

I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek **PODCAST**

Q&A About Roman Catholicism, Bible Translations, Trump, Biden, and Transgenderism

(July 9, 2024)

I've had a flurry of questions come in recently via email. Ladies and gentlemen, one question is, why am I not a Roman Catholic? Why did I leave the Catholic Church? I was brought up in the Catholic Church. We'll get into that. Another question came in and said, I'm a new Christian. What Bible should I get? We'll address that.

Another question came in says, or a friend says, that few people regret transitioning, the transgender issue. They say only 1% regret it. What is the truth on that? And while we're on that topic, where did Trump and Biden stand on the transgender issue And what lies were told in that now infamous first debate?

Also had a question, doesn't Romans 9 say that God creates people for hell? Now, I don't know if we're going to get to all those questions tonight or today. If we don't, we'll pick them up on next week's midweek podcast. But you're listening to I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist, with me, Frank Turek. Normally we're on the American Family Radio network. That is the podcast we do every Friday.

But this podcast is more long form in the sense that we don't have any interruptions. There are no commercial breaks, and we normally deal with interviews or answer questions on this podcast. And so, we're going to dive right in. This question actually comes from Poland. This person I don't know, male or female, because the name is Swalek.

My name is Swalek, and I am from Poland. I'm happy and thankful to God for apologists like you who are able to show to people that faith is a matter of reason and the truth and not blindness and mind laziness, not to mention the grace of God. Recently I have found out that you are a Protestant, which for today is okay.

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However, you used to be Catholic and turned a Protestant. Easy for me to say. Protestantism. Gee, first day with my new mouth. Anyway, may I ask you why? What was the reason or reasons that brought you from being a Catholic to being a protestant? If I am correct, is it about Mary praying for the dead and the Pope? Isn't it?

And the person says, if you do not want to speak about it, that's okay too. No, I'm happy speaking about it. In fact, we did a podcast just last month with Jimmy Akin, who is a very good Catholic apologist. We had two podcasts, one on his debate with Bart Ehrman and another on some of the differences between Christianity, or I should say, between Protestantism and Catholicism.

So, you might want to go back and listen to that. And we decided to basically deal with the issue of justification. And that's what Jimmy wanted to talk about because he thinks that is a very important issue, and I agree with him. But let me go back to the question, why did I leave the Catholic Church? Well, my initial reasons for leaving Catholicism lied mostly with my desire to learn about God and Jesus, which was almost completely frustrated, for me anyway, by the repetitive liturgy and the short and irrelevant homilies.

And there were an absolute blizzard of rules and regulations and traditions that, for me, obscured what I later learned to be the true Gospel. And despite the fact that Catholic Church, the Catholic Church in history has a very rich tradition of teaching apologetics, philosophy, and systematic theology, that really never got to me down at the pew level as a teenager. I went through catechism and all that.

And I know some Catholics will say, well, that was just your problem. You weren't really interested. No, I was really interested. Now, maybe not as interested as I could have been, obviously, but I wanted to learn about God. I wanted to learn about Jesus. And I didn't get that in CCD, in catechism. I certainly didn't get it in the mass, which for me, although, of course, there's much truth in the Catholic mass, it was just a repetitive liturgy.

And in fact, as I mentioned on the show we did with Jimmy, I never heard the gospel in hundreds of homilies. A homily for you Protestants out there is really what a Protestant would call a sermon. It's really the only truly unique new thing in the Catholic service that you get

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every week. I mean, yeah, you get the Gospel readings and all that, but it's really the only place where the priest comments on anything or teaches anything. Other than that, he is going through the liturgy. He's going through the service as written.

Now, as you know, sermons in most Protestant churches are anywhere from 20 minutes to an hour. In virtually every Catholic church I've been to, ten minutes was a long homily, 15 was, wow, this guy. This guy's going to go too long, and we're not going to get out on time, that kind of thing. But these are very short, almost like little devotions. And as I mentioned, I never heard the Gospel in hundreds of homilies until the last mass I went to, which was my father's funeral in summer of 2024, years ago.

Now, Jimmy Akin in our show mentioned that the gospel is in the liturgy. But of course, I was referencing the sermons, the homilies. Also, the liturgy was so repetitious and rote that it had the opposite effect on many people, including myself, which was to numb you to its meaning.

Now, this is probably why Jesus told us not to pray with repetitious prayers. Now, I'm not saying all liturgy is bad. For some people, liturgy is good, and it helps them get closer to God. For me, it didn't. I wanted to learn. I didn't want to hear the same thing every week. I wanted to figure out who is God, who is Jesus, and what does he want me to do? I didn't get that in the Catholic Church.

