest. So while they contend that the keeping of the day is incumbent on the Christian, they change the nature of it by their own authority. This all adds to the confusion surrounding this annoying problem, for which the only satisfactory solution is found in the Bible. The first reference to the Sabbath is found in Genesis 2: The words "evening" and "morning," however, are missing in the description of this Sabbath day. This would indicate that the first Sabbath was a continuous rest, or a continuous ceasing from labor, until the time when man fell into sin. Then God once again began His labors in creating new creatures in Christ Jesus. God instituted the covenant of the Law years after He had made the covenant of grace with Abraham. The first mention of the Sabbath since the time when God ceased from His labors on the seventh day is found in Exodus "Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning. You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, and commanded them precepts, statutes and laws, by the hand of Moses Your servant" 9: In it you shall do no work: For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. The answer is evident when the purpose for which the Sabbath was given is realized. You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed. Any person of Israel not keeping the Sabbath was to be cut off from his people. Since it was instituted as a special sign for Israel, it could be enforced only as long as Israel was in the land of Palestine as a nation and was on proper terms with God. According to the foreknowledge of God, the Israelites were to be scattered soon after the crucifixion of Christ, and the Book of Galatians teaches that the Law was given by Moses until Christ died: It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator" 3: Even though Israel is back in the land now, she has not recognized her God; consequently, the sign-the Sabbath-is not yet enforced. Christ and the Sabbath Did Christ keep the Sabbath? Some Scripture passages will show why Jesus kept the Sabbath on earth. In the first place, John 1: He came for His own-the Jews. He was made under the Law and was part of the nation of Israel. The Law was not yet set aside. He did not come to destroy the Law but to fulfill it: I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled" Matt. As far as any human being is concerned, Christ is the only One who ever kept the Law perfectly. This proves His sinlessness. It was observed by all Jews because until the crucifixion, the disciples, as well as Christ, were still under the Law. Not until He cried, "It is finished" John But notice-and this is very important-Christ is not spoken of once as keeping the Sabbath after the crucifixion. Paul and the Sabbath What about Paul? He observed the Sabbath with the Jews until he turned completely to reaching the Gentiles. From now on I will go to the Gentiles. The reason for this is that Paul visited the Jew first and, of course, that was most easily done on the Sabbath, for the Jews kept the Sabbath. But when he met with the church, he always did this on the first day of the week. After Acts 18 the Sabbath is not mentioned once in the Scriptures, with the exception of Colossians 2: It is also noted that the other apostles observed the Sabbath together with the Jews, but they did this only when they went to the places where the Jews were. After Acts 18 we do not find another mention of the Sabbath in all of Scripture, with the one exception mentioned above. Although the apostles met with the

Jews on the Sabbath day to be as Paul said, "I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" 1 Cor. From the above statements it can be clearly seen that the apostles, including Paul, understood very well the place and purpose of the Sabbath. It was a sign for the Jews, beginning with Moses and ending with the crucifixion of Christ. It is interesting to note that once the Jews are regathered and recognize God as their King, the Sabbath will be observed again Ezek. They are new creatures in Christ Jesus: Could there be a simpler explanation than this? Special Restrictions of the Sabbath Law There are certain facets of the Sabbath law that must be considered. First, a man was not allowed to leave his home. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day" Ex. Second, a man was not even allowed to work or to build a fire: Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh day shall be a holy day for you, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. You shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations on the Sabbath day" And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation. They put him under guard, because it had not been explained what should be done to him. Since God gave the commandment of the Sabbath to Israel in the land of Palestine, which has a warm climate, it was very practical. The law which prohibited building a fire on the Sabbath would not be practical for people living in certain climates, because they could not very easily go without heat in the winter. The keeping of the Law is an impossibility to man in the flesh; no one can be justified before God through it. For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law" Gal. Salvation is not the reward for a holy life but the gift of God to a sinner deserving judgment. The Law was given to show the exceeding sinfulness of sin Rom. To confess that salvation by Law is unattainable by man humbles him but exalts the holiness of the Law. On the other hand, to claim salvation by Law-keeping exalts man but lowers the righteousness of the Law. God has provided only one way of salvation: Which day, then, is the Sabbath? There is no such thing as a "Christian Sabbath. Too many fellow believers are unconsciously and ignorantly referring to it in this way, and for this reason there is much confusion. What day, then, should Christians set aside? There is no commandment given to Christians in this area. Every day of the week belongs to God. The idea of worshiping God one day in seven, whether it be the first or the seventh, and then living for self the rest of the week is a grievous evil existing today. People often think that they can go to church one day of the week, pray and sing a few hymns piously, and then live for the Devil the rest of the time. There is one day-the first day of the week. That is the day on which Jesus rose from the dead, and it is also the day He chose to meet with His disciples after His resurrection. This was not a Sabbath day, or a rest day, it was a day of ceaseless activity. The Lord Jesus was very busy on the resurrection day. The false conception of so many is that Sunday is the Christian Sabbath, and since the Sabbath is a day of rest, the Sabbath laws are applied to Sunday. This has resulted in untold harm. That is merely a perversion of the Jewish Sabbath day. Christians need to wake up and to grasp the meaning of this resurrection day. Souls need to be rescued from darkness, and only the gospel of Jesus Christ can accomplish this. It is hard to stand against traditions, but I challenge each believer to yield himself to the Lord in this matter. Some seem to think that it is worse for one to sin on Sunday than on any other day of the week. I believe that this is wrong. The Bible teaches that it is displeasing to God for one to yield to the Devil on any day of the week. Christians must live so that their consciences will be void of offense before God every day. In addition, they can make Sunday a day of special worship and service.

