

Fake News that Many Christians Believe

Frankly, I'm tired of hearing about fake news. Fake news draws in the gullible at an alarming rate. You've certainly had friends on social media post links about all sorts of deliberately crafted lies in order to press an agenda. And It's not just the world outside the church. We see incredulous, hyperbolic news to support the Christian worldview also. But we all know that the concept of fake news is not new. And it's not confined to social media. It's not only from TV preachers and Christian music that doesn't square up to the truth about life or God. Lots of fake news just sneaks into our consciousness like a thief, stealing our joy, courage and authenticity. The enemy has been posting fake news for centuries. Here are four examples of fake news many Christians believe.

God will accept you once you get your act together.

We so often fail to approach the throne with confidence because we feel that Jesus is angry and dissatisfied with us as followers. We magnify all our failures and live in a shadow of shame and self-condemnation.

Here's a truth bomb from Brother Paul:

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:1

After the resurrection Jesus pursued a reunion with a denier, a doubter, and a number of deserting disciples.

He's not the ogre waiting for us to forget to floss so he can swat us with his golden fly swatter. He's not a passive god

who sits around drumming his fingers on the throne, watching CNN for the latest on world-sized problems while yawning at our infinitesimal requests.

That's not who God is. He is with you and He is for you.

Salvation happens when you get all the facts right.

Salvation is not an intellectual hoop to jump through. It is belief in Jesus even though you are sometimes struggling to understand everything. Children certainly don't understand everything and yet Jesus tells us to come to Him as children with all our uncertainties and struggles.

The church often minimizes the process of salvation to a doctrinal game of jeopardy. On the contrary, your faith is not dependent upon you having the correct view of the 70 weeks of Daniel. Thank you, Jesus! It has always been about faith and faith is not without its mysteries. In fact, faith is all about the mystery. Celebrate the mysteries and love Jesus.

If you pray right, you'll get everything you request.

One of the greatest struggles most believers experience is the perplexity of unanswered prayers. It's easy for us to view prayer as a giant vending machine with the candy bar stuck in the machinery. The more we invest in it the more frustrating we become with the process. This is the time to move forward in prayer knowing that God has a better view of our lives than we do. Trust that He will work in His own way and His own time. But NEVER stop partnering with Him in prayer. You will find the reward of unanswered prayers: greater faith and dependence upon God.

God wants you to be pain free.

Pain is one of God's greatest teaching tools. The pain you experience will further your growth, cause you to depend on Him, and allow you to help others.

Paul's thorn in the flesh, though a mystery, was painful. Still he writes:

But he (Jesus) said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

2 Corinthians 12:8-9

Pain is actually a sign that God has not given up on you!

So there you have it—Four fake news items all Christians struggle with from time to time. What fake news have you discovered. I'd love to hear about it. Hopefully discovering fake news is good news today!