People need to stop forcing their religion on others!

⁻he AND OTHER WRITINGS

What does Cod REALEY expect of us? (HINT: It's not what church tells us!!!)

Compiled from the writings of Gary Britton

The Big Question



what does God **KEALLY** expect of us? (HINT: It's not what church tells us!!!)

Gary Britton



A Sponsors of Hope Publication

Published by Sponsors of Hope www.sponsorsofhope.org "For a kinder world."

First edition 2023 © Sponsors of Hope, 2023

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

ISBN: 9798386704537 This book is available at www.amazon.com



Sponsors of Hope is not affiliated with any church, denomination or religious organization.

"Love God. Love thy neighbor. This is the whole duty of man." (Mt. 22: 37,39; Ecc. 12:13)

CONTENTS

Introduction ix

The Big Question	1
You Know	2
How God Sees You!	3
An Eye Opening Experience	4
Ask Yourself	5
In Simple Terms	6
A Happy God	7
Neither Should We	8
Enjoy!	9
Being a Christian	10
Going to Hell?	12
For God?	13
Little Christianity	14
A Worn Out Shoe	15
The Christian World Today	16
Effortless	18
God and Science	19
So Big Yet So Near	20
A Loving Person	21
You Will See	22
Each Unique	23
The Big Difference	24
We Are Part of Him	25
Christian Politics	26

Perfect? or Forgiving?	28
In God's Image	29
The One Thing	30
Resist Not	31
Are You Pushy?	32
Warm and Cozy	33
We Reject Them	34
Never!	35
What We Need	36
Big Shot Preachers	37
Needless Suffering	38
Pure Religion	40
What About Politics?	41
Showing Love	42
God Makes it Easy	43
Misfits	44
Each a Part of God	45
Why We're Here	46
The Most Important Thing	47
Crowns	48
What God is Really Like	49
The Yardstick	50
Personally	51
God is Bigger	52
Easy to Please	53

Introduction

"The Big Question" is a compilation of writings addressing the age old and nasty habit that organized religion has of imposing their beliefs upon all of us.

As we shake ourselves free from the cold, hard, and unloving legalism of the past, we discover with liberating ease how easy it is to, in fact, please God.

God is not a tyrant. God is the very essence of love... an unconditional and accepting love.

THE BIG QUESTION

For thousands of years religions have told us "what God wants" of us!

They have been so presumptuous so as to tell us all kinds of *rules* that God supposedly wants us to keep. Yet they can't even make up their mind as to what those rules are!

Most paint God as distant, as a heartless tyrant. Some things they say about God don't make any sense. Others are just plain dumb!

No wonder so many people say they don't want God. They just don't want the God portrayed by these people!

So then just exactly what DOES God want of us? Jesus taught us that all we have to do is love God and our neighbor. The only law, the only *rule* we now have is to LOVE.

So don't worry about religion's rules.

Be loving, and you will be fulfilling God's ONLY law!

"He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love." (1 John 4:8)

YOU KNOW

So many people have a false concept of God. They have been taught fear of God for so long now that they don't know what to think.

You don't have to keep a bunch of rules to please God. You do not have to go to church. You will not go to hell if you don't. Neither will you go to hell if you drink, have sex, dance, wear certain clothes, or do any other dumb things laid out by fundamentalist Christians.

You don't need anyone to tell you how to live your life.

DO be aware however, that the seeds you plant every day will most certainly produce fruits in your life, both good and bad. This is unavoidable. Also know, that the things you do in this life will carry over into the next.

So, follow your conscience. Deep down in your heart, you know what to do. Deep down in your heart, you KNOW how you should live!

HOW GOD SEES YOU!

God loves you because of who you are. Not because of what you do.

But many people want us to think we have to DO things to please God. This is the premise of every false religion.

We don't have to work hard to be holy and righteous, or good and religious. God doesn't care about all that.

God sees your heart and He loves you as His dear child. He looks at you with eyes of unconditional love and compassion and welcomes you with absolute acceptance.

> So, don't worry so much about pleasing God. You probably already are!

"And the Lord is that spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (2 Corinthians 3:17) "Whom the Lord has set free, is free indeed." (John 8:36)

AN EYE OPENING EXPERIENCE

The Christian church and modern day Christians have become an embarrassment to the world. So many people see them and think: "If this is God, I don't want anything to do with Him." And they are right.