Now, that's just me. Maybe there are other people that do. Okay, great. Not a problem. Now, since then, I've studied more on Roman Catholicism, and I found other theological issues that I find problematic, including praying to Mary and praying to saints, and allowing tradition to nullify the word of God. And, of course, the issue of justification. Now, Jimmy Akin, in our discussion on justification, seemed to say that we agree as Catholics.

He would say that justification is just like what Protestants believe, although we use different terminology. We're saved by grace. We're not saved by works. But I will tell you that if you surveyed Catholic people that went to church religiously, you would find far less than 50% would know that. Far less. I submit to you, maybe 5% would know that.

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Because in my experience, anyway, the structure of the church and the liturgy and certainly the homilies did not give you the idea that you were saved by grace. It certainly gave me the idea that I had to be good to make it to heaven. And bad people go to Hell, and good people go to heaven.

Now, there's an entire book written on this that we did reference when I had my discussion with Jimmy, and we're going to have Jimmy back on. I really enjoyed Jimmy. I think he's a solid guy, and I think he represents the Catholic position well. So, we're going to have some future discussions about a book that he actually endorsed and helped write, or at least helped edit is a book that was written by my co-author, Dr. Norman Geisler, called 'Roman Catholics and Evangelicals: Agreements and Differences.' Geisler and Ralph Mackenzie is the other author on it.

It's 25 years old. Still a great book. I asked Jimmy to reference a book similar to this from the Catholic side. Even though Catholics endorsed this book from Geisler and Mackenzie, including Jimmy himself, I can't remember exactly what he said. It's in the podcast, but he said there isn't one go-to resource if I remember. They're older. This is a good resource if you want to understand where Roman Catholics agree and disagree.

Now if Dr. Geisler, who studied this much more than I have, if he were here today, in fact, I heard him say this when he did a couple of sermons on why I'm not a Roman Catholic, if he had to sum it all up, why he's not a Roman Catholic, and I would agree with him on this, why I am not a Roman Catholic.

The central problem with the Roman Catholic Church, from his perspective, from my perspective, is that they've institutionalized salvation. Institutionalized salvation. In other words, if you want to be saved, you've got to go through the church and you've got to go through the sacraments. You've got to start with baptism as an infant, then move on to holy communion, and then confirmation, and then of course penance, and marriage, and last rites and all of these different sacraments which are doled out by the structure of the Roman Catholic Church.

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Now, maybe that's a misinterpretation on my part, or a misinterpretation on Dr. Geisler's part. Maybe we'll have Jimmy on to counter that. But that's how I and he understand Roman Catholicism, that they've institutionalized salvation. So, if you really want the evidence, this is a very short answer to this question, but get the book 'Roman Catholics and Evangelicals: Agreements and Differences.' Well worth your time. And I say that with all due respect to the Roman Catholic Church.

I agree with much of what the Roman Catholic church teaches, and also, I disagree with much of what it teaches as well. But there's certainly a lot of good that has come out of the Roman Catholic church in terms of its history. But also, I think there's been a lot of error as well. We'll pick that up on a future podcast with Jimmy. But that's my short answer to the question, why I am not a Roman Catholic. Okay.

Karen writes in and says I am a new Christian. I've really enjoyed Frank Turek's books and videos. I need advice on Bibles. I would like to start reading one, but I have no idea where to start. They all seem intimidating and hard to read and comprehend. Is there a certain Bible that is an accurate, true translation that is easy to read? Thank you.

Yeah, there are different translations. Karen. I think a good study Bible with some really good strong notes in there and introductions in the beginning of each of the books within the Bible will help you understand the context. It's so important to understand context that I think a good one that I've kind of been brought up on is the NIV. We kind of call it the nearly inspired version [Laughter] because it's not perfect in every respect, but no translation is.

But it's a good thought for thought translation. And I think it in most cases, does a pretty good job of staying to the original Hebrew or the original Greek or Aramaic so you can understand it. And the notes are very helpful. The Life Application Study Bible is the one, I think, that I have now. I have several of them, but that's the one I tend to use most of the time. Most translations are helpful. You can go all the way from a paraphrase like the New Living Translation, which you don't want to use for study, but you can use for devotion.

All the way to say the New American Standard Bible, which is the more literal translation, as is, say, the English Standard Version. Also, the New King James is quite good. They all have

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strengths. They all have weaknesses. There are versions you want to stay away from. Most versions are good except the perversion known as the New World translation. That's the Jehovah's Witness Bible. And they actually change words or insert words that aren't in the original Greek in order to get their theology to work out. It doesn't, but they do that.