Chapter 4 : Should Christians Celebrate Christmas? | blog.quintoapp.com

While the first-century Christians did follow the teachings, practices and example of Jesus Christ at that time, since then the term has virtually lost its meaning as it's usually not accompanied by the same way of life and understanding. Today many claim to be Christians yet don't really follow Jesus' teachings.

Tweet When Christians are asked by non-believers to reconcile dinosaurs and the account of creation in Genesis, many questions arise. Is the Bible silent about dinosaurs? Why are dinosaurs apparently never mentioned in scriptures? Did dinosaurs live before or during the time of Adam and Eve and mankind? Job is an ancient book. If this book were placed in its true chronological order in the Bible, it would reside within the Book of Genesis since Job lived over 4,000 years ago. Specifically, Are Dinosaurs in the Bible? Job describes what sounds very much like a dinosaur. The cedars of Lebanon were valued above all timbers in ancient antiquity. They were feet tall and their stout trunks could be over 8 feet in diameter. What elephant or hippo has a tail that size!? Many ancient dinosaurs were up to 100 feet in length like the Brachiosaurus. But any Bible with margins that gives the original translation of the word clearly indicates it is not a whale. What whale has razor sharp teeth like iron that can swallow its prey whole v 14? Has anyone ever seen a whale or fossil remains of a whale where the weapons of man cannot penetrate v ? What whale can destroy its prey by simply passing over it v 30 and has no fear whatsoever of anything v ? In the Natural History Museum in Oslo, Norway revealed one of the largest dinosaur sea predators ever found. It is a Pliosaur Kronosaurus which is estimated to be over 50 feet long. The teeth that remain are still sharp enough to cut wood. Dinosaurs, Fossilization and Extinction There are hundreds of early British and French explorers and trappers and American explorers and settlers that wrote down reports of sightings of giant mastodon bones still lying on the ground. Many of the Indians they spoke with mentioned them as being in recent memory. The fact is that fossilization does not take millions of years since under the right conditions a bone, an old boot, and even wood can become filled with minerals fairly quickly. Necessary ingredients for fossilization, even in a few thousand years are these; a quick burial under very deep water or volcanic ash. There would have been a rapid burial by millions of tons of water and sediment. The fact is that today there are many dinosaur remains that are still not completely turned in to rock and that have not been fossilized; millions of these have been found as bone. Even today they are finding fish fossils that still have a fishy smell to them. The flood may have been the reason that many of the dinosaurs died out. Even the sea creatures would have died since many of their prey could have perished in the flood. Conclusion The more we read the Bible, the more we find that dinosaurs are not inconsistent with the scriptures. They could have died from disease, the flood, or in some cases, hunted into extinction. Regardless, it is obvious that the dinosaurs did roam the earth at one time. It is also clear that the Bible makes mention of some creatures that fit their description. Therefore, Christians belief in the Bible and the knowledge of the existence of dinosaurs, are not incompatible. In fact, they are completely compatible with God being the Creator of all life; plants, animals, insects, and mankind. Did This Article Help? If this article was helpful feel free to link this to your own blog or share this with others through the social buttons to the left or below. Are Guardian Angels Biblical? What is the Unforgivable Sin? Read this to find out. What is Speaking in Tongues? This article will help to clear this up for you. Just click the button below to get started.

