

Jewish Man Asks: Why Do My “Christian” Friends Hate Israel? PLUS More Q&A

September 29, 2026

FRANK:

Ladies and gentlemen, I got a question from a Jewish man telling me that his Christian friends say the Old Testament superseded. We don't need to even to worry about it. And then he's asking questions about why is there so much anti-Semitism. We're going to cover his question. It's quite in-depth. And he also asked why don't Christians even know about the Jewish holidays?

Actually, when we get into this, we're going to actually see that the Jewish holidays point to Jesus, so we'll look at that. Also, got a question from a missionary in Taiwan who said, a lot of people over there think that, well, religion's just a matter of preference. It's just a matter of helping yourself in this life. You know, whatever works. It sounds a lot like people in America too.

I'm just picking a religion because it works. Is that the way we ought to pick a religion? We'll talk about that. And then we've had a lot of interest thankfully in the book *The War on Reality* because of you. In fact, it made the New York Times bestseller list. And the problem of course with that is now we're associated with the New York Times and every day I read the New York Times and the Bible just to see what both sides are doing.

No, actually there are other lists too. New York Times is one, USA Today is another, publishers, they have different ways of trying to figure out who makes their list. There's different criteria, but we were blessed to make the New York Times bestseller list. That's probably the one that's most well known. So the book is doing well. It's got a lot of great information in it that can help you in today's culture.

We'll talk a little bit about that, and then we're going to get into the Charlie Kirk Memorial a couple of weeks ago out at UVU. What happened there. But let's start right at the top with a question from Mark. He might be writing from Israel actually, and he says this: "Hi, I loved Charlie Kirk because he made me believe that Christianity and Judaism, at some level, had a beautiful relationship.



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Although many differences, Charlie made me feel like there was some synergy and cohesiveness to our connection amongst the two groups. Today, my friends that are Christians say to me the Old Testament's null and void and no longer applicable it's finished. They act if it's no longer important and not part of the Christian faith at all.

Many of my friends who hold this position will go as far as to denounce Jesus of being religiously Jewish; they'll say things like he destroyed Judaism as well as say, Jews are the synagogue of Satan." All right, let me stop right here. The synagogue of Satan stuff. This that comes out of a passage or two in the book of Revelation, and it has to do with a particular group of people at a church that, one of the seven churches, as you know from the book of Revelation.

It's not talking about all Jews or Judaism in general. It happens to be talking about an individual group of people at the time who were giving the new Christians a lot of trouble. Okay, it's a specific group of people, not all Jews and not Judaism. All right, so let's just nip that in the bud right there. Let me keep going. "Why do Christians," the writer, Mark, says, "why do Christians not know important Jewish holidays that Jesus practiced regularly?

I asked a few of my friends if they knew what Passover was." All right, let's start right here. Why don't we take a look at some of the Jewish holidays? Okay, Passover, of course, is the oldest religious holiday practiced anywhere in the world continually. Okay, so this goes all the way back to about 1446 B.C.

That's our best estimate, given the biblical data of the time of the Exodus. And the Passover is a memorial of Israel's deliverance from Egypt through the blood of the Lamb. And this is, of course, described, in terms of when it happened, it would be Exodus 12, but Leviticus 23 lays out the different Jewish holidays or feasts.

You know, there's the Sabbath, there's the Passover, there's unleavened bread, there's first fruits, there's the Feast of Weeks, also called Pentecost, there's the Feast of the Trumpets, there's the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles. Well, Passover is of course probably the most well-known, as I say, it goes all the way back to 1446 B.C.

And for a Christian not to know the significance of Passover is actually pretty embarrassing because it turns out that Jesus is the Passover lamb. Where, of course, in Exodus they slayed a lamb and put the blood over the doorpost, and then the homes that had the blood on the doorpost, and so the firstborn of those homes did not die.

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He, they were saved from death. Well, fast forward to Jesus, Jesus's blood is what allows death to essentially pass over us. Because his blood is what saves us from eternal damnation; his blood saves us from eternal death. We are saved because of his sacrifice.

So Jesus died on Passover, and Paul calls him our Passover lamb, sacrificed for believers. This is 1 Corinthians 5 verse 7. And this is central really to the gospel. In fact, I gotta look up a passage because let's take a look at Romans 3. I love what Paul does in Romans chapter, you know, the whole book of Romans is amazing, as you know.

It's Paul's magnum opus in terms of in terms of theology. And here's what he writes in Romans chapter 3 after he talks about the, after he talks about condemnation, he begins in chapter 3 verse 21 to start to talk about justification, and he says, "But now," this is verse 21 of chapter 3 of the book of Romans, "but now apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been made known to which the law and the prophets testimony." Or testify, I should say, "the law and the prophets testify.

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ in all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile." Stop. All Jews, all Gentiles have to come through Jesus. He is the Passover lamb. And it says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement." That's what the blood of the Lamb did.

"Through the shedding of His blood to be received by faith, He did this to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished." Now some translations will put it this way: "Because in His forbearance He passed over the sins committed beforehand unpunished." You think Paul's using that that term passed over, or that phrase passed over, to hearken back to the Passover itself.

"And he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Christ Jesus." As to be just and the justifier. Why is Jesus the only way? Because there's no other way an infinitely just God can allow sinners to go unpunished. Because if He's infinitely just, He has to punish sinners. But He doesn't want to punish sinners because He's also infinitely loving.

So He provides the sacrifice of atonement. He takes the punishment upon Himself, so He can pass over our sins and bring us into salvation. He can save us. So, as in the Old Testament, where God, passes over the homes of the Israelites who put the blood of the Lamb on their

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doorposts, in the New Testament, God passes over punishing us for our sins because He punishes Jesus in our place.

So, Paul is using that in Romans 3. He's using that in 1 Corinthians 5. to point out that the feast of Passover, the holiday of Passover, is actually fulfilled in Jesus. In fact, you could make a case that all of the Jewish feasts are actually fulfilled in Jesus.