Also, the Passion Bible is a bad translation. You don't want that version. Many others are good, however, and I would start with the NIV Study Bible. Just start there. Also, if you go on over to The Bible Project, they have some great little videos that summarize some biblical doctrines that will help you as well. So, The Bible Project does a really good job of these short, animated videos explaining what can be complicated biblical questions. And I think they have one on every book, if I'm not mistaken.

In fact, I do have like a coffee table book from them which goes through every single book of the Bible, which might be helpful as well. If you really want to go deep, I'd recommend either Blue Letter Bible, which is an online resource for the Bible, including commentaries. But if you really want to get into this, Karen, you ought to get Logos Bible software. L-O-G-O-S Bible software. It's the best stuff on the planet. I've had it for 30 years. I use it almost every day. It's got all sorts of great commentaries and resources on there.

You'll use less than 1% of what they give you. But it's just valuable material, a valuable program, and you can do a lot of great study there, compare translations, and get commentaries, and have Bible dictionaries you can look stuff up with. I mean, it's very, very helpful. So, thanks for that, Karen. And congratulations on becoming a new Christian. Welcome to the family.

All right, Zach writes, first of all, thank you so much, Frank, for what you do. I've been nonstop watching all your videos. You have helped me a lot better to understand Christianity and hope to someday be like you and help other people have the proper tactics to spread Christianity to others and to show it rationally.

Well, thanks, Zach. And by the way, let me go back to Karen for a second. If you want to know how to interpret the Bible, we do have a pretty good course on this called 'How to Interpret Your Bible.' You can take it in a self-paced way. Just go to CrossExamined.org. Click on online courses. You'll see it there, Karen.

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And Zach writing in about if you want to become an apologist, I'd recommend you take some of the courses we have up there at Crossexamined.org. Click on online courses. You'll see at least 25 courses. I teach several of them, but we have other instructors as well. People like Alisa Childers, J. Warner Wallace, Gary Habermas, Sean McDowell. They're all up there. Alisa Childers, they're all up there on the website. So, check that out, Zach.

And if you really want to get a degree in this, I highly recommend Southern Evangelical Seminary. That's where I went. SES.edu/Frank, you might be able to get a scholarship for some of the apologetics classes if you go to SES.edu/Frank. Anyway, Zach's question is this. I have been talking to my friend about the topic of transgenderism. I told him about how a lot of people who go through with it end up regretting their decision.

He came back to me with a stat that says only 1% feel that way. And I looked it up, and the first thing that popped up was that statistic. He says, I want to say that is just the media trying to push their agenda and detour people from the truth. My question is, where can I go to find accurate statistics on this matter? All right, this is one of the problems.

So much of this has been politicized, as we've talked about before. Even medical schools are politicized now. In the book, 'Correct, Not Politically Correct' we talk about the University of Minnesota, which about a year or two ago actually decided that they were going to have their students take basically a woke oath to not follow really the science, but to follow woke ideology and treat people. And this kind of political infection has occurred not only in medical schools, but it's occurred in journals.

It's occurred in associations like the American Psychiatric Association, the association that deals with pediatrics children. They've all bought into politics affecting what they say about what's really going on. So, you really kind of have to hunt down and decipher what's really true from what's false, Zach.

Now, the podcast we did on June 28 of this year, 2024, with Laura Bryant Hanford, if you go to that podcast, it's called 'The Real Life Horror Stories of Gender Ideology in Public Schools.' If you

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go there and look in the show notes, you're going to find a PDF of resources that will give you the accurate information you need. I can't say them all here.

It's a page and a half of PDF that has all sorts of links that will give you resources and fact sheets that you need to deal with this issue. I will say this, that in my own writing in the book, 'Correct, Not Politically Correct,' I cite a Swedish study that found out that there is a honeymoon period that people that do transition feel for about the first ten years after their transition, they do tend to feel better, but at the ten year mark, all proverbial hell breaks loose, and the suicide rate rises to 19 times higher than the general public after transitioning.

This is after the surgery. In other words, this is a longitudinal study. They're hard to come by. What are longitudinal studies? That's where you stay with the same group of people over a long period of time. You follow them through their life. So, this might take 20 years to do, this study. Well, this Swedish study did that and found that the suicide rate, as I say, is 19 times higher than the general public after the surgery. So, don't tell me these people felt better long term. They didn't.