Christians get on their high horses about so many stupid things. Their frivolous causes really make you wonder as to their sanity. They seem to have no clue as to what Jesus' real message was.

Don't fall for them! Read the words of Jesus and see for yourself what He really is all about.

If you do, you'll be in for an eye opener!

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

ASK YOURSELF

1. Does it help you (and or someone else)?

2. Does it hurt no one?

If you can answer "yes" to these two questions when faced with a decision, then you can go ahead. God will be with you. Don't worry about what people think!

God is not about keeping religious *rules*. God is unconditional love.

"He that loves hath fulfilled the entire law." (Romans 13:8)

IN SIMPLE TERMS

Religion has skewed people's perception of things spiritual for so many years, that nowadays most don't have a clear picture as to God's true nature.

The word "God" has become so distorted and misrepresented to where it means many different things to different people. So have the words "religion, faith, church, Jesus" and others. It's gotten to where if you use any of these words people just don't know what to think anymore.

God is the essence of nature, the epitome of science and faith, and the sum of all hope. Our entire universe as well as each one of us individually is a reflection of God's nature.

But in simple terms, we prefer to think of God as... LOVE.

"God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." (1 John 4:16)

A HAPPY GOD

People equate being religious with being serious. A lot of people portray God as sober, sullen, and somber. But nothing could be further from the truth.

God isn't a stern judge just waiting to knock us down at every turn. God is the spirit of life and love, and He above all wants us to be happy!

Happiness and joy are the signs of true spirituality. Hope, love, and gratefulness are the fruits of living in God's presence.

"Happy is the people whose God is the Lord." (Psalms 144:15)

NEITHER SHOULD WE

People are getting fed up with others telling them how to live. They are fed up with people telling them how to think, how to act, and how to love. They are fed up with rules, phobias, and prohibitions.

They are fed up with people imposing their beliefs on them in the name of religion, politics, or greed. Muslims and Jews, Hindus, Christians and atheists: everyone feels the same way.

God doesn't force anyone. Neither should we.

"Speak your truth quietly and clearly; listen to others, even to the dull and ignorant. They too have their story." (Desiderata)

ENJOY!

Let's be honest: Everybody wants a good sex life. But the churches have demonized sex. They make sex and nudity out to be dirty, shameful, "sinful". They want you to believe that God is against one of man's most basic needs.

Too many religions try to control people with sex. They make you think you have to choose between God, or sex when that's not how it is!

Don't worry about those who would condemn you. God is love. When two people love, God is right there with them.

Lovemaking is the most beautiful experience two people can have. Best of all, it's free.

Enjoy!

BEING A CHRISTIAN

Being a Christian isn't about dressing up, going to church, looking down on people, and thinking yourself better than others. Being a Christian isn't about looking for faults in others, and writing them off because they don't meet our standards.

Being a Christian isn't about tearing down. It's about building up. Being a Christian is not about the HEAD. It's about the HEART.

Being a Christian is about compassion, humility, and love for others in our dealings with them. It's putting others first.

Being a Christian is empathizing, feeling another's difficulties, and sharing their burdens. Being a Christian is living and walking in Christ. More importantly, it's letting Christ live in us.

Being a Christian is having the simplicity, faith, and trust of a child. It is forgiving others, realizing that we ourselves need to be forgiven for many things.

Being a Christian is about finding things in

common with someone and building upon them. It is about lifting up and encouraging.

Being a Christian is about loving God and our neighbor, but it's also loving ourselves and finding the peace that only comes when we surrender our all to Him.

Being a Christian is about realizing how nothing we are, and how little we know, without Christ. It's about forsaking our will for His, being kind to the weak, and patient with the ignorant.

And, being a Christian is sometimes more about being NICE, than "RIGHT".

"The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, meekness, and temperance. (Galatians 5:22)

GOING TO HELL?

We don't believe that anyone is "going to hell" for not keeping a whole bunch of rules!

A lot of people are big on this: "Do this, do that, or you'll go to hell, etc." But did you know that nowhere in the Bible does it even say that?

God will forgive any sin. And many things we are taught as sins aren't even sins in the first place. The Bible says the only thing that will not be forgiven us, the only thing that God cannot forgive, is rejection of Him!

We believe that *hell* is being far from God's presence. After all, if God is love, then to be far away from Him would sure be hell! And the only way to get there is by outright rejection of God and His love.