Take the feast of the First Fruits. That's where you're offering the first of the harvest to God as acknowledgement that the whole harvest belongs to Him. Now Paul directly calls the risen Jesus the first fruits of those who will be raised. This is 1 Corinthians 15. This is the famous section in the Bible about the resurrection in Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 15. His resurrection is the beginning and pledge of believers' resurrection. In other words, he has the first fruits. His resurrection is the first fruits of the glorified body that will never decay. You know, other people that have been resurrected in the Bible, there's about 10 of them.

They all died again. They didn't get an imperishable body. They were resuscitated to die again. Jesus got an imperishable glorified body that will never decay; that's the body we will ultimately get at the final resurrection. So the Feast of the First Fruits looks forward to Jesus as well. Also, how about the Feast of Weeks? It's also called Pentecost.

That's a harvest celebration held 50 days after first fruits. By the way, if you want to see all these feasts in one chapter, they're all in Leviticus 23, or at least most of them are anyway. Leviticus 23, if you want to read about them in the Old Testament. Now, of course, in Acts 2, the Holy Spirit was given to the gathered disciples at Pentecost, which really marks the beginning, the public beginning and empowerment of the church.

So the harvest is the theme associated with the gathering of God's people to God in Acts 2. There's a harvest, obviously, in the Feast of Weeks in the Old Testament. That's 50 days after the first fruits, a literal harvest of crops, but the disciples and the Holy Spirit, really the Holy Spirit, that initiates this for the harvest of people in Acts 2.

So what you see in the Old, this is why, by the way, the Old Testament is so relevant today. Unlike what your Christian friends, Mark, your Christian friends have said. It's so relevant today because it's all pointing to Jesus. In fact, Jesus himself says. In Luke 24, the whole Old Testament

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is about me, and that's what we've unpacked in the new series called The Bible You Never Knew, which, by the way, you can now see on; we just, we're finishing up the course right now.

It's now on TV. Oh, I think we just had the first session broadcast a week or two ago. You can watch it on our YouTube channel. No, it's on our YouTube channel. It's on our website.

Wednesday nights at 9 p.m. Eastern Time. If you have DirecTV, you can see it on Channel 378. Wednesday night it's at 9. But if you don't have DirecTV, you can watch it streaming live on our website crossexamined.org.

The entire series. It's called The Bible You Never Knew. You can also take the course if you want to go much deeper. We're finishing up the premium course, but if you go to crossexamined.org, click on online courses, you can take the self-paced course anytime you want. We can go a lot deeper than just the video. So check all that out because the Old Testament is pointing to Jesus.

How about the Day of Atonement? That's, of course Yom Kippur, it's called. It's normally in September. It's coming up probably next week if I'm if I'm or maybe it just did. It just happened. It's right it's right about now in September. It's Israel's most solemn annual day. It involves affliction, rest, and sacrificial atonement for cleansing. This is in Leviticus 16 and Leviticus 23.

Now, of course, the book of Hebrews presents Jesus as the final high priest, whose once and for all self-offering accomplishes what the old sacrificial system foreshadowed. You know, the whole sacrificial system where they're slaying lambs for thousands or at least hundreds of years, they're slaying lambs at the temple. That is actually pointing to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

That's why the New Testament believers didn't continue with the temple sacrifices, because the sacrifices were just symbols of the ultimate sacrifice, and that is Jesus. We don't need to slay these lambs anymore. These lambs are just symbols of the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world; here he is.

So, there are so many of these feasts from the Old Testament that are fulfilled in Jesus. If not all of them, they're all fulfilled in Jesus. So, Mark, I think your Christian friends are doing a disservice to you. Instead of saying they don't apply, or they have no relevance today, they ought to be, because they love you, they ought to be pointing you to those feasts or holy days, and saying those feasts are holy days point to the Messiah and the Messiah has come.

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His name is Jesus. And look, you know, I understand that a lot of people say, "Well, look, I'm Jewish. I don't believe in Jesus." It's sort of like a cultural sort of claim or sort of belief that, "Well, since we're Jewish, we don't believe in Jesus." Of course, Jesus was Jewish, as you rightfully said.

And I would urge everybody, regardless of what their current religious posture is, to investigate the claims of Jesus. I'm not just saying that as a Christian. I'm just saying that as somebody who's interested in truth. I mean, it's undeniable that Jesus of Nazareth is the most influential human being in history. That's undeniable.

And so every human being. If you're going to consider yourself someone who's interested in truth, has to at least investigate what he allegedly said and did. You may check it out and say, "Well, I don't think it really happened, or I don't think he's the Messiah, or I don't think he'd God." Fine, check. Okay, fine. You, maybe you come to that conclusion, but at least you have to investigate what he said and did.

You have to at least read the accounts, which by the way were all written by Jews. Jews who didn't think a man could claim to be God and rise from the dead; they thought claiming to be God was blasphemy, and they didn't think one guy would rise from the dead in the middle of time. They knew everyone would rise from the dead at the end of time because, as you know, Mark, both Isaiah, Exodus, and even Ezekiel to a certain extent, no, I'm sorry, Isaiah, Daniel, and even Ezekiel to a certain extent, talk about a coming resurrection, a resurrection of all people.

So you have to at least investigate what Jesus of Nazareth, what he allegedly said and did. You just can't dismiss it. I mean, of course you can, but I don't think you're being intellectually honest if you do. And if there's a chance Jesus is the Messiah, and I think the evidence is very strong, he is the Messiah and is the Son of God.

Obviously, I mean, I wrote the book, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist* with Dr. Norman Geisler. By the way, the update to *Atheist* comes out October 27th. Yeah, we, of course Dr. Geisler passed on in October, I'm sorry, in in 2019, July of 2019. So I had to update it along with Dr. Geisler's son David, who actually I sent the transcript to him and he helped edit it.