Chapter 5 : Back to the Bible - What does God's Word say about the Christian keeping the Sabbath?

The ladies of "The View" were all ginned up over news that the Trump administration is drafting a regulation that would reverse the Obamacare mandate requiring employers to provide no-cost birth control to their employees.

May 30, in Book Reviews Tags: From Good News to Gospels: Link to Eerdmans This new book by David Wenham is an attempt to address the forty years between Jesus and the writing of the canonical gospels. What was the content of the message the earliest Christians preached during this period? This two-source hypothesis has dominated scholarly discussion of the origin of the written gospels, but in recent years it has been attacked, modified and sometimes dismissed as an adequate origin for the various material which eventually became the canonical gospels. The reason for this in part is a growing interest in oral tradition as a source for the Gospel writers. The main problem with oral tradition is a modern prejudice against oral sources or the modern preference for written sources. When Form Critics described the growth of oral tradition they often assumed early Christians were convinced that Jesus was going to return very soon and establish his kingdom, thus there is no need to write books. They simply told stories about Jesus, and as Christians began to understand Jesus as in some sense divine, they began to embellish the sayings and stories in order to enhance the status of Jesus as well as to address particular problems in their own community. Someone passing along an oral tradition about Jesus was not particularly concerned with accuracy in the modern sense. Wenham argues for the accuracy of Luke-Acts as a witness to the preaching and teaching of the early church. Those who followed Jesus were commanded to pass along to the nations everything Jesus had instructed them Matt Wenham finds confirmation of this passing of tradition in the Pauline letters. In this chapter Wenham follows the same trajectory as Jerry L. Beginning with 1 Corinthians Since letters are occasional literature, there is no need for Paul to outline the life of Jesus before alluding to the Sermon on the Mount or the Olivet Discourse. Chapters trace the evidence for an oral tradition in the Gospels. Wenham offers two examples where an appeal to oral tradition provides a more satisfying solution than literary dependence. There are allusions to this same idea in 1 Corinthians 9 as well. First, it is almost certain Paul knew the material eventually included in Matthew although the influence on 1 Thessalonians 4: A second objection is the possibility Paul alludes to another source than the oral tradition standing behind the Gospels or a literary tradition like Q. For the laborer saying, Jesus and Paul may both allude to Leviticus The same could be said for 1 Thessalonians since non-canonical apocalyptic literature describes the end of the age as labor pains. Overall I am in agreement that there was an extensive oral tradition which the first generation actively passed on and guarded tenaciously. He is certainly correct to say the earliest Christians told and retold the story of Jesus as accurately depicted in the book of Acts p. But is this an issue of either oral or written sources? Wenham properly calls attention to the pervasive use of oral sources in the earliest written documents as well as the trustworthiness of the oral tradition used by Paul and the Gospel writers. Thanks to Eerdmans for kindly providing me with a review copy of this book. This did not influence my thoughts regarding the work.

Chapter 6 : "What the New Testament Says about the Jew" by David Reagan

Wenham, David. From Good News to Gospels: What Did the First Christians Say about Jesus? Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, pp. Pb; \$ Link to Eerdmans This new book by David Wenham is an attempt to address the forty years between Jesus and the writing of the canonical gospels. What was.

