

DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, HONEST ANSWERS

The Question: How do we live as end-times believers? What are practical strategies for overcoming in these days?

“For Pope Francis to attempt to normalize homosexuality is to say that Holy Scriptures are false, that our sins don’t matter and that we can continue living in them. If that were true, then Jesus Christ’s death, burial and resurrection wouldn’t have been needed. The cross would have been for nothing. No one has the right or the authority to trivialize Christ’s sacrifice on our behalf.” —Franklin Graham

“What I find ironic is that those who are supposedly pro-choice in one area—abortion—suddenly become anti-choice in another area—homosexuality—claiming, “I cannot change; I was born this way.” One might be born with a certain proclivity, but that does not equate to the need to act out that proclivity. One can struggle with same-sex attraction without having to participate in homosexual behavior. —James Garlow

This is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:11

Apostasy = _____ from the faith

Social Justice Gospel: This gospel pushes for _____.

Hyper-Grace Gospel: Hyper-grace teachers maintain that all sin—past, present and future—has already been forgiven, so there is not need for a believer to ever _____.

Consider how far you have fallen. Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. Revelation 2:4

Lampstand refers to the church’s _____. The church may continue as an organization but is no longer the true church of Jesus Christ. It will be the church of Ichabod. Ichabod = _____

Prosperity Gospel: This is the idea that God wants every believer to be _____ prosperous and that the way to receive God’s blessings of wealth involves increasing one’s _____ and donating to the ministries.

(Jesus) Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions. Luke 12:20

Emerging or Emergent Church: The Emerging church asks the same question that Pontius Pilate asked before handing Jesus over to be crucified: “*What is truth?*” John 18:38. There is no _____. Everyone will be saved. There is no hell. Whenever possible, Christians should cooperate and collaborate with other religions—including _____.

Kingdom Now Theology: This theology teaches that God _____ over the world to Satan when Adam and Eve sinned. Since then, God has been trying to reestablish control over the world through believers. And through these believers, social institutions—including _____—will be brought under God’s authority. Kingdom Now people don’t believe in the rapture. They see it as a _____ of rapture or excitement when Jesus returns to receive the kingdom _____. They also believe that Bible prophecies regarding Israel apply to the church.

Therapeutic Gospel: Jesus came to make us mentally well-adjusted, happy and _____.

Moral Gospel: If we live a good life, are nice to people, and our good deeds _____ our bad deeds – we'll earn a place in heaven.

No-Judgment Gospel: A loving God would never send anyone to hell, so there's nothing to worry about, and there's certainly no need to evangelize the world. Everyone _____ in the end.

God-Is-Everywhere Gospel: This gospel says we don't need to believe in Jesus or the cross or the Bible. _____ is the church.

All-Paths-Lead-to-God Gospel: Whether we are Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Wiccan or Muslim, we'll all _____ the same destination.

Self-Help Motivational Gospel: Jesus came to give us a positive outlook on life. We don't need to be saved. We just need _____.

You can't add Buddhism to Christianity without eviscerating Christianity. You have to slice Christianity open, rip out its core truths and throw them on the ash heap in order to make room for the tenets of Eastern religion. By doing so, you may make friends with the world, but at the expense of God's truth. If you say, "Without Buddha, I could not be a Christian," you are actually saying, "There is something lacking in Jesus. The teachings of Jesus, the death of Jesus and the resurrection of Jesus are not enough. I need to add another religion from the surrounding culture in order to make Jesus complete." —Dr. Michael Youssef

When the church is no longer holding the cross high...

When the church is no longer standing for righteousness...

When the church is promoting twisted, counterfeit interpretations of the gospel—which have no power to change lives...

When Christians are no longer salt and light in the culture...

THEN the nation will begin to go to hell in a handbasket and it will be _____ for authoritarian, totalitarian government. The people will beg for someone who promises _____, security and _____. And the Antichrist will come to power.

Do you think that is expecting too much of the church and Christians?

Let no one deceive you by any means, for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition. 2 Thessalonians 2:3

HOW DO WE OVERCOME AS END-TIMES BELIEVERS?

The devil has come down to you in great anger, knowing that he has little time. Revelation 12:12

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die. Revelation 12:11

1. We don't stop sharing the gospel because there is _____.

Sin will be rampant everywhere. Matthew 24:12

The good news about the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it. Matthew 24:14

The love of many will grow cold. Matthew 24:12

I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. Joel 2:28

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. 1 John 4:4

2. We get every _____ out of our lives.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up and let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Hebrews 12:1–2

He who began the good work in you will complete it. Philippians 1:6

3. We stand firmly in the face of _____.

(Jesus) When these things come to pass, look up, for your redemption is drawing nigh. Luke 21:28

We apply the blood by _____ to any area of our lives where we're struggling—any area of our lives where we sense Satan is trying to _____ God's will in our lives.

Satan, I declare to you that Jesus' blood, shed for me on Calvary, is working right now to bring defeat to everything you're trying to do. It will come to nothing, in the name of Jesus and by the power of Jesus' blood.

The blood of Jesus sets me free from _____.

At the beginning of each day, pray: Jesus, if you want me to say something to someone today, open a _____ for me and then give me the _____.

(Jesus) When you are brought to trial in the synagogues and before rulers and authorities, don't worry about how to defend yourself or what to say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what needs to be said. Luke 12:11

As the storm clouds grow darker and the coming of Jesus nears, those words are for us: _____.

POWER IN THE BLOOD

1. Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood;
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful power in the blood.

Chorus

*There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder-working pow'r
In the blood – of the Lamb;
There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder-working pow'r
In the precious blood of the Lamb*

2. Would you be free from your passion and pride?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood;
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide;
There's wonderful power in the blood. **Chorus**
3. Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood;
Sin stains are lost in its life-giving flow;
There's wonderful power in the blood. **Chorus**
4. Would you do service for Jesus your king?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood;
Would you live daily His praises to sing?
There's wonderful power in the blood. **Chorus**

O PRAISE THE NAME

O praise the name of the Lord our God
O praise His name forevermore
For endless days we will sing His praise
O Lord, O Lord, our God (Repeat 2X)

AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

3. The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures
4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine. Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.