So Dr. Geisler's fingerprints are still on the text, in the new text, I should say, but that's coming out October 27th. So I hope you're interested in investigating the evidence. And *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist* argues from the ground up. Does truth exist? All the way to the fact that the Bible is the Word of God. And so I hope you give it a fair reading, Mark.

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But I do appreciate the question, and there's more to the question I'm going to get to here in a minute because you're going to ask more about not just the fact that the Old Testament is relevant today, but in the defense of your Christian friends, let me say one thing that maybe they meant and they overstated.

Christians, of course, believe that the Old Testament ceremonial and civil laws are no longer applicable to us today; they were fulfilled by Jesus. This doesn't mean that those laws don't have some instructive element to them for us today. It's just that as Christians, we believe there's a new covenant, so the old covenant doesn't apply to us anymore in the way that it's binding on us.

I mean, we believe there are truths still in those passages, but they're not binding on it. Like you ask us about the Sabbath, you know, why don't we obey the Sabbath anymore? Because, according to Christianity, the Sabbath, our rest is in Jesus. It's not in a holy day that we somehow adhere to with some sort of religious obligation, because Jesus fulfilled all of those, and our Sabbath now is in Jesus.

And this is why, out of the ten commandments, nine of them are repeated in the New Testament as obligatory on Christians. Only one of them isn't, and that is keep holy the Sabbath, because Jesus is our rest. Now, let me caveat that by saying this does not mean that the Sabbath is not a good thing to do. One day a week to dispense with your typical, your typical schedule and to concentrate on God, concentrate on your family, maybe put down your iPhone.

And this is the book that Charlie Kirk wrote in the last few months of his life. It's right behind me on the shelf there. It's called Stop in the Name of God. But Charlie was not arguing that it's obligatory because Paul clearly says that don't let anyone tell you have to obey any Sabbath or festival day. I think that's Colossians chapter 2. Because Christ has fulfilled all those, and maybe that's why Mark some people, some Christians have said, "Well, we don't have to worry about festival days.

We don't have to worry about the Sabbath." Yeah, the problem is though they're missing the teaching. They're missing the fact that those holidays, those feasts are pointing to their Messiah, Jesus, and they're pointing to your Messiah too, Jesus, because I think again Jesus is the Messiah. They're not obligatory, but they are instructive. They do help us understand how God brought forth the Messiah to us, and how God has been faithful to keep His Word throughout the centuries.

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So, when we say when your Christian friends are saying, "Well, it's no longer applicable to us," they may be saying that, but they're overstating the case. They shouldn't be saying, "Well, we don't have to look at the Old Testament at all." Much of the Old Testament still is applicable to us. It's just not the civil laws and ceremonial laws. That's not applicable anymore. All right, but obviously the history is still applicable.

The prophecy is still applicable. Psalms are still applicable. Proverbs are still applicable. That I mean, it's just certain, it's just that the covenant that we have a new covenant now. That's all. So it's unfortunate that maybe your Christian friends don't have the proper theology on this, and so they overstated the case in simply trying to say we have a new covenant and certain aspects of the Old Testament are no longer binding on us.

Certain laws are no longer binding on us. Now Mark goes on to say this: "I'm sure you have social media, so I can imagine you see the same hateful content that they seem to subscribe to," meaning people who are anti-Semitic on social media, "my question is why did everything turn this evil after Charlie Kirk's death?" Well, I think I can tell you why.

Charlie, as we've said on this program, was murdered not because any of his faults. He was murdered because of his strengths. He was too effective for Jesus, and so it appears a crazed leftist in a trans relationship, the best evidence we have to this point, is the one that murdered Charlie Kirk. And Charlie was such a dynamic personality that he was the glue that kept the conservative movement together.

He was the person that could keep Ben Shapiro and Tucker Carlson in the same room and say to them, "Look, I know you guys have differences, but would you rather get 80 percent of what you want or 0 percent? We need to stay together." So Charlie was good at doing that. Now Tucker has since gone way off the reservation, quite obviously. He, he, he's not only come out against Israel on everything; he's now somebody out there saying Islam is good.

You go, Tucker, wake up, man. Come on. Islam is good. Only 1400 years of history will tell you otherwise. You couldn't even have the Tucker Carlson podcast in Iran or Saudi Arabia. They don't allow it, Tucker. Wake up. In any event, Charlie was the glue that could keep all of those disparate personalities and disagreements still pointing toward one truth.

Now, or at least one political solution, the conservatives. Now there's nobody there to do that, but there's another reason Mark, and that is Jesus and the apostles called Satan a murderer, liar,

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accuser, and slanderer who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy. We had a murder last year, last September.

What have we had since then? Lies, accusations, and slander seeking to steal, kill, and destroy. And people don't believe in the demonic. How could it be more obvious? Yes, it's happening. It's demonic and I think it was, Ben Gurion, your first prime minister, who said something like this, I'm paraphrasing, he said, "Any Jew who doesn't believe in miracles isn't paying attention," because the history of Israel is full of miracles, not just in biblical history, but even he would say in the founding of the nation, and maybe some other events that have occurred.

And so for, I don't know your sort of denomination in Judaism, Mark, but I would urge you to look into the fact that the Old Testament scriptures are telling the truth about the miraculous and about the demonic, and so are the New Testament scriptures, and we can see it all around us.

And if you're concerned about anti-Semitism as I am, and I know you are. How do you explain anti-Semitism without the demonic? I mean, how? Why are the Jews almost universally and uniquely singled out to be hated and persecuted year after year, age after age?

Why is that? Because they represent the true God. They are through whom God brought salvation, as Jesus himself said, salvation comes from the Jews. It comes through the Jews. Yes, the Jews are God's chosen people. That doesn't mean they're favored. It just means that God chose them to bring His favor to the rest of the world.