As long as this notice is included, permission is granted to copy and distribute this material electronically or in print form for individual use or for small groups. All other rights such as use in books, periodicals, on web pages, etc. Does the New Testament forever condemn the Jewish people as Christ-killers who eternally have the blood of Christ on their hands? Or is this teaching simply the pitiful excuse of hatemongers looking to justify their pernicious wickedness? What does the New Testament really say about the Jew? That is the purpose of this brief treatise. If you are a Jew, these words are for you. The Jewish people understand that when two Jews are discussing a subject they are likely to have three opinions. However, they sometimes do not understand the differences between those who claim to follow Christ. Many know that Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant reformation, encouraged the persecution of the Jews. Today, the Jews of Russia know that the Russian Baptists suffered alongside of them in that land. Please do not think of all Christians as historically hating the people of Israel. Even today, Baptist believers form one of the strongest blocks of supporters for the nation of Israel. Our love is very real and is an integral part of our faith. If there is one belief that is central to the Baptist faith, it would be the belief that the Bible is the absolute authority for all truth. We believe that anything left to human reasoning, philosophy or tradition has a faulty foundation. All truth must either proceed from or be tested by the Word of God. Our Bible consists of the Old and New Testaments bound together as one book. Our Old Testament is the same as the Jewish Tenach. That is a lot of common heritage. We know that no one can support anti-Semitism from the Tenach. So, does the New Testament teach a hatred of the Jewish people? The answer is a resounding "NO"! In fact, though the New Testament is very honest in discussing the differences between the Jews and the true Christians, most of what is taught about the Jew is absolutely positive. My belief in the authority of the New Testament is the reason for my strong love for the Jewish people. So please read on and find out what the New Testament really says about the Jew. Salvation is of the Jews Jesus spoke to a Samaritan woman in Sychar about eternal life. She wanted to talk about the correct place to worship God. Jesus answered her plainly, "Ye worship ye know not what: So, there it is plain and simple. Jesus came to fulfill the law and not to destroy it Matt. Despite what some have taught, Jesus did not oppose the teaching of the Tenach. God sent salvation to man through the Jewish people. The oracles of God were His spoken and written words. Even the New Testament was written by Jews. Without the Jew, I would not have my Bible. I am very thankful for this great gift! Paul, in another place, speaks of the "Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever" Rom. To Israel was given the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the law, the service of God, the promises and the fathers. Although these gifts were properly to Israel, all mankind has benefitted from them. Take, for instance, the giving of the law. The law was for Israel. Yet, today, all good government is in some way based on the ten commandments. God has given to man many gifts through the Jewish people. The last gift mentioned is very special. It is the gift of my Saviour Jesus Christ. I know that you may not believe in Jesus. However, I still thank you for the gift of my precious Saviour! I must say the same. When Jesus came to this earth, "he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham" Hebrews 2: He came to this earth as "the son of David, the son of Abraham" Matthew 1: I realize that the concept of one who is both completely God and completely man may seem strange to you, but the concept originally comes, not from the New Testament, but from the Jewish Tenach. Think about these words taken from the prophecy of Isaiah 9: Yet, I must go on. The phrase, "his own", refers to the Jewish people. This is not a statement of hatred but of simple fact. The Jews, as a whole, still reject Jesus as their Messiah. Of course, there are some other passages which are used as a basis for hatred but those who use them for hatred are misusing them. The apostle Peter preached, "Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man

approved of God among you by miracles and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know; [h]im, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain" Acts 2: So, there you have it. Peter said to the men of Israel that they by wicked hands took and crucified Jesus. And throughout the ages, wicked men calling themselves Christian have used this passage and a couple of others to call Jews Christ-killers and to persecute the Jewish people. But is this the true teaching of the New Testament? While it is true that the apostles held the Jews responsible for their part in the crucifixion of Jesus, they also recognized the responsibility of others. According to the law of the Romans, the Jews could not have crucified Jesus themselves. But this is not all. Listen to the prayer of Peter and the other apostles made shortly after the statement made in the above paragraph. Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done" Acts 4: Did you read that? Yes, the people of Israel were guilty. But so were the Gentiles and Herod and Pilate. You see, the whole world is guilty for the rejection of Jesus. We had him here offered to us and we all rejected him! Right before the verse that says his own received him not John 1: His own received him not; the world knew him not. We all rejected him and we all are guilty of his blood by our membership in the race of man! There is no New Testament justification for any sort of mistreatment of the Jews. Anyone who teaches this has rejected the New Testament! You must be the judge as to whether this is true or not. Speaking of the Jewish people, Paul states, "For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. I realize that this statement may seem offensive. I ask that you withhold your anger and think about what Paul is saying. He credits the Jew for having a great zeal of God and for working hard to establish their own righteousness. Is this not true of the faithful Jew? He works very hard to live righteously. His zeal is seen in the care with which he obeys the traditions of the fathers. So, of what does Paul say the Jew is ignorant? How can that be? The answer is found in the testimony of the apostle Paul. In the book of Philippians, Paul tells of the things of which he could boast; "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless" Philippians 3: Yet Paul did not trust in his own righteousness. In fact, he said that, "what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ" Philippians 3: He counted all things but loss that he might win Christ and "be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" Philippians 3: Every religion in the world including Judiasm and most who claim to be Christians have devised some plan by which they can use their own efforts to become righteousness. Therefore, no man can achieve perfect righteousness. As a result, all men including Jews are under a curse. And all the people shall say, Amen.