Pleasing God isn't hard. Don't worry about being *good enough* for God. Just love Him, and you'll have nothing to worry about.

Pretty simple, isn't it?

FOR GOD?

Man builds churches and temples "for God". Man declares places holy, "for God". Man keeps all kinds of traditions "for God". And man kills "for God".

Man does all kinds of things, and says they are "for God". But God isn't behind these things. These things are man's creations. They are man's way of justifying himself.

Man prefers DOing things "for God", instead of keeping God's simple commandment to love his neighbor. But that is all God wants.

All God asks is that we LOVE each another!

"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love each other." (1 John 3:14)

LITTLE CHRISTIANITY

There are no truly Christian nations in the world today. There are nations that the world THINKS are Christian nations, but they are not practicing what Christ lived.

There are nations that try to force their world view upon others in the name of religion, but their warmongering religion is not what Christ taught.

Yes, there are many people who profess to be Christians, yet they come across as hypocrites.

There is very little REAL Christianity in the world today.

A WORN OUT SHOE

Fewer and fewer young people today want religion. And they don't want church because they don't like how Christians are!

Young people seek substance. They seek real.

To most young people, Christianity is no longer relevant to their needs, hopes and aspirations. The church's stance on issues that affect them are unrealistic. It's no wonder the youth of today have forsaken the religion of their parents.

Legalistic religion, with its image of a cold, impersonal and heartless God, is like a worn out shoe. No matter how much you try to patch it up, its usefulness is long gone.

Leave the dead behind. Move onward with God!

"Forsake the foolish and live, and go in the way of understanding." (Proverbs 9:6)

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD TODAY

The Christian world is divided into three groups:

1. THE ARROGANT (Appalling!)

These are the condemning, self-righteous who think they need to tell everyone how to live.

They see this as their job, nay, their "God given duty" to play the role of their religion's morality police. They want everyone to think like they do and aggressively try to foist their beliefs on others using fear and intimidation while looking down on them from their lofty spiritual pinnacles.

These are the implacable, the unbudging "legalists" who place more importance on their narrow-mindedness than the greater values of love, compassion, and mercy. Avoid these people!

2. THE CLUELESS (So sad!)

This is the largest group, those who really have no idea of what Jesus lived and taught, because they don't know God's Word.

To them, being a Christian is based on "going to church" and the things they have heard in

church throughout their lives: what others say God expects of them.

Because their religion is built on the sand of man's teachings, swayed by other people's opinions, and mingled with their insecurities, fears, and indifference, there is often very little to distinguish them from unbelievers.

These are the majority of Christians today. Try to be compassionate and tolerant with them.

3. THE HUMBLE (Yay!!!)

Last, but not least, are the relatively few, who, through prayer and careful study of the Bible have come to know Jesus' life and teachings.

Through their yieldedness to the Lord, and in an honest and pure heart, over the years they have come to a place where they realize that being an example of love and acceptance is not only the best testimony, but also the most effective way to exercise the greatest positive influence in the lives of others.

When you find one of these, rejoice!

"Be followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises." (Hebrews 6:12)

EFFORTLESS

Many people have negative feelings toward God. The church is largely to blame for this. For centuries now, religion has peddled a fearsome and condemning God, a cruel tyrant. No wonder people want to keep Him at arm's length.

Living for God and doing His will are not things most people immediately think they would want. But in truth God is not a distant, heartless monster who wants us to be miserable and do without.

God wants to give us the desires of our hearts, the objects of our wishes, and the fulfillment of our dreams. Most of all He wants to give us His love. All He asks of us is that we give Him ours.

Pleasing God isn't hard. It's quite effortless.

"My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:30)

GOD AND SCIENCE

Many people think they have to choose between science and God, as if they were somehow not compatible. But such is not the case.

They are opposite, but they compliment each other. God and science are simply two sides of the same coin.

This natural world that we are living in is a mere reflection of the spiritual world that surrounds us. And both are just as equally wondrous, unfathomable...

And beautiful!

"For the invisible things of Him are clearly seen and understood through the things that He hath made." (Romans 1:20)

SO BIG YET SO NEAR

Fear controls. Love and truth set free. The Internet has in some ways been a good thing for people to help them break free from the grip religion has on them.

God is bigger than any one religion. God is bigger than ALL the religions put together. Yet He is small enough to live within your heart.

Let Him in.