Everybody, if they want to have their sins forgiven, has to come through Jesus, who of course is Jewish. So, we're not saying that because a group of people is chosen to bring salvation to the world that everyone in that group is going to be saved, because everybody makes a choice at some point to either follow Jesus or not, to turn from him.

And Jesus is not going to force you into heaven against your will. If you don't want him now, you're not going to want him in eternity. Now, Paul does say in Romans chapter 11, in a passage that Christians argue over, what does Paul mean when he says all Israel will be saved? Does he mean every single Jew in the end times will be saved, or does he mean that a big portion of Israel is going to have their blinders taken off, and they're going to actually see the Messiah, the one who they pierced, as Zechariah says?

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By the way, if you read Zechariah, I think it's 12 or 14. I'm trying to remember which chapter, but if you read those passages there, it says "they," meaning the Jews, "will look on the one they pierced, and who's pierced?" Yahweh's pierced. Yahweh, the God of the Old Testament, is pierced. When was Yahweh pierced? When he hung on a cross in 33 A.D.

That's what that passage is saying. And there's so much Old Testament prophecy about this, Mark. If you look at those passages in Zechariah, you look at Isaiah chapter 53, you look at Daniel chapter 9, you look at Isaiah chapter 9 that child will be called God, or he will be God and called Emmanuel, God with us.

He will be born. I mean, there's so many prophecies that point to Jesus being God and being the Messiah that I think if you take an honest look at it and just set aside any sort of allergy you might have to considering Jesus as the Messiah, when you set that aside, I think the evidence is pointing very strongly to Jesus being the Messiah, being God.

So, Mark goes on to say, "Today the internet has plagued many of my friends to blindly believe anti-Jew, anti-Israel is the way and the truth. Today, my friend told me, as a Christian, he would want nothing more than to see Israel be wiped from the map." Okay, he's working for the wrong side there then. I'm not sure your friend actually is a Christian.

Read the Bible. Why would you want, first of all, let's just leave the Bible out of it for a second. Why would you want the only democracy in the Middle East to be wiped out? Why? What, what, what, what possible motivation would one have for that? Okay, and I would ask your friend, your so-called Christian friend, to ask him if he's read the Hamas Charter.

If he hasn't read the Hamas Charter, he should consider himself uneducated, and he shouldn't even have an opinion until he reads that. Because when he reads that, all he's going to see is the fact that Hamas wants to commit genocide against the Jews and wipe them out. They don't want a two-state solution; they want a one-state solution. No Israel. All Jews dead. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.

That is actually a slogan for genocide. And it's quite ironic that people are claiming Israel's committing genocide when in fact that's exactly what Hamas has been trying to do ever since they were founded in 1988. And it's actually what Muhammad wanted to do. He said, "Kill any Jew that comes into your power." This is Muhammad going way back to 630 A.D. So this has been going on for 1400 years, and apparently your friend, your so-called Christian friend, A. doesn't know history, B.

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doesn't know current events, and C. hasn't read the Bible. So you might just want to educate him on that and ask him this question: If it really was true, and it is, that Hamas wants to wipe out all the Jews, and Israel is defending themselves, not perfectly, no one ever does, but would you stop from this nonsense, This nonsense position, this immoral position that you would like to see Israel wiped from the map.

Ask him. Ask him that question. So, thanks for your question Mark. There's a little bit more to it, but I do want to urge you, urge you to look into the evidence for Christianity. Urge you at least read the Gospels and say read the book of Romans, because you owe it to yourself to follow the truth wherever it leads.

Oh, by the way, one other thing about Israel. When we say that, and we've done shows on why Christians should be supporting the modern state of Israel, we'll put them in the show notes, and we're not we're not going to dive into every detail now. We don't have time, but that doesn't mean you have to agree with Israel, the modern state of Israel, on everything. I don't even agree with my own government on everything. Bless doesn't mean agree.

In fact, if you want to bless somebody, if you disagree with them, you ought to tell them you disagree with them and why. That's how you bless people. Remember, kisses or the proverb says that an enemy multiplies kisses, but wounds from a friend are good. Meaning that a true friend would tell you when you're going wrong, wouldn't just rubber-stamp everything you want to do.

That's not what love is. Love doesn't mean approval. Love means seeking what's best for the person or the country or whomever you're trying to love, according to the will of God, not my will, not your will, His will. That's how you love people. You don't agree with them all the time. You bless them by telling them the truth. So, I know that just like in America, in Israel, sometimes, religions become a matter of preference or pragmatism.

You know, if it works for me, it's gonna work. And that's the religion I'm gonna pick, as if it's an ice cream flavor. Well, look, there's a lot of things that work. Lying works too, but that doesn't mean it's true or something you should do. Which brings us to our next question, by the way. John writes in, he is a, he is a missionary in Taiwan. He's been there for 12 years.

And he says, "in our experience religion often serves the needs of the day more than preparing for an afterlife." And so he's asking the question, how do we deal with this? And by the way, if you want to send a question in, it's hello@crossexamined.org. Hello@crossexamined.org. I

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apologize, I can't get to all of them, but I do read them, and I try and pick out the ones that I think would help the most people and, when we can on a podcast go through the questions like we're doing today, we do that.

So, you write in, John, "religion serves the needs of the day more than preparing for an afterlife." And I guess my question would be for people who say that, toward what end are you choosing a religion? Is it for comfort? Or is it for character? If it's for the needs of the day, it's just comfort, and not character.

Then you're going to pick one that you think is going to bring you the most comfort. Is it for happiness or is it for holiness? Now, Christians of course believe that we're here to become like Jesus. We're here to know Jesus and to make him known, and that sometimes requires difficulty, not comfort. But to say that I'm going to pick a religion because it's going to help me today, help me toward what end?

Help me toward what end? I mean, you can you can pick an ethical posture to help you today. Like I'm going to lie today to get me to my end. Is that something you ought to do? See, it assumes the purpose of life is only temporal. When we say I'm just picking a religion on preference. I know, is this going to help me in the here and now? Well, you're assuming your life is just temporal.