And of course, there's always exceptions. Maybe some people do, but the overall data shows it's not a favorable outcome. The suicide rate prior to surgery is 13 times higher than the general public, but it rises to 19 times higher than the general public. And, ladies and gentlemen, as we point out in the book, 'Correct, Not Politically Correct', the suicide rate isn't necessarily driven by transgenderism. It's driven by other factors. People that claim to be transgender, two-thirds of them have other mental health issues other than transgenderism.

So, there's a series of causes going on here. You always can't just point to one. These people have mental health issues, and they need mental health care. They don't need surgery to fix a mental health problem that's fixed better by psychiatry, prayer, counseling, and in some cases, medication. But rarely do you do you fix a mental health problem with surgery. You don't fix anorexia by liposuction.

You fix it by mental health care. And yet, the parallel here is in the transgender world, in transgender ideology, you have people trying to fix a mental health problem with surgery, and that is not the solution. And that's what the data shows. So, you can get 'Correct, Not Politically

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Correct' Zach. You can also go, and I highly recommend you look in the show notes of the June 28, 2024 podcast with Laura Bryant Hanford. And she has so many great resources there. It will help you out.

Now, speaking of this, now that we're on this topic, I came across this Facebook post by Robert Gagnon. Dr. Robert Gagnon used to teach in Pittsburgh. Now he teaches at Houston Christian University. Brilliant guy who pulls no punches on the issues of transgenderism, homosexuality, and other sexual questions from a Christian perspective. And he writes this.

And this will help us evaluate that debate that happened a week or two ago between Trump and Biden and also give us a chance to address where these candidates stand on this issue. Now, before I get into this, I've got to point out, and we'll have a show on this in the future. I've mentioned this in passing, but we need to have a full show devoted to it. We will before the election, dealing with the question, what do you do if you don't like either candidate?

Not that I have anybody in mind, but I mean, can we all agree, ladies and gentlemen, that both Trump and Biden have character issues, that neither of them is straight up, that both of them have lied? That both of them have done things that shouldn't be done by anyone, certainly not politicians, that they do have morality problems. We can't get away from that. And we shouldn't sugarcoat it.

We should just tell the truth. So, what do you do when you have a situation like that? I wish we had strong, upright, moral candidates in both parties. We do not. So, what do you do? Well, my short answer is this, and I'll unpack this later. You need to vote the platform rather than the personality, because what's going to happen is on June, sorry, on January 20, 2025, when the new president arrives, whoever that is, that person's going to arrive with about 5000 other people, an entire administration. And they're going to implement an agenda.

They're going to implement a platform, and that platform is essentially going to be put into law. So, instead of concentrating on the personalities, we have problems on both sides of the aisle here. We ought to be concentrating on what policies they're going to put in place. Now, we'll do that on a future show. But with that being said, I want to read you what Robert Gagnon wrote, and it's from a Facebook post. We'll put it in the show notes.

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And the reason I'm doing this is because it's hard to know and remember the positions, the policies, and the statements of the candidates. You can't keep track of them all, and you often forget them. And so, a list is necessary to refresh our memory. Now, here's why Gagnon posted this lengthy post. I can't read it all. It's too long. But I'm going to read some of it. Here's what he said.

A godly Christian Facebook friend whom I respect, he says, this man has a theological PhD and holds the biblical position regarding homosexual practice and transgenderism. And he said, this man posted affirmingly this ridiculous meme. And before I tell you what the meme is, this is right on the heels of the debate, where, tragically, we saw that President Joe Biden is in some realm of mental decline.

I mean, we knew this for a long time, but it really showed itself. And it also showed, by the way, the media has been lying to us, the White House has been lying to us, trying to say, oh, no, these things that we see, where Biden stumbles, or falls, or all this, this is a deep fake. This doesn't really happen. He's sharp most of the time. We all now know they've been lying to us. Okay?

And I think, I'm obviously not a doctor, but I've heard other doctors say this, and I saw it in my dad before he died. He got something called sundowners. What's sundowners? During the day, he was mostly okay. But when the sun went down, he would get confused, he would get agitated. He wouldn't know where he was. He sometimes wouldn't even know who we were. He couldn't remember names. This is a known condition.

I guess it has something to do with dementia, but it had to do with when the sun went down. It's called sundowners. You can look it up. Anyway, back to Robert Gagnon. This friend of his, who is supposed to be a conservative Christian, said this about the debate, quote, I'll take the guy who speaks the truth with difficulty over the guy who clearly enunciates his lies any day of the week, unquote.

