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**Busting the Myths that many
followers of Christ may have**

Jude 1:3 & 2 Timothy 3:12-4:4

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John 18:37-38 Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king."

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John 18:37-38 For this purpose I was born and for this purpose ...

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John 18:37-38 ... I have come into the world--to bear witness to the truth.

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John 18:37-38 Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

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John 18:37-38 (38) Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" ...

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**That is the great Question →
What is Truth?**

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John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and **the truth**, and the life. No one comes to the Father except **through Me**."

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John 5:39-40 (39) "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; **it is these that testify about Me**; (40) and you are unwilling to come to **Me** so that you may have **life**. [NASB]

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John 5:44-47 – (44) "How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God?"

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John 5:44-47 - (45) "Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope.

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John 5:44-47 - (46) "For if you believed Moses, you would **believe Me, for he **wrote about Me**.**

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John 5:44-47 - (47) "But if you do not believe his writings, how will you **believe My words?**" [NASB]

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The LIVING WORD of GOD →
Jesus is the TRUTH

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John 17:17-19 (17) Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is Truth.

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John 17:17-19 (18) As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
(19) And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in **truth**.

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Matt 5:18 “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.”

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Luke 16:17 “But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail.”

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Matt. 24:35 “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.”

(see also Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33)

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2 Peter 1:16-21 – (16) For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were **eyewitnesses** of His majesty.

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (17) For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, and the Voice spoke to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," [*see Matt. 17:5*]

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (18) we ourselves heard this very voice spoken *to Him* from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain.

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (19) *Therefore* we have something more sure, the **prophetic word**, to which you will do well to pay attention...

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (19) ... as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (20) knowing this first of all, that **no** prophecy of **Scripture** comes from someone's own interpretation.

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2 Peter 1:16-21 - (21) For **no** prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, **but** men spoke **from God** as they were carried along by *(moved by)* **the Holy Spirit**. [ESV]

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**The Written Word of God –
The Bible → OT and NT → is
the TRUTH – in written form.**

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What is Truth? → Accurate
Reporting of the Actual Facts.

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We are not to compromise the
TRUTH of GOD – His Word...

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Jude 1:3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about **our common salvation**, I found it necessary to write appealing to you **to...**

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Jude 1:3 ... earnestly contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

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What does God say in His Word?

We must evaluate every “Christian” custom or tradition, or way of doing ministry, etc. in the **light of Holy Scripture.**

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What does God think of Man's Religious Traditions? Especially those that are supposedly "Christian"?

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Mark 7:1-13 - (1) The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Him (*Jesus*). (2) They observed that some of His disciples were eating their bread with unclean--that is, unwashed--hands.

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Mark 7:1-13 - (3) (For the Pharisees, in fact all the Jews, will not eat unless they wash their hands **ritually**, keeping the tradition of the elders.)

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Mark 7:1-13 - (4) When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they have washed. And there are many other **customs** (*i.e. traditions*) they have received and keep, like the washing of cups, jugs, copper utensils, and dining couches.)

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Mark 7:1-13 - (5) Then the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, "Why don't Your disciples **live according to the tradition of the elders**, instead of eating bread with **ritually** unclean hands?"

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Mark 7:1-13 - (6) He answered them, "Isaiah prophesied correctly about you hypocrites, as it is written: **These people honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.**

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Mark 7:1-13 - (7) They worship Me in vain, teaching as doctrines the commands of men. (8) Disregarding the command of God, you keep the tradition of men."

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Mark 7:1-13 - (9) He also said to them, "You completely invalidate God's command in order to maintain your traditions!"

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Mark 7:1-13 - (10) For Moses said: Honor your father and your mother; and, Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must be put to death.

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Mark 7:1-13 - (11) But you say, 'If a man tells his father or mother: Whatever benefit you might have received from me is **Corban**' (that is, a gift *committed to the temple*),

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Mark 7:1-13 - (12) "you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother.

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Mark 7:1-13 - (13) You revoke (make void – make empty) God's Word by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many other similar things." [HCSB]

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**Are WE Biblical Christians or
“Traditional Christians”?**
That is the Question.

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2 Tim. 3:12-4:4 (12) Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. (13) But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

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2 Tim. 3:12-4:4 (14) You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

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2 Tim. 3:12-4:4 (15) and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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2 Tim. 3:12-4:4 (16) All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; (17) so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

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2 Tim. 3:12-4:4

4:1-4 (1) I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

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2 Tim. 4:1-4 (2) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

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2 Tim. 4:1-4 (3) For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine**; but wanting to have their **ears tickled**, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their **own desires**,

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2 Tim. 4:1-4 (4) and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. [NASB]

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Myths → fairy tales, fables, fabricated stories that are false, old wives tales - a false story full of pretense

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God has never called us to be comfortable – but He has called us to be HOLY, Blameless, and Righteous before HIM

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We are NOT supposed to
Worship God according to pagan
traditions or customs.

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Deut. 12:29-32 (29) When Yahweh your God cuts off before you the nations which you are going in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land,

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Deut. 12:29-32 (30) beware that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed before you, ...

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Deut. 12:29-32 (30) ... and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, '**How do these nations serve their gods, that I also may do likewise?**'

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Deut. 12:29-32 (31) You shall not behave thus toward Yahweh your God, ...

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Deut. 12:29-32 (31) ... for every abominable act which Yahweh hates they have done for their gods; ...

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Deut. 12:29-32 (31) ... for they even burn their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods.

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Deut. 12:29-32 (32) “Whatever I command you, you shall be careful to do; you shall not add to nor take away from it.” [NASB]

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We are to follow and obey the Bible and that is to be the basis for how we follow, worship and obey God.

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Examples of those who came out of paganism into Christ:

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1 Thess. 1:6-10 (6) You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the **Word** in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

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1 Thess. 1:6-10 (7) so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

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1 Thess. 1:6-10 (8) For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

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1 Thess. 1:6-10 (9) For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, **and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,**

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1 Thess. 1:6-10 (10) and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come. [NASB]

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Acts 19:18-20 (18) Many also of those who had believed kept coming, **confessing** and **disclosing** their *pagan* practices.

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Acts 19:18-20 (19) And many of those who practiced magic (*witchcraft*) brought their books together ...

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Acts 19:18-20 (19) ... and began **burning** them **in the sight of everyone**; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

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Acts 19:18-20 (20) So the Word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing. [NASB]

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There is always a cutting off and turning away from their former pagan practices – full repentance

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**Authentic Worship and Praise
toward God...
in Spirit and Truth?**

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Heb 13:15 Through Him (*Jesus Christ*) then, let us continually offer up a **sacrifice** of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give **thanks** to His Name.

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Rom 12:1-2 (1) Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a **living** and **holy** sacrifice, acceptable to God, **which is your spiritual service of worship.**

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Rom 12:1-2 (2) And do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by the **renewing** of your **mind**, so that you may **prove** what the **will of God** is, that which is **good** and **acceptable** and **perfect**.

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Is there anything in your life that is hindering you from Worshipping God in Spirit and Truth, as revealed in the Bible?

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Do you love man-made religious traditions more than the revealed Word of God?

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Do you worship God the way that pagans' worship their false gods?

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Do you just worship God to get the goodies He might offer?

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Or are you in love with God, just because He loves you and sent His Son to die on the cross to redeem you?

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**Do you know God's redeeming
Love personally?**