It's not eternal. Well, if there's no eternity, the temporal life is ultimately meaningless, and thus there's no right or wrong way to live it, because we're all going to wind up in the same place. We're all going to wind up, if there is no afterlife, if there is no God, if there is no judgment, we're all going to wind up in the same place, nowhere.

So, what does it ultimately matter if you live as a missionary or a murderer? It doesn't. It doesn't matter. Ultimately, it only is something that is a preference. You just prefer to live this way rather than someone else. Now you can see how impossible this would be to set up a civilization on, because if you set up a civilization based on there is no purpose to life.

You just do whatever you want to do. You do you, so to speak. Well, how can you have a civilization where it's all you do you? In fact, we have a section in the book, *The War on Reality*, a New York Times bestseller by the way. This is why Phoenix won't return my calls anymore because now she's a New York Times bestseller. I got to go through her assistant now, of course.

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I'm joking, but anyway, I can brag on this because Phoenix actually wrote this, and I'll do it from memory. In the book, *The War on Reality*, we have some, there's some good jokes in there, and Phoenix is the source of most of them. I have a few in there as well, but she writes this when we're talking about the you-do-you kind of standard of morality.

You know, everybody makes up their own right and wrong, and you just you do you. She says something like this. Sure, you do you works when you're trying to pick ice cream flavors, but when you decide to scam grandma, torch a city, or double park at Costco, the rest of us are wishing you didn't do you quite so hard.

Unquote. Yeah, that's from *The War on Reality*. Yeah, if look, if there is no right way to live. If there is no God outside of us whose nature we're supposed to follow, whose nature is goodness, and any deviation from that nature is what we would call evil. If there is no God that we're obligated to obey, no nature we're obligated to obey, then there is no purpose to life.

There is no right way to live life and no wrong way to live life. Everything is reduced to preference, and you just prefer to live a certain way. Maybe you prefer to murder Jews. And maybe other people prefer to love Jews. Well, there's no way to say that one way is right and another way is wrong. They're just different because there is no objective standard by which to measure either of those.

There's no right way to live life, no wrong way to live life. It's just a matter of human opinion. Now, all of us in our hearts know that's nonsense. Murder is different than love, and murder is evil and love is good. And we know this we just don't want to acknowledge where this comes from, because that would put us under moral obligation.

We want to do what we want to do, and so we're just going to pick our religion based on what makes us feel good in the here and now, based on what gets us where we want to go in the here and now. In fact, we write this in *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*. This is chapter 2, and we say we demand truth, not preference, from almost every area of life, every important issue.

For example, we demand truth from our loved ones. No one wants lies from a spouse or a child. We demand truth from doctors. We want the right medicine prescribed and the right operations performed. We don't want them when we come to see them. When we say, "Oh, doc, I've got, you know, I've got this pain," and the doc says, "Well, let me, why don't you just you do you?"

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Why don't you just decide that that pain is nothing and just move on?" Or suppose a doctor gives us a diagnosis, "I'm sorry, you got cancer," and you ask the doc, "Hey, doc, well, what's the treatment?" And the doc goes, "Oh, I don't know, you do you. There's no treatment. In fact, you know what I'm going to do? I'm just going to pick a treatment I prefer. I'm just gonna, I'm gonna prescribe that you smoke cigarettes three packs a day.

That's gonna be the, I just think that's a I just prefer that." You'd go, this doctor's out of his mind, out of his mind. I want the truth. I don't want a preference. Give me the right medicine, the right treatment to cure this. We of course expect truth from our financial advisors. You know we demand truth when they tell us, here are the companies you ought to invest in, right?

Here are the stocks you ought to invest in. We demand truth from our courts. You know, we want them to convict only the truly guilty, unless you're Candace Owens. Then you don't care. You know, you probably want the guy who's guilty to get off for some envious reason. You demand truth from your employers, right? We want them to tell us the truth and to pay us fairly. We want the truth from our airlines, right?

The pilots. We want them to be safe, trained, sober pilots. We don't want them to lie to us about that. We also expect to be told the truth when we pick up a reference book, we read an article, or we watch a news story. We want the truth from advertisers, from teachers, from politicians. I know that's a high bar, but you get the idea. We assume road signs, medicine bottles, and food labels reveal the truth.

In fact, we demand the truth for almost every facet of life that affects our money, relationships, safety, or health. On the other hand, despite our unwavering demands for truth in those areas, many of us say we aren't interested in truth when it comes to morality or religion. In fact, a lot of times we reject the idea that religion can be true.

Now. I hope you've noticed that there's a huge contradiction here. Why do we demand truth in everything but morality and religion? Why do we say that's true for you but not for me when we're talking about morality or religion? But we never think of that nonsense when we're talking to our stockbroker, our financial advisor, or our doctor, or our spouse even. We never say it's true for you but not for me that you're shacking up with some other guy when you're married to me.

We never say that. We never say you do you when it comes to adultery. We never say you do you when it comes to our money. We never say you do you when it comes to our health. But we

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certainly say you do you when it comes to morality and religion. Really? This is a demonic lie. I mean, why do we seek the truth when it comes to the most important issues in life here, but not really the most important question about life to begin with? In fact, what are the four, five most important questions?

We covered this in *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*. Five most important questions in life: origin, where did we come from? Identity, who are we? Meaning, why are we here? Morality, how should we live then? And destiny, where are we going? Origin, identity, meaning, morality, and destiny. Those are the five most important questions in life. Are you saying none of those questions are important?

Just whether or not you make more money today, whether or not you remain healthy. Maybe we could give a draw an analogy here. Let me ask you this: a thought experiment. Let's say a thought experiment. Does it matter right now that the passengers on the Titanic were comfortable an hour before the ship hit the iceberg?

