

# Christian Atheists

*By Pastor Art Watkins*

How can a Christian be an atheist? They are Christian by name, but like atheists in practice. It's someone who says they believe in God, but lives like he does not exist. They profess they know God, but he is absent from their personal life. God has no influence over the affairs of their life. God is separated from their personal lives. If they were put on trial for being a Christian and believing in God there would not be enough evidence to convict them. God is absent in their life just as he is absent in the life of an atheist. In many ways the average Christian today is like an atheist. They say they believe in God but he is absent from their personal life.

The purpose of this message is to encourage you to make God number one in every area of your personal life so no one can accuse you of being an Christian atheist; that is someone who says they believe in God but lives like he does not exist.

## **Atheists do not believe the Bible is divinely inspired or preserved**

The Bible makes the claim to be both.

**2 Tim. 3:16: All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

**Psa. 12:6-7: The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.**

**Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.**

Atheists do not believe it's divinely inspired or preserved. They say it's just the words of a group of foolish men and is full of mistakes and contradictions.

When it comes to divine inspiration and preservation many Christians are like atheists. There are many today who call themselves Christians who say they believe the Bible is divinely inspired, but do not believe its divinely preserved. They say they believe 2 Tim. 3:16 but do not believe Psa. 12:6-7. They do not believe inspiration includes preservation. They say the Bible God inspired in time past now has mistakes and errors in it. When it comes to divine preservation they are in agreement with the atheists.

They will stand in the pulpit and say they believe God inspired men to write his words down in the originals without error, but then deny he inspired other men to preserve those words without error. They believe God did only half of what he said he would do. He did not finish what he started. He wrote an error free book but could not preserve it error free.

Atheists don't believe they were divinely preserved because they do not believe they were divinely inspired. They say neither exists. Many fundamentalists do not believe they are divinely preserved either even though God said he would

preserve them forever pure. Most fundamentalists believe God has power to create heaven and earth out of nothing, but he couldn't even keep and preserve a book he wrote without error and mistakes or translate that book into any language without error.

Many preachers and Christians and atheists are in agreement when it comes to the Bible; they don't believe there is a Bible anywhere in this world in any language that is the infallible preserved word of God. This is one way many Christians are like atheists.

### **Atheists do not read or study or listen to the word of God**

**1 Timothy 4:13: Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.**

Atheists do not give attendance to reading, preaching or studying the Bible because they don't believe there is a God to read about or study about or listen to. The Bible is a meaningless book to an atheist because the God who wrote it does not exist to them. You are not going to find them in a Bible study or a church that teaches the Bible. They are not in the least bit interested in Bible study.

When it comes to reading the Bible and Bible study many Christians are like atheists. They claim to believe the Bible is the word of God, but many of them seldom read it, study it or come to hear it preached. They believe in God, but show

little or no interest in the book he wrote. Studies show that less than 5% of professing Christians have ever read the Bible through once in their life.

### **Atheists don't pray or believe God answers prayer**

**Philippians 4:6: Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

Atheists don't pray because they have no one to pray to. They don't believe God answers prayer because they do not believe there is a God who answers prayer. Prayer is nonexistent in their life. They run their personal lives, homes, marriages and business without prayer. You want find them in a prayer meeting. They do not pray.

When it comes to prayer sad to say many Christians act like atheists. They say they believe God answers prayer, but live like they can get along without it. Prayer is not a part of their everyday life. If you follow them closely you would get the idea that God does not answer prayer, because prayer is missing in their personal life. It's missing in their home and missing in their marriage. They only give prayer lip service. They say they believe in prayer, but seldom practice it. By their actions they must think they can run their life and home and marriage without prayer just like the atheists. Atheists do not talk to God in prayer because they do not believe there is a

God to talk to. Many Christians claim to believe in God but they seldom talk to him in prayer. When it comes to prayer, God is like a stranger to them. It's like talking to someone they never met.

### **Atheists do not attend Church**

**1 Timothy 3:15: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

The church is called the house of God, because God built it. It's his house where his people meet. Atheists do not attend church because they do not believe there is a God or that he has a house. There is nothing inside the doors of a church that an atheist is interested in. He would be bored to death in church. He would rather have a root canal than attend church. Church is considered a waste of time to an atheist. Church is not a part of his personal life, because God is not a part of his life. You are not going to find an atheist sitting in SS or church on Sundays or Wednesdays or any day. They do not go to church. They are not church-going people.

When it comes to church, sad to say many Christians are like atheists. Church is not important to them. They live their lives independently from the church. They give it little thought. It bores them when they come. It's not a part of their life. They come when they feel like it, so long as it is convenient. Even though the

church is the house of God they can find 100 excuses to stay away when it meets.

Atheists stay out of church because they don't believe in the God who built the church. Christians say they believe in God, but many don't attend the church he built. Atheists do not like church and it seems that many Christians don't either. This is another way Christians are like atheists.

### **Atheists don't witness or testify of Christ**

Romans 10:9-14 says that men are saved by calling on the Lord and they call on him when they believe on Him. They believe on him when they hear about him and they hear about him when we witness and preach to them, for how shall they hear without a preacher.

Atheists don't believe that God or Christ exists therefore they never testify or witness about God and Christ. You can't expect an atheist to witness and win souls when they don't believe the God who saves souls exists.

When it comes to witnessing many Christians are like atheists. They say they believe in God and Christ and they say they were saved by God and Christ, but they fail to tell anyone else how to be saved. Atheists never witness or tell anyone about God and Christ because they don't believe they exist. Christians say they believe in God and Christ but seldom tell anyone else how God and

Christ can save them. Basically when it comes to witnessing and telling someone how to be saved, there is no difference between atheists and some Christians.