Now, here's Gagnon's response. Dear friend, Biden speaks the truth? You have got to be kidding me. Trump had many exaggerations and lies, certainly. He's talking about the debate. But Biden

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is far from clean on this. In the debate with Trump, Biden lied about, and he lists a number of things. I'm just going to list some of them. I don't have time to get into all of them. He says the Border Patrol endorsing him, they immediately issued a categorical denial that they would never endorse him for president.

Two, saying that there were now lower numbers of illegal aliens coming into our country than Trump ever had. What a whopper. From the person who was responsible for an unprecedented wave of illegal immigration involving eight to 18 million unvetted persons coming into the country. Let me stop right here. This is me talking, not Gagnon.

We should want people to come to this country. Immigration is a good thing, but it has to be controlled. You just can't let anybody across the border. This is not compassionate to have an open border. Why? Because people are coming across trafficking children, they're trafficking girls, they are trafficking drugs, weapons, terrorism. This is not the way to have immigration.

And Gagnon goes on to say, Trump just, I'm sorry, Biden just wants to turn Texas blue and wants to have illegal voting. And I don't disagree. That's probably what's going on here. In any event, let me get back to what he said. Oh, before I do, everyone believes in borders, ladies and gentlemen. Do you have a lock on your door? Yeah, everyone believes in borders.

The only question people are asking is, where should the border be drawn? Where should security be drawn? Quite obviously, it should be drawn at the border. Why would you allow people who may come in to harm you to get all the way up to your door and to bring drugs, and terrorism, and sexual trafficking with them? You shouldn't. Anyway, back to Gagnon.

He says, here's what Biden, another lie Biden said. And I caught this right away, saying that Roe, in combination with Doe versus Bolton, restricts abortion to a child's pre-viability. That's not true. It allows abortion until birth for the mother's health, loosely defined as including the mother's emotional and psychological health. In other words, as Gagnon points out, you know, a mother could just say at the nine month mark, you know, I just feel depressed. Okay, you can kill your child.

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That's what Roe v. Wade allowed, ladies and gentlemen. And so, Biden lied there. He also lied, according to Gagnon, not supporting abortion past fetal viability. Biden supports the so-called Women's Health Protection Act, which guarantees precisely that. By the way, ladies and gentlemen, on the 13th, sorry, not 13th, the 18th of July. We're going to have a livestream that evening with Scott Klussendorf because Scott is running the online course which begins August 5 for us, called 'How to Convince People to Be Pro-Life.'

This is an important issue, ladies and gentlemen. And you need, if you want to be effective in this area, and I hope you do, you need to get trained on it. And there's no better person to do that than Scott Klussendorf. Anyway, we're going to have a livestream on the 18th, and the actual course begins on the 5th of August. You can sign up now. I think there's probably an Early Bird special on that if you sign up now.

Just go to Crossexamined.org. Click on online courses. You will see it there. And the great thing about the premium version is you'll get to learn from one another and ask questions of Scott and other people in the class. It's really a very strong way to help learn how to defend life and defend the Christian worldview. So, I'll see you on the 18th for the livestream. Back to Gagnon's column here. It's actually on Facebook. He said this about Biden.

Biden claiming the unemployment rate was at 15% when he came into office. It was actually 6.4%. How could he say 15%? It hasn't been 15%, probably since Jimmy Carter. That's crazy. Biden also claiming that inflation was at 9% when he came into office. No, it was actually 1.4%. And he mentioned a few other things.

And Gagnon then said this beyond the debate, consider Biden's extreme failings as president. Biden has been the biggest promoter of LGBTQ causes of any president and has done the greatest amount of harm. Biden issued an executive order that changed sex discrimination in Title IX to include transgender discrimination, mandating trans girls, in other words, biological boys in girl's restrooms, lockers, and sports, period. Let me end here.

This is me now, not Gagnon. This is not something a president ought to be able to do alone without Congress. Title IX is a law, and laws are made by the Congress along with the consent of the president. Or as you know, the Congress can override a presidential veto. For him to

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unilaterally just change Title IX in order to change sex discrimination to transgender discrimination would seem to require Congress, not just an executive order. In fact, executive orders in general, unless they're dealing with just the executive branch of the government, should not happen. And both Republican and Democrat presidents have used executive orders, I think, illegitimately.

You know, you don't just... Unless you're trying to direct your executive branch to do something that the law already tells you to do. Okay, that would be a legitimate executive order. But to change a law, that's not the purview of any one person. This is why, by the way, all this nonsense about people claiming Trump would be a dictator. You can't be a dictator in our system.