Does it matter right now, a hundred and what, fourteen years later? Does it matter that the passengers who were on a big luxury liner were all comfortable one hour before the ship hit the iceberg? Doesn't matter at all. Why? Because in light of eternity, it's irrelevant.

That they were comfortable an hour before the ship hit the iceberg, because the ship was hitting the iceberg an hour later, and unless they got into a lifeboat, they were dead. Hey, we're all heading for an iceberg. Every one of us knows this. Does it matter in eternity whether we're comfortable now, or does it matter in eternity that we're saved now?

That we're getting in the lifeboat. Yeah, B. I hope I hope you guys are tracking with me here. And so to say, I'm just picking a religion based on preference. Do you realize that religions are not preferences? They're all making truth claims. And Christianity is the one world religion you can investigate and discover whether or not it's really true. You can do this with Judaism as well because Judaism's based on facts as well.

It's not, in other words, it's not just someone's philosophy. You can investigate and see whether there is a God. You can investigate and see whether Jesus really died and rose from the dead. These are historical questions you can investigate. You can't do that with Buddhism. You can't do that with Hinduism. In Islam, they don't even say that Muhammad did any miracles.

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Miracles are attributed to Muhammad 200 years after his death in the Hadith. In fact, Muhammad himself in the Quran says, "I didn't do miracles." There's no reason to think Islam is true, because there's no miraculous confirmation. But there is reason to think that Christianity is true. And if it's true, it contains the most important message any human being could consider.

Where am I going to be in eternity? First of all, is there an eternity? And secondly, where am I going to be in eternity? Because your eternal destination is more important than your temporal comfort. So, John, the missionary in Taiwan, I don't know if any of this is helpful to try and help the people there that you are trying to bring into Christianity to get them to consider that you don't pick a religion based on whether or not it just makes you comfortable.

You pick a religion based on whether or not it's true, because all of the things we're concerned about temporally are irrelevant if there is no eternity. They're ultimately irrelevant. They have some relevance to us temporally, but it's not objective and it's not going to matter if there is no eternity, or if the eternity that you're going to is separated from Jesus Himself, the source of all love.

So I would say, ask your friends over there some questions, like I just asked. Does it matter now that the passengers on the Titanic were comfortable an hour before the ship hit the iceberg? No. So why are you acting the same way now? Why is comfort now more important than truth in eternity?

All right. If you want to send questions in, please send them to hello@crossexamined.org. Got a couple more things I want to talk about, but I do want to mention we have some events coming up. Baylor University. I'll be there actually with the head of Ratio Christi, Corey Miller, brilliant guy. That's going to be the 5th, Lord willing. The 5th, October 5th, Baylor University. Details on the website.

Next night, Make Heaven Crowded Calvary Chapel, Tucson. I'll be out there. And by the way, if you're listening to this on the 29th, September 29th, tonight in Charlotte, Make Heaven Crowded at Freedom House, the main campus up in Concord, just north of Charlotte. So if you're in the Charlotte area hearing this, come by tonight. But next week, next Tuesday the 6th, will be at Calvary Chapel, Tucson.

Make Heaven Crowded. Then the Southern Evangelical Seminary Steadfast National Conference on Apologetics. That's going to be the 9th and the 10th in Rock Hill, South Carolina. That's going to be just south of Charlotte, North Carolina. Details are on our website or you could also go to

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ses.edu. I'm just one of many speakers there. That is the best apologetics conference and it has been for the past 30 years.

The 9th and the 10th of October. Following week, University. Oh, I gotta mention that on the 12th, we're continuing our series, *The War on Reality*, which is going to be taped, and it'll be taped live, but it's going to be 7:30 p.m. October 12th, Freedom House Cornelius north of Charlotte. So if you're in the Charlotte area, you can attend live.

But it's also going to be live streamed 7:30 p.m. the 12th of October. The next night, University of Nebraska Lincoln, and then the following night after that, Northwest Missouri State University in Missouri. So that's the 13th and the 14th of October. Then October 18th Green Valley Baptist Church in Pontotoc, Mississippi.

Not I don't know if I pronounced that right, but it's near Tupelo. Then the following night University of North Alabama. That's the 19th a Monday night of October. And then I'll be at a RCR Racing. That's in not far from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. That's the 20th. Of October, we'll get the details on our website as well.

You know, in the Charlotte area, NASCAR is a big deal, and Richard Childress Racing is inviting me to speak to men. They've already got 500 men coming there, but it's open to all men up near Winston-Salem. That's going to be on the night of the 20th of October. So we have a lot coming up. We also have a new online course coming up November 2nd. Conversation with the Faith, Dr.

Brady Blevins is going to help you better interact with Muslims, Mormons, and Jehovah's Witnesses. So you want to check that out. So keep all that in mind on the calendar. Let me mention a couple other things quickly. I mentioned *The War on Reality*. We're getting a lot of interest in the events we're doing on college campuses and the events we're doing on Monday nights here in Charlotte.

Certain Monday nights. The next one's October 12th. This is new material and it helps people see what's going on in the culture. That's what the book does, *The War on Reality*. So if you haven't gotten the book, please pick it up at Amazon or Christian Book or wherever you get books. But I want to mention that one of the reasons it's getting a lot of attention, and the book has gotten a lot of attention, is because my co-author Phoenix Hayes is a great writer and as I say, it's very witty.

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Also, it's been highlighted because of what happened with Charlie, the first chapter. First of all, the whole book's dedicated to Charlie, the first chapter is about what happened to Charlie leading up to that day, that day, and then what happened after. The book was being written prior to Charlie being murdered, but once he was murdered, we decided that he is fighting and has been fighting for reality when so many people are fighting against reality.

So the whole book is dedicated to him, but if you would go check that out, it would help you, I think, navigate this culture. Because here's a question I've been asking people on college campuses. I'm going to ask it to you right now, and this is the key to the war on reality right now. One of the keys, anyway. Here's the question: How would you answer this? Is it fair and right to judge people by their race or sex or origin or finances, or is it fair and right to judge them by their behavior?