Chapter 7 : FACT CHECK: Did Chelsea Clinton Say It Would Be 'Un-Christian' to Protect Babies from Abortifacients?

Did the Early Christians Practice Confession? Not only was the Sacrament of Confession believed and practiced by the Apostles and is explicitly mentioned in the Bible, the early Church Fathers believed and taught confession as well.

What are the seven deadly sins? There are other instances of people who had been raised from the dead, but unlike those mentioned before in the Bible, Lazarus had been dead for an entire period of four days. What does the Bible say about death? The Bible compares death to sleep more than fifty times. After death we are asleep, we are unconscious; we are not aware of the passing of time or of what is going on around us. That is what death is like as well. Peter on the Day of Pentecost said the same of King David. What does the Bible say about cremation? What happens to your soul when you die? Many Christians think of the soul as an immortal entity within us that goes on living after death. What does the Bible say? God did not put a soul into man. He formed the body from the dust of the ground, and then He breathed His life-giving spirit into the lifeless body—and the result was a soul, or a living being. When a person dies, the reverse takes place. The breath of life departs from the body, and the soul no longer exists. At the resurrection, God reunites the body and His life-giving spirit—and the person lives again. If souls existed as separate entities that lived on after we died, that would mean we have immortality. However, the Bible says human beings do not have immortality. Only God is immortal see 1 Timothy 6: If we had immortal souls, why would the righteous seek after something they already have? Is there life after death? We will receive immortality when Jesus comes again see 1 Corinthians The Bible says that all those who have died—both righteous and wicked—will be raised to life in one of two resurrections. According to this verse, the righteous do not go to heaven when they die. They remain asleep in the grave until Jesus returns and raises them to immortal life see 1 Corinthians The wicked are raised to life in a separate resurrection—the resurrection of condemnation. The prophets never mention in the Bible that the righteous immediately go to heaven or the wicked go to hell when they die. Neither did Jesus and His apostles teach it. When Jesus was about to leave His disciples, He did not tell them they would soon come to Him. I go to prepare a place for you. When He returns, our loved ones asleep in Christ will awake from their tombs. No matter how long the time has passed, be it long or short, will seem but a moment to them. By the voice of Jesus, they are called forth from their deep slumber they will begin to think just where they ceased, awakening to a glorious immortality. O Hades, where is your victory?

Chapter 8 : What Do Christians Believe About Dinosaurs?

Did Pope Francis Say Gun Owners 'Can't Call Themselves Christians Anymore'? A notorious fake news web site wrenches the Pope's remarks out of context to create yet another sensationalist.

Click to read Pliny opens the letter sections with questions to Trajan concerning trials of Christians brought before him, since he says he has never been present at any trials of Christians. This may indicate that previous trials had taken place and that Pliny was unaware of any existing edicts under Trajan for prosecuting Christians. Should any distinction be made by the age of the Christian? Should the very young be treated differently from mature people? Does denying being a Christian mean the accused is pardoned? *Nomen ipsum si flagitiis careat an flagitia cohaerentia nomini puniantur.* He says he first asks if the accused is a Christian: If they do not recant, then he orders them to be executed, or, if they are Roman citizens, orders them to be taken to Rome. Despite his uncertainty about the offences connected with being Christian, Pliny says that he has no doubt that, whatever the nature of their creed, at least their inflexible obstinacy *obstinatio* and stubbornness, *pertinacia* deserve punishment. This shows that, to the Roman authorities, Christians were being hostile to the government and were openly defying a magistrate who was asking them to abandon an unwanted cult. There were three categories of accused Pliny mentions with corresponding verdicts. If the accused denied that they had ever been a Christian, then once they had prayed to the Roman gods in words dictated by Pliny himself, offered incense and wine to images of Trajan and the gods, and cursed Christ "which Pliny says true Christians are unable to do - they were then discharged. Accused who were at one point Christians but had quit the religion also followed the aforementioned procedure and were let go. Practices of Christians[edit] Depiction of Christian Eucharistic bread, Catacomb of Callixtus, 3rd century Pliny then details the practices of Christians sections They all bind themselves by oath, "not to some crimes", says Pliny, as though that is what he would have expected; rather, they pledge not to commit any crimes such as fraud, theft, or adultery, and subsequently share a meal of "ordinary and innocent food". Pliny adds that he felt it necessary to investigate further by having two female slaves called deaconesses tortured, which was standard procedure in Roman interrogation of slaves, and discovered nothing but "depraved, excessive superstition" *superstitio*. He argues for his procedure to Trajan by saying that the temples and religious festivals, which before had been deserted, are now flourishing again and that there is a rising demand for sacrificial animals once more "a dip and rise which A. Sherwin-White believes is an exaggeration of the toll Christianity had taken on the traditional cult. They were tried only if accusations from local provincials were brought against them. But if accused and convicted, then Christians The letter supports the existence of the early Christian Church and its rapid growth and speaks to its belief system. It also provides valuable evidence as to the attitudes of the Roman authorities with regard to early Christianity. Other Roman sources[edit] See also: Tacitus on Christ and Suetonius on Christians Pliny is one of three key Roman authors who refer to early Christians, the other two being Tacitus and Suetonius.