And anytime a president tries to do that, the other side is going to bring that to court to try and say he does not have the authority to do so. In any event, back to Gagnon. He talks about President Biden was high profile gay and trans persons or has high profile gay and trans persons into his administration and regularly welcome to the White House the most garish possible trans persons, including men with beards identifying as women and drag queens.

His administration is challenging Tennessee's ban on gender-affirming care for minors, and his Department of Justice is seeking to prosecute a Texas doctor who blew the whistle on trans surgery for minors. He supports state sponsored child abuse through his trans policy, which is chemical castration and surgical mutilation of minors, puts males in female private places and sports, promotes the forced indoctrination of children in LGBTQ immorality, wants to put parents at risk of losing a child that identifies as gay or trans if the parents don't approve of the identity, and threatens both free speech by compelling trans pronouns and free exercise of religion in a way that nothing else does, especially by promoting the so called Equality Act.

All right, let me stop right here. Again, and Professor Gagnon is spot on. In fact, I talk about this in 'Correct, Not Politically Correct', about how the fact that Biden is wanting the government to take children away from parents when parents don't want, say, their seven year old or 13 year old to go through a transition that the child may want to do. It is child abuse to do this, ladies and gentlemen, to take a child through something that I've pointed out before and point out in the book, 'Correct, Not Politically Correct.'

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A child doesn't have the capacity to make that decision at that age. And as we all know, kids go through phases. Things change, desires change. It makes no sense to try and do this which sterilizes a kid while a child is at that age. If a kid later on in life wants to go do this, it's not advised, but it's a free country, go ahead. But a child doing this is child abuse.

And I agree, as I said with Jordan Peterson, who says anybody that any surgeon that does this to a child ought to be imprisoned anyway. Gagnon goes on to say the voicing of LGBTQ laws and ideology is one of his two main idols. The other is to overturn Dobbs and reinstate Roe and Doe, Roe vs. Wade and Doe vs. Bolton, promoting the gruesome slaughter of innocent lives, supporting, as I mentioned, the so called, called Women's Protection Act, which makes abortion a right for all nine months of pregnancy.

Let me stop again, ladies and gentlemen. This is now a state issue largely, but Biden again wants to make it a federal issue and he wants every state essentially to have abortion all the way through nine months of pregnancy. And certain states now have it, like New York, like California, like Oregon, like Washington State, I believe, like Vermont, like Illinois.

There may be a couple of others I'm leaving out, but that's the state prerogative. Now, that easy for me to say. Roe v. Wade has been overturned properly. States can make their own laws on this issue. And I think what Trump did in the debate on this issue actually worked to the pro-life position quite well. By rightfully pointing out that the extremists on the abortion issue are not the pro-lifers.

The extremists on the abortion issue are people like Joe Biden, and Gavin Newsom and, and Hochul there in New York, and others, other governors out there who want abortion all the way through the moment of birth and sometimes even after birth, as the former governor, Virginia, pointed out. Ralph Northam, I believe his name was. I may have his name wrong. I'm doing this from memory.

He was the governor prior to the current governor, Youngkin, who basically said, yeah, if you give birth to an aborted child and the child lives, well, we're just going to let the child die, essentially. We'll see what happens. This is barbaric, ladies and gentlemen. I mean, at least the

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Nazis tried to hide what they were doing. Some of these folks out there who are in our government are applauding what they are doing, not only killing children, but mutilating them. And we're not supposed to say a word about it?

Sorry, ladies and gentlemen, our love for God and love for one another requires us to speak out on this. Gagnon goes on to say, President Biden has promoted the use of taxpayer money to fund abortions. His Department of Justice has made a special point of persecuting. Sorry, prosecuting. But persecuting works too. Prosecuting and sending to jail peaceful pro-life protesters.

He has promoted on social media cites government censorship of views at odds with the ideology of the Democratic Party and attempted to establish a permanent disinformation governance board that would have further restricted free speech. His court appointments will solidify extreme radical sexual agenda and abridgement of civil liberties for Christians for decades to come.

His female nominees of SCOTUS, that's the Supreme Court, can't even define what a woman is so wedded is he to trans ideology or she to trans ideology. And he goes on to point out about the weaponization of the Justice Department to go after his political rival, Trump. He says Biden is the head of the Democratic Party which has gone after Trump, prosecuting Trump in a matter of a banana republic with ridiculous lawsuits posing a far greater threat to democracy than anything Trump had a hand in.

He made the point in the debate to emphasize that Trump was the only convicted felon to run for the presidency. Yet even some key Democrats, like New York former governor Cuomo, also a couple of CNN commentators and a Yale law professor, view the New York felony conviction as an unfair politicization of the justice system. Trump rightly noted that a key member of Biden's Justice Department suspiciously transferred to District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office in New York.

