

The first 5 myths are designed to undermine God Himself: The Father's existence, the Son's glory, the Holy Spirit's revelation. And you'd think that if we answered those it would all be over. Those who don't believe in God would instantly be baptized and join the church. Those who just sort of float in and out of church on Sunday mornings would rewrite their whole schedule to be about the Lord.

But you don't often see that. People can see and even acknowledge these things and really not change that much. It's almost like, it's not actually about the EVIDENCE, it is about something else. It is about feelings and ideas within them, myths they have someone started to believe that are blocking their brain from processing this info

These other 5 myths are more experiential than evidential. They are more about how you feel about God than what you know about God. More about every day living for God than facts about the presence of God every day.

6. It doesn't matter what you believe, all religions are basically the same.

Now maybe they are talking about all world religions, but usually in our neck of the woods they mean – all Christian religions. That is, the thousands of denominations and non denominational groups all over town and the Country.

This probably concedes that yes, God is real, and Jesus is God and the Bible is divine, but under those banners are a whole lot of ways to know and worship Him. And sure, it sounds good to say that we can worship however and wherever we choose, all being accepted by Jesus. But what does the Scripture say!? (We have established the reliability of such at this point in our myth series).

- Why is Jesus so intent on Oneness and Unity?
 - **Matthew 16:18** – Jesus promised only one Church – one Body.
 - **John 17:20-21** – He prayed for all to come together in Unity under the Father
 - **Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:1-6** – This lives in Tolerance but also Oneness!
- Why is Jesus so definite about Authority Principles?
 - **Matthew 7:21-27** – This sermon was to be obeyed, not just considered.
 - **Matthew 28:18-20** – This sounds definitive – He is Lord. We obey Him.
 - **I Corinthians 14:37** – Issues were resolved with COMMANDS, no options.
- Why are doctrinal principles so decisively inclusive?
 - **Mark 16:15-16** – Two things in this text lead to salvation, which ones count?
 - **John 3:16** VS? **Acts 2:38** or are they special and accepted and exclude options?
 - **Romans 3:24, 5:1, 6:4** – Well, which is it? Salvation includes all 3. It matters.
 - **Romans 7:1-3** (Adding Matthew 9/19) True or not? Sure is specific. It matters.

TRUTH: JESUS' WAY IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD.

7. Christianity Stifles Personal Freedom

Okay, something is happening here that we will see fully develop tonight. It is not about God anymore. Or Jesus. Or the Holy Spirit. It is not even about what the Bible says and our need to obey it. That evidence is there, but not under some people's consideration. Why not? **Because Christianity is just not for me! "Being the kind of Christian you've described today is just outside of my comfort zone."** Is that true? Is it just too restrictive for some people and not for everyone.?

- Who were we before finding Jesus?
 - o Free? No. **Romans 3:23; 6:16, 20-21** – Free to do as we please, as slaves of sin.
 - o **Ephesians 2:1-3** – We walked as we wanted but dead to God.
- What did Jesus do to make a better way?
 - o **Ephesians 2:4-7, 13, 19-20** – He gave His blood to cover us with blessings.
 - o **Philippians 2:6-8** – He emptied Himself and took the lowest position.
 - o **I Timothy 1:12-17** – To create a GRATEFUL heart in us, not a selfish one.
- Why would God curb our personal behavior?
 - o **Jeremiah 10:23** – “I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps.” GOD KNOWS BEST!
 - o Look at **I Timothy 1:12-17** again – Paul was misguided and hurt people. His personal religious convictions and way of life were wrong and bad for others. God redeemed Him to a holy purpose as a healer and deliverer of good news.
 - o Example: *Marriage* – **Ephesians 5:22-27** – Does our world embrace these ideas? This just doesn't fit the mold for most people's lives. So, how's that working out – divorce, pornography, fighting, anger, division, hatred, hurt kids, Harvey Weinstein. What if God knows best? What if He knows you need Jesus and the Church and His will for your family? HE DOES. It's false to ever think otherwise.

TRUTH: GOD OFFERS A FREE AND BLESSED LIFE

Well, not everyone will believe this. Those who reject God may continue. Those who come to church out of habit and not as a way of life may continue to do as they desire. And those who are ALL IN will keep focusing on greater things for God. But all have one thing in common: II PET 3:8-10 – WE WILL ALL KNOW THE TRUTH, THIS TRUTH, THESE TRUTHS, ONE DAY.