What are you going to say? Yeah, if you're like every audience I've surveyed so far, they all say, "No, it's not right to judge people by their race, sex origin, or finances, but it is right to judge them by their behavior." Exactly, the problem is, is that cultural Marxism thinks you ought to judge people by their race, sex origin or finances, regardless of their personal behavior. And so, what we do is we what we lay out in these presentations, and we'll put some of the we'll put a presentation or two in the show notes.

From University of Georgia or a couple others I've done recently. The problem is that many in our culture think that cultural Marxism is good, right, and true when in fact it's right out of the pit of hell because you're not judging people fairly. You're not judging people impartially. You're not even you're not aligning with the Bible, much less even Martin Luther King, who said, "I have a dream that one day my four children will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." And yet we're going backwards now.

Now we're judging people based on the color of their skin, based on their race, based on their origin, based on how much money they have, based on their sex, based on whether or not they're a citizen. I mean, we're judging people not on their behavior. But on an identity group, we've artificially put them in. That's poison. In fact, that's what that's what the prophet Amos said about the unjust treatment that many of the Israelites were giving to people in their community, especially the poor.

They were treating them unjustly. Here's what Amos said. This he's writing about 750 B.C. And the northern kingdom is about to be judged by Assyria. It would be judged in 722. So he's like 28 years prior to the judgment. He says this to the people in Israel. He says, this is Amos 6:12, "You

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have turned justice into poison and the fruit of righteousness into bitterness." You have turned justice into poison and the fruit of righteousness into bitterness.

Hey, when you're judging people based on your their identity group, you've turned justice into poison because that's not justice at all. That's injustice, and you've made people bitter because you're treating them not by their behavior. You're treating them on account of what identity group you've artificially put them in. Many of the identities are non-behavioral. What does race have to do with your behavior? What does whether or not you're a citizen have to do with your behavior?

How much money you have to do with your behavior? Why are you judging people on these things? Without even looking at their behavior. That's unjust. That's poison. That's a poison in a community, because you can't keep people together. You can't people can't keep people in a common unity, a community, if you continue, to pit them against one another in perpetual conflict, on identity, on identifiers that have nothing to do with their behavior.

Yeah, it's right out of the pit of hell. And yet, this is making advances in the Democrat Party. This is making advances in the culture. This is making advances in your workplace. This kind of thinking. It's madness. And so we're calling it out, and that's what *The War on Reality* does. In addition to many other things, in fact, we call out some bad Christian ideas as well.

Christian ideas, meaning people think they're Christian, but they're not. We'll cover a lot more of this in a future show. For right now, I want to say I want to just give you a recap of what happened at UVU back on September 10th, 2026, one year after Charlie was murdered. We went back to that campus, as you know, they had a full house of about 5,000 people appear in the basketball arena at UVU.

We had several speakers. I was privileged to be there. Mikey McCoy was there. Andrew CIPHER, who runs the campus ministry for TPUSA and of course was there when Charlie was murdered as well. Michael Knowles spoke and Glenn Beck spoke as well. Now some people say, "Well, Glenn Beck's a Mormon." I'm not so sure Glenn Beck's a Mormon because he wasn't talking like a Mormon that night.

I know people say he's a Mormon. He was saying there's only one God, and he was talking about grace. So I don't know Glenn personally. I only met him that night. He seems like a great guy to me. His theology, I he was he said there's one God. He wasn't given the Mormon line that

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there's many gods. But he's a very insightful man, regardless of where he may fall theologically, and he had some great insights that night as well.

And what I want to do is just play you the tribute that I gave that night in honor of my friend Charlie. And as you'll see, they had just unveiled a statue of Charlie with a microphone sitting at a table when I was introduced. And I cover in this talk three of the reasons that made Charlie the greatest man I ever knew, and that was the three things that were most important to him: God, family, and country.

Because God established three institutions, He established obviously the church, the family, and the government, and Charlie was concerned with all three of those things. And as you'll see here in this talk, he spontaneously brought these issues up in the last walk we had, two nights before he was murdered.

So here's the talk.

Ladies and gentlemen, the greater the man, the greater the grief when he's taken from us. And Charlie Kirk was the greatest man I ever knew personally in all of my 64 years.

Why was he so great? Well, one reason he was so great is because he majored in the most important issues in life. Case in point: two days before he was murdered, Charlie and I were together in Phoenix, and after we would get together during the day to discuss questions we might get on a college campus.

Sometimes Charlie would say, "Hey, after Erika and I put the kids down, why don't we go on a walk and we can talk some more?" So that night, Monday night, we went on a walk in Scottsdale. We always had a 300 pound armed bodyguard behind us, and Charlie would drive the conversation. I'd say, "Charlie, let's talk about whatever you want to talk about." Now, keep in mind, he wanted me to mentor him.

But I learned a lot more from him than he learned from me. The only thing that exceeded Charlie's intellect was his humility. He wanted to learn from anyone. Anyway, we're walking along. The first thing he wanted to talk about was the country and how he needed to get Christians to be more engaged to protect our rights to preach and live the gospel.

I hear people saying all the time, "Oh, I don't get involved politically, I just preach the gospel." To which I say, "I guess you don't think the gospel is very important then." Why? Because politics

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affects your ability to preach and live the gospel. We couldn't hold this rally in Iran. We couldn't hold it in Saudi Arabia. I just got back not long ago from Egypt. You tried to do this in Egypt, you're going to have trouble, because politics affects your ability to preach and live the gospel.

But Charlie would always say. Charlie would always say, politics is not our first responsibility, but it helps us achieve our first responsibility.

The second issue he wanted to talk about was the family. Why was his generation not embracing marriage and childbearing? And he really wanted to find a way to do that, because the family is the foundation of any civilization. The biological two-parent family is what makes a civilization, and he wanted his generation to embrace that, and he modeled that.