The Biden social justice, or the Biden Justice Department special prosecutor, has indicted Trump for possession of classified documents, something that Biden also did, and that when he was only vice president, and for an alleged conspiracy to steal the 2020 election. In public

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statements, Biden has supported the prosecution of his chief political opponent at the state and local level. And he goes on.

He also mentions Afghanistan, which is something I'm glad Trump brought up in the debate because that I agree with Trump was one of the worst days in the history of the United States military. Here's what Gagnon says about it. As regards foreign affairs, his handling of the Afghanistan affair was an unmitigated disaster that probably encouraged Putin to view the US as weak and ineffectual and so to risk an invasion of Ukraine.

He also rescinded Trump's restoration of United States sanctions on Iran, making it possible for money to flow back into Iran, which in turn funded the brutal Hamas attacks on Israel. And then he talks about the economy. And let's be, let's be honest, ladies and gentlemen, both political parties have not done well when it comes to the deficit. They're both spending like drunken sailors, and that's an insult to drunken sailors, okay?

It's been horrific in terms of our debt, \$34 trillion as of right now. That needs to change somehow, ladies and gentlemen. And then Gagnon goes on to say, on top of Biden's disastrous policies and court appointments, Biden clearly doesn't have the mental wherewithal to continue in office for another four years, meaning he would have to be replaced by someone even worse, Kamala Harris.

And now, writing to the so-called Christian who said he supported Biden, here's what Gagnon says. I strongly urge you to reconsider your political position. Now, we will put all this in the show notes, ladies and gentlemen, so you can read it for yourself. Agree or disagree, but I think that Gagnon has reminded us of some of the terrible lies and policies of the Biden Administration. This is, of course, not to say that Trump is 100% great lining up with Christianity.

He's not, not personally and not on the policy level either. But he's much closer, as we'll see in a future program when you compare the profiles, I should say, when you compare the platforms, the Republican platform is much closer to the biblical platform on the major issues than is the Democrat platform. And I don't think that's even debatable anymore, ladies and gentlemen.

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Now, Gagnon went on to point out Trump's position on the transgender issue. And I thought it was quite telling that in the debate, not one question had to do with the transgender issue. Yet, it is very prominent in our culture today. About a year ago, Trump came out with this statement. It's a video statement of him reading a teleprompter on this issue.

Here is what Trump said from eleven months ago. He said, quote, the left wing gender insanity being pushed on our children is an act of child abuse. Here is my plan to stop the chemical, physical, and emotional mutilation or mutilation of our youth. On day one, I will revoke Joe Biden's cruel policy on so-called gender affirming care, a process that includes giving kids puberty blockers, mutating their physical appearance, and ultimately performing surgery on minor children.

I will sign a new executive order instructing every federal agency to cease all programs that promote the concept of sex and gender transition at any age. All right, let me stop right here. If Biden put forth an illegitimate executive order doing the opposite, then Trump is saying, I'm going to reverse it to the way it was, the way the law defined it.

So, he's using an executive order properly here. If a bad executive order was put forth by Biden illegitimately, Trump is simply reverting to the way it was. All right, let me go back to Trump's statement. I will then ask Congress to permanently stop federal tax paying dollars from being used to promote or pay these procedures and pass a law. That's the way to do it. Pass a law. ...prohibiting child sexual mutilation in all 50 states.

I will declare that any hospital or health care provider that participates in chemical or physical mutilation of minor children will no longer meet federal health and safety standards for Medicaid and Medicare and will be terminated from the program immediately. Furthermore, I will support the creation of a private right of action for victims to sue doctors who give unforgivably performed these procedures. Oh, sorry.

Who have unforgivably performed these procedures on minor children. Department of Justice will investigate Big Pharma and the hospital workers who determine whether or not they have deliberately covered up horrific long-term side effects of same-sex transition, in order to get rich at the expense of vulnerable patients.

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We will also investigate whether Big Pharma or others have illegally marketed hormones and puberty blockers which are in no way licensed or approved for this use. And then he goes on to talk about Department of Education, teachers, Congress. He goes through it all. I'm not going to read the whole thing. We'll put it in the show notes.

So, you can see there is a stark difference on this issue between former President Trump and current President Biden. Trump does not believe in transitioning children and will stop it. Biden wants it to continue and is even threatening to take children from their parents who do not agree. Ladies and gentlemen, those are the facts. You have to decide what to do with them, but those are the facts.