A LOVING PERSON

Each person has their own view of what God is, and when talking about God, it's best to respect their view as being a highly personal and sensitive subject.

A loving person realizes it's not productive to argue about something that is relative to each person. A loving person accepts each person's view of God. May love be the compass that guides our words. God is LOVE!

"Avoid contentions for they are unprofitable and vain." (Titus 3:9)

YOU WILL SEE

Many people have rejected the God they learned about as a child, and that's understandable. They don't want a cold, distant *monster* who is waiting to strike us down if we don't keep a bunch of rules ranging from the reasonable to the ridiculous. No wonder people reject Him when they grow older.

Sad to say, many people manipulate religion to produce fear of God, instead of teaching us about God's love *for* us. Don't listen to them. You don't need them. ALL you need is the Lord.

Talk to the Lord. Talk to Him like your best friend. Tell Him your problems, your hopes, your desires, your dreams. Calm your spirit before Him and He will speak to your heart.

Try it... and you will SEE!

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. There is no want to them that seek Him." (Psalms 34:8-9)

EACH UNIQUE

We are all at different levels of spiritual growth. No two of us are alike. Each one of us is on an individual road of learning, a path of revelation, and we progress at different speeds. We shouldn't expect others to be like us or to think like us when it comes to things of the spirit.

God uses the different people, events and experiences in our lives to teach us and form us into what we ought to be. God is working on our hearts and that takes time. We are each so unique.

We should keep this in mind and be more accepting of others. Let's be more understanding and patient with each other.

THE BIG DIFFERENCE

God is warm. Religion is cold. God accepts. Religion condemns. God includes. Religion excludes. Religion is a creation of man, not of God.

God loves us UNCONDITIONALLY. That's the difference between God and religion.

"My ways are not your ways saith the Lord." (Isaiah 55:8)

WE ARE PART OF HIM

We are all a part of God. Our hair is a good example. Out of our head grow a gazillion hairs. Each comes out of its own follicle. Each one is unique and separate from all the others.

We are like those individual hairs. We are the same, yet each different. We are also all part of the scalp, all connected to the head, sharing the same brain, God. So, in a way we could say that we are each a part *of* God.

In a sense, God is *all* of us, as well as *in* all of us. God is the essence of our beings, our spirits and souls.

"For though we be many members, yet are we one body." (1 Corinthians 12:20)

CHRISTIAN POLITICS

Many people nowadays that profess to be Christians say, "We have to be tough against evil." They pray for strength to "resist evil", and they decide that this "evil" that they need to resist and fight is of a political nature.

But, you know something? Jesus wasn't political. You will find nowhere in God's Word where it says He got involved in politics, ran for office, supported someone who was in office, or even criticized someone who was in public office.

He paid unto Caesar that which was Caesar's. He honored the Roman system by paying tribute to them, and keeping their laws, but he never said to get involved politically.

He said, "My kingdom is not of this world, otherwise would my servants fight." He certainly didn't get involved militarily. He also said: "They that live by the sword shall die by the sword."

So on one hand, in the Bible we have Jesus'

example of love, which has to some become a concept seen as wimpy, as unworthy, and weak. And on the other hand some people say "We are gonna be tough and not let anyone push us around." They do this in the name of good, in the name of God, and Jesus.

So, are we to be loving and forgiving like Jesus? Or are we to stand up and fight for all of our perceived social injustices, as so many are saying nowadays?

To me the answer is clear for a follower of Christ, for a *real* Christian.

PERFECT? or FORGIVING?

Too many Christians nowadays base their religion on perfection, and not forgiveness.

They try to be perfect and expect others to be perfect also. But this is not at all what Christ taught.

Jesus taught love, compassion, and most of all He taught forgiveness. And humility is the soil in which these graces grow.

Contrary to what many people think, following Jesus isn't about trying to be perfect. It's not about demanding that others be perfect either. Trying to be perfect is self righteousness.

God doesn't use "perfect people". He uses those who know they are not perfect. God uses the loving. God uses the forgiving.

Jesus said that we will all be forgiven only to the same degree that we forgive others.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." (Matthew 5:7)

IN GOD'S IMAGE

Many religious people condemn booze, sex, nudity, the human body, dancing, not wearing the right kind of clothes, and any number of things we do, or don't do. They want us to think God doesn't like these things. How ridiculous.

Why would God be against so many things that we humans like? God put many of these likes and desires in us!