Then the third issue we wanted to talk about was the evidence for Christianity. Does God exist? Did Jesus rise from the dead? And we talked a lot about that that night. Now I didn't think about this at the time, but after he was murdered, I said, "Charlie was talking about the three institutions God created. God created government." God created the family, and God created the church.

And Charlie was always interested in the big issues. He was interested in God, family, and country. And he thought that I was teaching him. No, he was teaching me. Now, why was Charlie always so courageous? Why was he fearless?

I think there's two major reasons he was. Number one, he knew Christianity was true, and number two, he knew who God was. How did he know Christianity was true? Well, for me to communicate that, I've got to ask you guys a question, and there's probably very few people in this room that can answer it, but I'm going to ask it anyway. If you can remember where you were and what you were doing, November 22nd, 1963, raise your hand, hold it up high.

All right, ladies and gentlemen, you see these people with their hands up? These people are very old. November 22nd, 1963 is the day President Kennedy was shot, and those of you who are old enough can't forget it. Where were you 25 years ago, tomorrow? When the second plane hit the tower?

Can you remember where you were and what you were doing? Yeah, you can. Why? It was a dramatic, emotional, unforgettable event. Where were you when you heard President Trump was shot? You can remember it. Why? Dramatic, emotional, unforgettable event. Where were you when Charlie Kirk was shot? Some of you were right here.

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I was 25 feet from him. Not only do I remember it, I can't forget it if I wanted to forget it. The first person I think of when I wake up in the morning is Charlie. The last person I think of before I wrestle myself to sleep is Charlie. Some people call that PTSD.

It's not a disorder. It's normal. It should be that way. Charlie was a great man and a great friend. Thankfully, the killer did not end Charlie. The killer just changed Charlie's address.

He's absent from the body but present with the Lord. You say, Frank, what does this have to do with Christianity? Because the Jews living in the first century also witnessed an emotional, dramatic, unforgettable event. It was called the resurrection. Why would Jews invent a resurrected Jesus that got them kicked out of the synagogue and then beaten, tortured, and killed?

Newsflash: They wouldn't. This is why Charlie Kirk, nine days before he was murdered, tweeted, "The resurrection really happened. Christianity is true." No one's going to invent in the first century this unbelievable event and then go die for a lie they knew was a lie.

So, as Erika recently said, that's why Charlie was so secure and so confident because his foundation was secure. It was in Christ. He also knew who God really was. And sometimes we think God is an old man on a cloud up in the sky. No, what do the scriptures say about God?

Psalms 19 says the "heavens declare the glory of God." Psalm 103 verse 11 says God's love to those that fear Him exceeds the height of the heavens above the earth. How high are the heavens above the Earth? Well, ladies and gentlemen, just in our galaxy, there are billions of stars. They're separated on average by about 30 trillion miles.

How far is 30 trillion miles? Far. It'll take you at least two tanks of gas and a Toyota Prius to go 30 trillion miles. In fact, to go 30 trillion miles, if you could go space shuttle speed 5 miles per second, it would take you over 200,000 years to go from just one star at our galaxy to another star at our galaxy, an average distance away.

That's just in our galaxy. How many stars are there in the entire universe? Conservative estimate. The number of stars in the entire universe are about equivalent to the number of grains of sand on all the beaches on all the Earth times 100,000. And to go from just one star to another star going 5 miles a second will take you over 200,000 years.

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The heavens are awesome. And they're supposed to communicate to us what God is like. It's supposed to communicate God's attributes to us. God's love exceeds the height of the heavens above the earth. From our perspective, that's infinite. But here's our problem: it also communicates God's justice.

That His justice is as high as the heavens are above the earth. And this is why none of us can stand before a holy God, unless someone intervenes. Because if you want justice, and there are people on college campuses we go to all the time that are screaming they want justice, be careful, you might just get it. Does anyone in here want justice from an infinitely just God?

If I got justice, if Charlie got justice, if any of us got justice, we'd all be toast. Because we've all been unjust in our lives, so what's the solution to it? Since God's love exceeds the height of the heavens above the earth, God adds humanity to His deity. He comes to earth. He allows the creatures that rebelled against Him to torture and kill Him, so He could take their punishment upon Himself, our punishment upon Himself.

And then when we trust in him, we're not only forgiven, we're given his righteousness. Translation, ladies and gentlemen, Charlie is not in heaven because of any good things he did. Charlie is not in heaven because he died for his Savior. Charlie is in heaven because his Savior died for Charlie Kirk.

You say what kind of God would allow an innocent man like Charlie to be murdered by someone he wanted to save? The same God who would allow himself to be murdered by the very people he wanted to save. Yeah, Charlie's a modern-day martyr. He wanted to save the killer and everybody on that, on everybody on this campus one year ago today.

And God Himself allowed us to torture Him because He wanted to save us. That's the kind of God Charlie served. That's the kind of God that created and sustains this entire vast universe, and it's the kind of God that has virtually infinite love, because we're all made in His image.

So Charlie, as you know, wanted to be remembered for his courage and his faith in Jesus. Mission accomplished, my friend.

Before we show a tribute to Charlie's life, can we pray? Let's pray. Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us Charlie Kirk, a man who in 31 years did more for you, his family, his country, than a million people do in 80 years. We pray that you now comfort Erika, her children, her team, and Charlie's parents and his sister, as they continue Charlie's legacy.

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May your Holy Spirit help the rest of us to emulate Charlie as Charlie emulated Christ. Most of all, we thank you for entering this evil world to save us from our own sins and to offer us forgiveness and eternal life with you and those like Charlie who have received your grace. I pray if there's anyone here who has not received your grace, the grace that Charlie was speaking about right here one year ago, that tonight they would.

We ask all these things through Jesus who sacrificed himself for us. Amen.

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