### **Atheists do not judge or confess their sins**

**1 John 1:9: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Atheists do not confess their sins because they do not believe sin exists. They say that sin is a concept created by the Christian God and because God does not exist, sin does not exist. You cannot expect an atheist to confess sin for he does not believe it exists.

Many Christians are like atheists when it comes confessing sin. They believe sin exists, but seldom confess it. Some do not confess sin because they are deceived about forgiveness. They think forgiveness of sin gives them license to commit sin without repercussion, so why should they confess it? I even heard one preacher tell a large audience of people; don't you dare confess your sins according to 1 John 1:9. Some actually say its sin to confess sin. Atheists would agree with them on this point.

### **Atheists don't put any trust or confidence in God**

**Proverbs 3:5-6: Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways**

**acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

Atheists put no trust in the Lord or acknowledge him, because they don't believe there is a Lord to put their trust in. Instead they lean on their own understanding and strength. If they have needs and problems they don't seek the help of God for they do not believe there is a God who helps.

When it comes to putting trust and confidence in the Lord, many Christians act like atheists. They say they trust God to save them, but they don't trust him to do anything else in their life.

When they have problems in their home or with their children or in their marriage or with their finances they act like God cannot solve these problems. As far as they are concerned the only thing God does today is keep them out of hell and it's up to them to take care of everything else.

They limit the power of God by their lack of faith and trust and confidence in the Lord. Instead they do what atheists do; they lean on their own understanding and their own strength to pull strings to get things done. They say they trust him to save them from hell, but some of them can't trust him to pay a water bill. They do not trust in the Lord totally. Their trust and confidence is very limited. An atheist puts no trust or confidence in the Lord and many Christians have little trust and

confidence in him. They are a terrible testimony to the providing power of God.

**Atheists have no reason to live godly**  
**Titus 2:11-12: For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

These verses that command us to live godly in this world mean nothing to an atheist. He has no reason to live godly because there is no God to live for. They say; Why should I live according to the laws of a God that does not exist or don't tell me how to live according to a book I don't believe.

Sad to say many Christians live like atheists. They live as if there is no God who sees and knows their every move. They act as if God is deaf, dumb and blind to their conduct or that God is not interested in how they behave just in what they believe. The conduct of some Christians is no better than some atheists.

Everything I have said so far is negative; Now let's look at these things again, but this time in a positive way. If we profess to believe in the true and living God then let's started living like we do. Let's quit acting like atheists. God is totally missing in their lives because to them he does not exist. We believe he exists so let's put him front and center in our lives to prove our faith in him is genuine.

\*God said his word is divinely inspired and divinely preserved and he expects us to believe both. Let's believe what God said. We know he chose the Hebrew and Greek languages to reveal his word in the originals, but what language did he choose to preserve his word for the majority of people in the world today? If you were God what language would you choose to reach the most people? He chose the language which is the universal language of the world today and it's English. It's also the language with the biggest vocabulary with over a million words. It's spoken by men in all the world. And what English Bible consistently exalts Jesus Christ and the deity of Christ and the blood of Christ more than all the others? It's obvious; The KJB.

God said he would preserve his word in a book forever, so all we have to do is find it. We don't have to look far; it's the timeless, errorless and priceless KJB. We should show how much we appreciate it by reading it, studying it and hearing it preached. When we do we show we believe God wrote it.

\*God invites us to pray. He has promised to hear our prayers. He said to pray about all things. If we pray according to the will of God and for the glory of God he has promised to answer our prayers. So make it a daily practice and when God's people meet together to pray then meet with them. When we pray we say we believe there is a God who answers prayer.

\*God built the church. Christ died for the church. The church is the house of God. God has promised to meet with us in the church. It's the place he ordained to perfect and edify his people. Therefore, when it meets don't forsake it. Do what David said: ***I was glad when they said unto me; let us go up into the house of the Lord.*** When God's people assemble together in the church they are saying they believe there is a God and he built the church and he meets with his people in the church and we came to hear from him.

\*God says that faith in the gospel comes by hearing the gospel and no can hear unless someone preaches the gospel. There are souls whose salvation depends upon us preaching the gospel to them. We can't remain silent; open your mouth and God will fill it with the gospel. Make it your aim to win souls this year. When you witness you are saying that you believe there is a God who saves sinners.

\*God commands us to cleanse ourselves from all unrighteousness. He says if we confess our sins he will cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Don't hesitate to confess your sins and don't allow some seducing spirit to deceive you into believing that confession is unnecessary under grace; that's an invitation to chastisement. When we confess our sins we show we believe there is a God who cleanses us from unrighteousness.

\*God says that if we commit our problems and needs to him in prayer he will take them and give us the peace of God that passes all understanding. We can have peace in the midst of our pain and trouble. God will give it to you. Don't carry that burden anymore. Cast all your care on him for he cares for you. When we do, we show there is a God who not only saves us, but solves our problems and meets our needs in this life.

\*God says that if we trust him and put our confidence in him he will get us through any trouble and tribulation that comes into our life. Let's put our faith and confidence him and by doing so it will show this world that they can safely trust the true and living God too.

\*God asks us to live godly in Christ Jesus for a changed life is the best testimony of salvation by grace. Let's live as godly as we possibly can and by doing so we will show there is a God worth living for.

We can tell people we believe in the true and living God, but we will not convince them until they see him lived out in our life. They want to see him in our home, marriage, conversation, attitude, business, speech, morals, and dedication. People should sense the presence of God in every area of our lives. Don't be a Christian atheist; don't say you believe in the true and living God, but act like he does not exist.

**Coden Bible Church  
Codon, Alabama**