Billions of people practicing all of the world's major religions treat all kinds of things like something shameful or dirty and not of God. Yet deep down they don't even believe it themselves.

It's incredible that so many people propagate such widespread hypocrisy. It's time we stopped pretending to be something that we are not. It's time we got real.

It's time we started living more like the God in whose image we were created.

"God created man in His own image. In the image of God created He them." (Genesis 1:27)

THE ONE THING

One thing, and one thing alone is supposed to characterize Christians: Love.

One thing, and one thing alone does *not* characterize the average church going Christian: Love.

Pride, selfishness, and indifference are so prevalent in today's average Christian that they are really indistinguishable from non Christians.

Jealousy, envy, and gossip are pervasive in their interactions.

The one thing churches and Christians do not have, the one thing that their church leaders do not teach, do not preach nor practice, is humility, which was the single greatest characteristic of the master, and is synonymous with LOVE.

RESIST NOT

I don't think we should defy the government. I don't think a Christian stands to gain anything nowadays by resisting the system.

God's will for my life is to help people know Jesus' real message, a message that has gotten so obscured by "religion" that most people don't have a clear image of what it even was.

I believe God's message for all humanity now is to be kind. God would have us stop fighting, stop arguing, stop complaining, stop the divisions, stop treating each other like enemies and start being good neighbors. Ours is a ministry of reconciliation.

We are all in this together. We are neighbors on this planet and it is utter sheer stupidity for us to continue doing these things that separate us.

Let's all work together, and instead of resisting those who rule over us... let's show them our support.

ARE YOU PUSHY?

Have you found "the way"? Do you use the Bible to aggressively convince others of your "truth"? Well, you need to stop!

Pushy, though maybe well intentioned Christians have turned so many people away from the Lord. Jesus never guilt tripped anybody. Jesus condemned the self righteous churchy people of His day.

Stop being pushy. Don't be like them!

"The wisdom that is from above is peaceable, gentle, full of mercy and without hypocrisy." (James 3:17)

WARM AND COZY

Many people are trying to be religious in the world today. They go through the motions of being spiritual.

They go to church, or temple or mosque. They feel righteous, supposedly "Godly". They then tell everyone else how to live. But they don't have much love.

Which do you prefer? Religion's cold, condemning icicles? Or love's cozy warmth?

WE REJECT THEM

We reject religions of fear.

We reject religions which guilt trip people into submission. We reject religions which cruelly condemn people for eternity.

We reject all warmongering religions and their cold portrayals of a distant, hard, and inflexible God. We reject all of these religions of hate.

Love is our God. Love is our religion.

"Who can harm you if ye be followers of that which is good?" (1 Peter 3:13)

NEVER!

Jesus never went into a bar and criticized the drunks. Jesus never went into a whore house and condemned the women there. But Jesus repeatedly blasted the religious leaders of His day!

Jesus let them know what He thought of them! Jesus called the religious leaders hypocrites. He called them thieves. He said they were blind guides who were leading people astray.

But Jesus never criticized anyone else. Jesus never pressured or guilt tripped them. NEVER!

WHAT WE NEED

God shines in different ways through people. No one should tell anyone one else how they should shine.

That's the problem with religion. They tell people how God should shine through them. And people are fed up with that!

God is a spirit. God is the very spirit of kindness and sharing.

We don't need religion. We need more love.

BIG SHOT PREACHERS

Big mouth preachers turn people off to God. You see them on television. They are self righteous, condemning and condescending.

These highly educated "experts on God" tell everyone how to live. In their flamboyant way these big shots flaunt their "holiness" to the world.

Jesus was humble, compassionate, accepting, and forgiving.

What a contrast!

"And my teaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom." (1 Corinthians 2:4)

NEEDLESS SUFFERING

Christians in China are defying their government and as a result they are being persecuted.

Many in the western world are up in arms because Chinese Christians can't have their church buildings nor attend their church services.

There's the problem: Too many Christians equate religion with "going to church". But what good does that do to help anyone else?

If these people *lived their Christianity* by being an example of God's love, forgiveness, meekness, tolerance, kindness, and joy, they would not only do more good, they would also be more in line with what true Christianity is all about!

True Christianity isn't about *going to church*. And the Bible says we should *obey* the powers that are over us. (Hebrews 13:17)

I think those Chinese Christians should obey their government instead of being so defiant. They would certainly suffer less!