Personally, again, I do not think that God, that Jesus would approve of mutilating children in the name of gender ideology. It's horrific. Yet, that is exactly what our current government is pushing, even though other countries, far more liberal than us in the UK, have stopped it. In fact, Scotland just stopped it. The UK, Britain stopped it. And one of the reasons they've stopped it, in addition to understanding that it does no good and actually does harm to children, they are now being sued because children do not have informed consent.

And now that they're adults, they're suing their doctors and their clinic, saying, what did you do to me? This is what Chloe Cole is doing. She's doing here in America to her doctors. Rightfully so, because at 15 they cut her breasts off. And now at 19 she's saying, you conducted Nazi like experiments on me and you shouldn't have done that.

Now, I know, ladies and gentlemen, we don't like to talk about these issues. These issues are very hard to deal with. But I'm sorry. As Christians, we have to stand for what's right and true, and we have to protect innocent people from evil. And so, we have to tell you the truth on those issues and let you decide what you're going to do in the voting booth, let you decide what you're going to do with your friends, with your churches, with your pastors, with your family when these issues come up.

We do not love people by hiding the truth from them. We do not love people by encouraging them to go down a road which the data show, much less what even the Scriptures would show.

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But what the data show is not going to be helpful to them long term. As Thomas Sowell famously said, when you want to help people, you tell them the truth. When you want to help yourself, you tell them what they want to hear. We need to start telling people the truth, ladies and gentlemen.

Now, we do have a question on Romans 9, and since that's going to take a while to answer, we're not predestined to deal with it. But we will deal with that question and the whole predestination free will, Calvinism, Molinism, Arminianism issue in the next future podcast, the midweek podcast. I think we'll probably do it a week from today, but I have the free will to decide when I'm going to do it. But look out for that program. It's coming. We'll deal with that issue.

And if you do want to send a question in, send it to hello@crossexamined.org. That's hello@crossexamined.org. We can't get to all of them, but we try and get to as many as we can. So, check all that out. Just send us an email hello@crossexamine.org. And don't forget that this December we are going to go to Egypt and Saudi Arabia for an unbelievable trip discussing the Exodus, the amazing sites in Egypt, and also what we think is the real Mount Sinai in Saudi Arabia.

We will even climb the real Mount Sinai, at least partially. If you want to be a part of that, go to crossexamined.org, click on events. You will see the Egypt Saudi Arabia trip. I will be your instructor. We'll also have some guides, Christian guides from the area that will help us through those areas. And it's going to be a once in a lifetime trip, ladies and gentlemen. You will not want to miss it. It's in the first two weeks of December where the weather is perfect in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and you're going to want to be a part of it.

And for those of you that are concerned about going to countries like that, trust me. In fact, the lady that, first of all, there's always risk no matter where you go. But the lady that organizes this for us, the great Rhonda Sand over there at LivingPassages.com, has been to Saudi Arabia herself at least two dozen times. Many times she goes alone. I'm telling you, she's just, she's been invited into that country and to bring people into it.

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And we're going to see some amazing sites. Same thing is true with Egypt. She's got great contacts there, been several times alone. But we're going as a group, and I think you're going to want to be a part of it. So, check it out there. Also want to mention that this, there's several events coming up in July that hopefully you're going to want to be a part of.

If you're in Charlotte, North Carolina, we're doing an event for high school and college students. It's called The Grounded Youth Conference on the 23rd of July. All the details on our website, that's here in Charlotte, North Carolina. Then I'm going to be at the TPUSA Believer's Summit in West Palm beach on the 27th.

Actually, that goes from the 26th through the 28th. I'm actually speaking on the 26th. I'm sorry, the evening of the 26th. But you'll have, I'll be there along with Eric Metaxas, Allie Beth Stuckey. You'll have Charlie Kirk, you'll have Seth Dylan of The Babylon Bee, and so many others over that weekend in West Palm beach. Then on the 29th, I'll be up in Bangor, Maine, going from Florida to Bangor, Maine, for the Why Now The Church Conference along with Erwin Lutzer and several others.

And then on the 30th, I'll be in Portland, Maine, for the same conference just down the road. Then the CrossExamined Instructor Academy begins on the 1st of August through the third. If we have any seats available, go to our website. You'll see if we do Crossexamined.org. Look for CIA, the CrossExamined Instructor Academy.

So, a lot coming up, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you can be a part of it. Check our website out for more and the calendar. And Lord willing, I will see you here this coming Friday for a great show with Sean McDowell. See you then. And don't forget, next week we'll deal with the Romans 9 issue. See you then.

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