Chapter 9 : Were the Early Christians Roman Catholics?

Christians need to wake up and to grasp the meaning of this resurrection day. Souls need to be rescued from darkness, and only the gospel of Jesus Christ can accomplish this. "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James).

One important contact was with the Nestorian monk Bahira in Bosra , modern Syria who foretold to the adolescent Muhammad his future prophetic career. Once they reached Bostra in the south of Syria, Muhammad was reported to have taken shelter underneath a tree. A monk named Nestor approached Maysarah asking him who was the man underneath the tree. Explaining to the monk whom he was, Nestor quickly responded, "None other than a Prophet is sitting beneath that tree. He was the first man to tell Muhammad that he was a prophet based on the first revelation he received in the cave of Hira. Byzantines[edit] According to traditional Islamic sources, in Muhammad sent a letter to Heraclius inviting him to Islam. According to Sunni tradition, Abu Sufyan ibn Harb came forward and a discussion between them took place. There is no prophet between me and him, that is, Jesus. He will descent to the earth. When you see him, recognise him: He will fight the people for the cause of Islam. He will break the cross, kill swine, and abolish jizyah. Allah will perish all religions except Islam. He will destroy the Antichrist and will live on the earth for forty years and then he will die. The Muslims will pray over him. Ancient-Najran was a Christian city located at the intersection of two main caravan routes. The city was also in a particular geographical place which allowed it to boom with agriculture and industry making it an ideal center of trade. However, it was not until the Medina Period that the first interactions between the Christians of Najran and Muhammad took place. Their group was met with hospitality and security from the Prophet. The delegation and Muhammad met for two or three days, according to some sources, debating peacefully about their religions. The debates ended in an understanding that each religion would leave the other alone. And here are the terms in which the covenant was to be kept: In the name of God, the Merciful, the Beneficent. He has benevolently left them all that in return for 2, hullas every year, 1, to be given in the month of Rajab and 1, in the month of Safar. Each hulla is equal to one ounce [a measure equal to 4 dirhams]. The Najran are also required to provide accommodation and expenses for my messengers, for up to 20 days. None of my messengers shall be kept in Najran more than one month. They are also required to give, as a loan, 30 shields, 30 horses and 30 camels, in case of any disorder and treachery in Yemen. If anything is lost of the shields, horses or camels they loan to my messenger, it will remain owing by my messenger until it is given back. Najran has the protection of God and the pledges of Muhammad, the Prophet, to protect their lives, faith, land, property, those who are absent and those who are present, and their clan and allies. They need not change anything of their past customs. No right of theirs or their religion shall be altered. No bishop, monk or church guard shall be removed from his position. Whatever they have is theirs, no matter how big or small. They are not held in suspicion and they shall suffer no vengeance killing. They are not required to be mobilized and no army shall trespass on their land. If any of them requests that any right of his should be given to him, justice shall be administered among them. He who takes usury on past loans is not under my protection. No person in Najran is answerable for an injustice committed by another. He sent them to Iraq where there were to be taken as refugees and provided settlement.