If your religion is based on buildings, it will not survive the coming times. But if your religion is love and kindness...

It will always be welcomed!

PURE RELIGION

Many people today, when they say they have "lost faith", really mean that they simply don't subscribe to the erroneous image of God that has been burned into our collective psyche by religion.

If we could erase the accumulated effect of the shams, shibboleths, and false teachings that have been peddled to us as Christianity over the ages, and replace them with the simple teachings of Christ, we would have a religion that could solve all of man's problems. It would be a truly humane religion: caring, loving, and fair to all.

Pure religion is walking humbly, helping the needy, and being a vessel of His love on a personal and individual level.

WHAT ABOUT POLITICS?

We see so many people bashing one candidate or another, spreading conspiracy theories, calling for others to "rise up" against the government, and doing all kinds of questionable things in the name of "God and country". We do not subscribe to these things.

We do not get involved in politics. We do not promote one candidate or another. We do not presume to be any kind of "brave" warriors; only obedient children of a loving God. And for us that means humbly serving others.

We think getting involved in politics not only goes against what Jesus taught, but it is also a waste of time and accentuates too much the negative. We feel that every second, every minute we could spend talking about politics and criticizing the government and the people in it, can be better spent sharing God's love.

SHOWING LOVE

For thousands of years fanatical Christians, Jews, Muslims, and others have self righteously preached a vengeful god and a punitive religion in their efforts to convert men to their enslaving personal agendas.

Their over zealous attempts at proselytizing, their fear mongering, intimidation, and demonizing of everything pleasurable have turned countless millions against God.

Multitudes today have a hard time differentiating between the truth and their lies. Saddest of all, people end up resenting any mention of God.

So where does that leave us? We must win our fellow man with love. We must be examples of His love to this sad and lonely world.

We show God to the world... as we show love, to each other.

GOD MAKES IT EASY

Don't worry so much about pleasing God. Love Him, and you will please Him. Don't make such an effort. Don't agonize over it. God just wants you to be happy. God makes it EASY!

MISFITS

Many people today feel like outcasts. They are misfits.

They have never really fit into the System's squeaky-clean image of what a believer in Christ is *supposed* to be. They love the Lord, enjoy a cold one while watching the game, think fishing is fun, dancing is cool and don't believe everything pleasurable is a sin.

They like most things everyone else does, but they still somehow never quite fit into the religious system. That's because God is calling them out.

God is calling out a people unto Himself. People who do not fit in. People who are looking up and seeing something more. People who are seeing something greater. People who are catching a glimpse of God's loving plan of universal restitution and eternal happiness for all of mankind... God's happy ending. That's what's happening.

Do you feel like a misfit? Welcome to God's Kingdom!

EACH A PART OF GOD

Practically everything that religion teaches us about Heaven and hell, and God's true nature, is *not* true! Religion has guilt tripped man into its enslaving bondage for centuries with their lies and deceit.

God is the very core of our universe, the loving power behind the scenes, of which we are all a part, and in whom we all glory.

We are all a part of nature and the universe, and we belong, equally as much as every blade of grass.

God would have us understand that He loves us all and accepts us without conditions, without us having to do anything in return.

But every person has to figure this out on their own.

WHY WE'RE HERE

We hear people, organizations, even movements that talk about empowering "victims" of this, that, or the other. We have grown used to it.

But as Christians we are not here to empower ourselves. We are here to glorify the LORD.

We are not supposed to try to right all wrongs, solve the world's problems, and fight for social, political, or even religious causes.

We are here to let Jesus shine through us. We are here to show the world God's love.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING

The secret to power, faith, anointing, and light is the Word.

It is God's Word that gives us strength for the trials. It is in reading the Bible that we find the help and guidance that we seek.

If you are reading it daily, if you are memorizing verses that stand out to you and praying for God to work in your life, He will!

> Take time for God. MAKE time for His Word!

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105)

CROWNS

Salvation is a free gift. You can't "work" for it.

You don't have to worry about being "good enough" to "make it into Heaven". You can never be good enough to deserve to go there anyway. You get there by simply accepting Jesus.

But your CROWN is another thing. A lot of people seem to be confused about this one.

Your crown is your reward for being faithful. It is not your salvation. It is the prize for putting Him first, getting out His Word, and being a blessing to others.

So, be faithful, day after day, in whatever place God has placed you.

Remember... Your "wings" are free. But you are going to have to EARN that CROWN!

