



FIREBRAND  
NOTES

**REPENT  
NOW;**

**PTO**

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*/free Bible*

## JOHN 11:25-26

*I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?*

**-Jesus Christ**

# A REALITY CHECK

**We are living in days in which our children are being taught in school that they can choose their gender, pornography is safe to "experiment with", creation is a fairytale & that God Himself is either dead, aloof or a hateful Terrorist.**

Over the last century in Great Britain, (especially in the decades since WW2), thousands of pointy church steeples landscaping our towns & cities (quite literally designed to point our eyes upwards to heaven), have been skewed by the very thing you probably dislike the most:

man-made "religion", abusive hypocrisy & hopeless legalism.

What are our churches actually pointing to today – to which god exactly? The god of popular 'chrisitan' culture or the true God, of the Bible, Jesus Christ?

There is a simple diagnosis for this confusing spiritual condition:

**The problem is not with God in heaven but with the compromised Church on earth; the problem is not with Who is being represented but rather with whom the representing rests.**

Some people will object to reading this, (perhaps especially Christians) but, for others of you, a penny is dropping:

**The biggest problem facing Western civilisation today is not secularisation, terrorism, corrupt governments, rampant LGBT ideology & aggressive cultural marxism; it is a Christian Church who do not fully believe the historically unique "gospel message" as found in the black & white pages of the Holy Bible:**

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."  
**(John 14:6)**

In other words, buried in the rubble of our messed-up, post-rational world-gone-mad, remains the unique Christian message & precious pearl of grace – **"Repent; He loves you."**

No other spiritual 'guru' throughout history, no other world religion or 'god', no other philosophy, paradigm or prophet freely offers this unmerited favour of the grace of God.

**This is an unparalleled & uniquely Christian message.**

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works..."  
**(Ephesians 2: 8-9)**

# AN APOLOGY

**We are very sorry that the Church is in the mess that it's in; we would completely understand if you had no interest in reading "religious material" or "going to church".**

Much of what goes on in churches today is not faithful to what they are actually there to do – i.e. glorify God by believing His unchanging Word, (the Bible), &, without any form of compromise, to broadcast clearly the only way of salvation: the cross of Jesus Christ.

**Remember those church steeples we mentioned?**

Today, spiritual faithfulness is rare because the world rejects **absolute truth**, dubbing it "bigotry" & "hate speech".

People are fearful, fed-up and tired.

But the Bible confronts the popular narrative of "one option among many" (the celestial sweet-shop of our godless age) which Satan would have you believe.

The Church should be telling you that Satan seeks to **bury** truth with pluralism (whichever way works for you!), **confuse** it with sects/cults (JWs etc.) & to **kill** it by literally any means possible.

Demons don't want you to think about eternity; they want you to believe fake news about the biblical manuscripts **(have you ever researched?)**.

Specifically, we apologise that the Church of today commonly dilutes the offensiveness of the message of Jesus by focusing on "He loves you" while neglecting the first word of it, "Repent!".

We want you to know that when one "Christian" says one thing, while another "Christian" says something that is polar opposite, it is most certainly not okay.

**This is why our church steeples today have become about as meaningful as a Politician's apology.**

We are sorry that you might not have ever properly heard this good news before, or that you might have heard a half-baked version of it.

**This booklet is to encourage you to consider what the church steeples of your town/city were once originally built for:**

Something vague, contradictory & fleeting, or something solid, eternal & true?

**Please read the Bible for yourself; don't look only to the Church.**

The resolute truth of **Jesus Christ's life, death & resurrection** is not to give you "health, wealth & prosperity" but **to give you lasting peace with God.**

# REPENT?

**The Bible often uses a very old word – sin – that we struggle to properly understand in our modern cultures today.**

This is especially the case as we might think rarely of 'morality' (right & wrong) or of the spiritual powers of good & evil, the effects of which are **very** obvious in the world, don't you think?

Have you ever heard this verse of the Bible before?

"...all have **sinned** & fall short of the glory of God, & are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..." (**Romans 3:23**)

In other words, all of us fall infinitely short of God's standard of holy perfection & are sinful by nature, (at birth), regardless of how well we each think we personally go on to live our lives.

**The track-record of your 'good living' is never going to work as the standard or method to achieve your peace with a holy God; you need a Saviour.**

**All other world religions, cults & sects are false** & are based on human methods for trying to earn salvation (knocking on doors/not swallowing saliva during Ramadan etc. etc.)

The true message of salvation (as a gift, by faith in Christ), is a unique & unparalleled message, exclusive to the claims of Jesus Christ the Messiah.

**The message of salvation via repentance is massively offensive to all of us because we all want to somehow earn our peace with God, to proudly justify ourselves.**

The first word of the gospel is "Repent!" not because it's an exclamation of God's anger but rather of His deep, fatherly love!

**He wants you to turn to Him in humility & faith to receive – as a gift of grace – what you will never be able to do for yourself.**

To 'repent' means to **recognise** that you are sinful by nature & urgently need God's help in being reconciled to Him. This is the only posture in which you can receive the elusive sense of peace that you long for.

"Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, & in sin did my mother conceive me."

**Psalms 51:5**

**"Repent!" also means to turn to God, turn away from sin &, by faith, accept the work of Jesus' cross that will justify you immediately & forever.**

Sin is a gross & eternal offence in the sight of a holy God & the only way to know peace with Him is by believing in the blood of "Jesus Christ crucified".

# gods & kings

**Have you seen Ridley Scott's movie, "Gods & Kings"?** You might recall near the end when Moses says, "...pity the lambs if I am wrong; if I am right, we will bless them for eternity."

In the actual Bible account (Exodus), Moses was told by God to command the Israelites to put the blood of a slaughtered lamb on the lintels & doorposts of their homes so that the final plague of Egypt would "pass over" them. It was a critical moment in ancient history when the Israelites were delivered from the powers of Egypt by an intervention of supernatural power.

But it was also a prophetic "foreshadowing" of another Lamb who would be sacrificed, once & for all, in order that the same wrath of God would "pass over" **all who** put their **trust in Jesus' shed blood** on the cross, not only the Jewish people.

"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" **(John 1:29)**

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**(Romans 6:23)**

**Why not read the short gospel/eye-witness account of Mark?**  
(90 min read).

**No-one in Jesus' day doubted His crucifixion, it was taken as granted.**

Why would Jesus endure that kind of death? What is history telling you?

That the 'exclamation' of the first word of the gospel (**Repent!**), is a profoundly loving command.

**Jesus loves you so much that He would bleed & die for you. This is why the first word of the gospel is a command to humble yourself before a holy God who longs to save you.**

The Prophet Isaiah, (foreseeing the coming of Jesus, the Lamb of God), described Him as being, "...marred (disfigured) beyond human likeness." (Isaiah 52:14).

**The truth is that there is nothing that you can do to make God love you any more & there is nothing you can do to make Him love you any less – the blood of Jesus Christ is the only way.**

God the Father loves you so much that He sacrificed His own Son & that through the shedding of Jesus' blood, & by your faith **in believing, you will know perfect peace.**

As mind-blowing as it is, this is the truth of the "good news" of the Bible.

Jesus won't make your life a "walk in the park" (in many ways it will be much harder in a world that's aggressively opposed to Him) but you will know the joy & peace of His unconditional forgiveness.



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HE  
LOVES  
YOU.

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