

Progressive Christianity

Introduction

I. What Is Progressive Christianity?

- A. "Progressive Christianity is an open, intelligent and collaborative approach to the Christian tradition and the life and teachings of Jesus that creates a pathway into an authentic and relevant religious experience."

(ProgressiveChristianity.org)

- B. Progressive Christianity - Focuses on Feelings, Pragmatism, Personal Happiness, Social Justice, Care for the Poor and Oppressed, Environmental Causes, Acceptance of Diversity, Keeping Up with Culture
- C. Progressive Christianity - is not overly concerned with core Christian beliefs, but uses Christian terminology, redefines doctrines or at least, understates them
1. Biblical authority - inspiration - sufficiency
 2. The substitutionary atonement of Christ (seen as unnecessary. . . "Cosmic child abuse")
 3. Original Sin - Deny the sin nature
 4. Miracles - Downplayed, ignored
- D. Progressive Christianity is sympathetic to or fully affirms . . .
1. LGBTQ+ - Relationships, "Marriage", etc. - (side A & B)
 2. Universalism - Eventually every person will be saved
 3. Social Justice
 4. Perennialism - All religions share similar truths - key is to practice yours faithfully
- E. Naming Names
1. Hard Core
 - a) Jim Wallis
 - b) Richard Rohr
 - c) Marcus Borg
 - d) Peter Enns
 - e) Rachel Held Evans
 - f) Rob Bell
 - g) John Dominic Crossan
 - h) Nadia Bolz-Weber
 - i) Kristin Kobes Du Mez

- j) Brian McLaren
- k) Brian Zahnd
- l) N.T. Wright

2. Use Extreme Caution

- a) Tim Keller
- b) Matt Chandler
- c) David Platt
- d) Jen Wilkin
- e) Jen Hatmaker
- f) Russell Moore
- g) Beth Moore
- h) David French
- i) Julie Roys
- j) Karen Swallow Prior

“Discernment is not a matter of telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it’s telling the difference between right and almost right.”

C.H. Spurgeon

F. Scriptures to Know

1. Romans 16:17-18
2. 2 Timothy 4:3-4
3. 2 Peter 2:1-3
4. 1 John 4:1
5. Jude 1:4
6. Ephesians 5:6-13
7. 2 John 1:7-11