"The Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works." (Matthew 16:27)

WHAT GOD IS REALLY LIKE!

Organized religion, however well meaning it may be, has given the world a distorted image of God for so long now that it's no wonder many people think they don't want Him. Nobody wants the merciless tyrant that they make Him out to be.

Too many people promote a religion of a keeping of rules. But that's not what God wants.

God is our loving Creator who wants us to be happy. He has given us many blessings and pleasures to enjoy. God is compassionate. He knows our trials and tribulation and always comforts us.

God is our best friend. He is always there for us and will never leave our side!

MOST of all... God is the very spirit of love. He is more concerned with us showing love to each other than keeping any set of rules.

THAT is what God is REALLY like!

THE YARDSTICK

Some people say that drinking is "a sin", or dancing, sex, or any number of other things. They get so critical of what other people are doing. Even breast feeding a baby is dirty and shameful to these people. They are seriously messed up.

It's really not the things we do that matter to God as much as if we are obeying Him and have love in our hearts, if we do things with love, or with a lack of love.

Love is the ONLY yardstick by which our lives will be judged.

If people spent less time condemning others for things that maybe for them are not even sins, if they spent even half their time focused on being more loving, the world would be a much better place.

And we would ALL be a lot happier!

"Let all your things be done with love." (1 Corinthians 16:14)

PERSONALLY

God wants to speak to us personally, face to face. He wants to have a personal relationship with each one of us.

He wants to lead us, guide us, help us, and instruct us directly, not through some supposedly learned theologian standing behind a pulpit.

THIS is what God is doing in these times that we are living in.

God is to be found everywhere: whenever and wherever we seek Him!

GOD IS BIGGER

We can believe in God without being religious. We can believe in God without being evangelical, or Catholic, or Hindu, Jewish, or Muslim.

God is much bigger than religion. God is bigger than our entire universe. Because God IS the universe, the power behind the universe, the essence of our very beings, and the substance by which all things exist.

EASY TO PLEASE

Serving God is just being: WHERE God wants you to be, WHEN He wants you to be there, TO DO what He wants you to do, WHEN He wants you to do it; so that you can be a blessing to someone.

There is nothing more rewarding. There is nothing more fun. There is no greater pleasure, no greater satisfaction, and nothing more exciting than being used by the Lord.

How easy it is to please Him!

୶♥⋧

A SIMPLE PRAYER

Lord, open my mind, open my heart and open my eyes that I may see the bigger picture, Your greater plan, and how I fit into it.

In Jesus' name, amen.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

We all need to be kinder to each other. Let's spread that message however we can!

You can copy and paste and share portions of the PDF version of this book with family and friends.

See what miracles love can do!

Download the PDF version here: www.sponsorsofhope.org/question.pdf

Also by Gary Britton:

- - -

OUT OF CONTROL Man's greed and waste are taking a toll on all of us!

> MANY SHADES OF GRAY Life in an increasingly polarized world!

PRAYER LIKE PIZZA How to receive answers to your prayers!

WE ARE ALL FAMILY United in kindness is the path to change!

DEATH: SHOULD WE BE AFRAID? Love awaits us all at the end of the tunnel!

BE BOLD. BE KIND! We need to start being nicer to each other.

GIVERS AND TAKERS The way to get more... is by giving more!

BE BOLD. BE HAPPY! True happiness comes from making others happy!

LET THERE BE SEX! God or sex? Why do we even have to choose?

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE SEND OUT A DAILY REFLECTION?

There are two ways you can receive it.

1. EMAIL - reflections@sponsorsofhope.org

2. TEXT us with WhatsApp +1 (787) 248-7236

It's Free!

www.sponsorsofhope.org

Organized religion has distorted God for centuries now!

Religion is a creation of man, not of God.

Don't worry so much about pleasing God. He accepts you just as you are.

> We don't need more religion We need more LOVE!

T rue Christianity isn't about trying to be holy and looking down on people who don't meet our standards.

God wants us to be happy. He wants us to have fun, enjoy life, and stop trying to live up to what others with their self righteous and "holier than thou" attitudes tell us to do.

God is not some cruel and merciless ogre. God is the very essence of unconditional love and acceptance!



True Christianity is personally and individually finding the Lord.

True Christianity is about breaking down walls, talking less, listening more, teaching with meekness and preaching by example.

It is opening our lives as well as our hearts to God, and each other.

